

Finishing Easel

Applying a finish to something lying on a sawhorse can be a pain, literally. To ease the strain on my back and make the work less tiring, I built an adjustable "easel" that rests on a sawhorse. Now I can work at a more comfortable height.

The main parts of the easel are a pair of uprights made from "two-by" material, see drawing below. To keep the uprights from tipping, I added a pair of long dowels. By gluing and screwing one end of each dowel to the same upright, you can slide the other one on the dowels to adjust the easel for projects of different widths.

Finally, insert a small dowel in the front edge of each upright to support the workpiece. To avoid a wet finish sticking to the easel, I cut a piece of PVC pipe in half (lengthwise) on the band saw and screwed one piece to each upright, see detail 'a.'

