



KINGSTONCRAFTS Instructions

Detailed Instructions to Build a Reclaimed Door Headboard

PHOTOS AND BLOG POST:

<http://www.kingstoncrafts.com/blog/2012/11/how-to-build-headboard-from-old-door.html>

MATERIALS AND TOOLS

See Ana White's Queen Headboard Plans Here: [Queen Headboard Plans](#) for a listing of screws, glue, and tools needed.

As for the lumber needed we will answer that as we decide on the size of our door and headboard.

THE DOOR

The door is the most important aspect of this project because depending on how we cut it, determines how our panels are spaced out in the final product. For our king sized headboard we want a door that we can cut down to 76" and for a queen sized we need to cut it down to 60". As for the width it is totally up to you and your sense of design. I purchased a 30" wide door for the king and a 26" wide door for the queen. Either way the width will be cut down slightly to make a clean square edge for mating with the cap boards.

Prep the door by washing and cleaning it. I took mine to the local do it yourself car wash and used the pressure washer and brush to scrub off loose paint and years of dirt. After washing let it dry for a day in the sun.

1) Ok so now that we have our door let's cut it down to size. (**NOTE:** For the rest of the blog I will use my king-sized dimensions. Also note a lot of old doors may have lead based paint on them so make sure to wear the proper protective gear and work outside or use a door that has only been stained, not painted.)

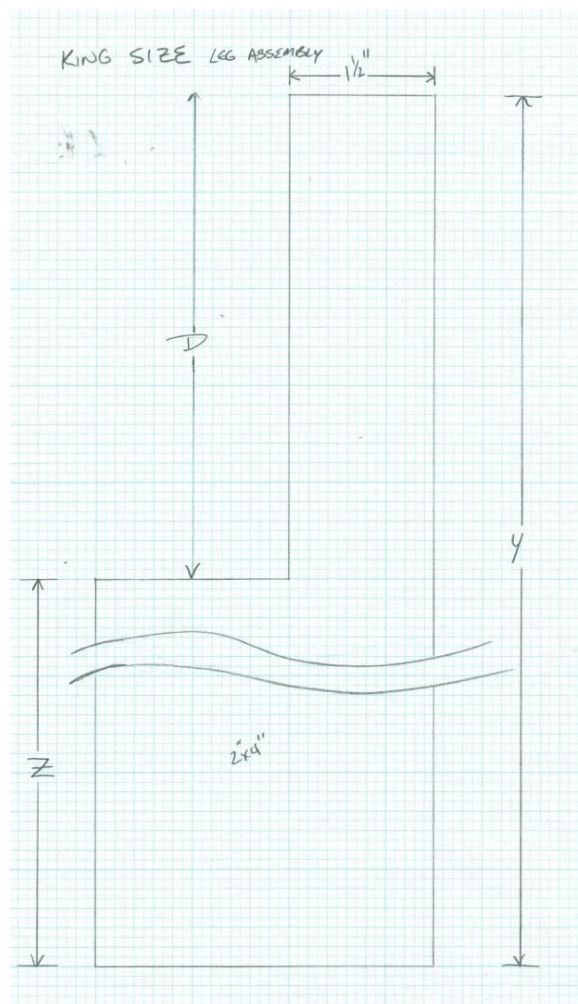
2) Lay the door flat and then lay the tape measure out on it to find the best panel spacing within the 76". Mark both ends of the 76" length and cut with your circular saw and straight edge guide. You will most likely have to cut some length off both ends to get an even spacing and appearance.

3) Cut the door down to desired width, making sure to cut it off the hinge side, as this will be the top of the headboard. I cut mine down to 29 ½”.

4) Once the door is cut to size, measure the distance from the top of your mattress to the floor and write this number down. My mattress was 24” high. Now measure from the lock side of the door how far in the holes are where the old door handle and lockset used to be and record this number, mine is 3 ½” in from the edge. Now on to the math:

THE LEGS

5) So now we are going to use those numbers from earlier to figure out how long our 2x4's need to be and how big of a notch to cut. Height of mattress (H) – Lockset distance (L) = Notch spacing (Z). So using my numbers $24 - 3 \frac{1}{2} = 20 \frac{1}{2}$ ”.

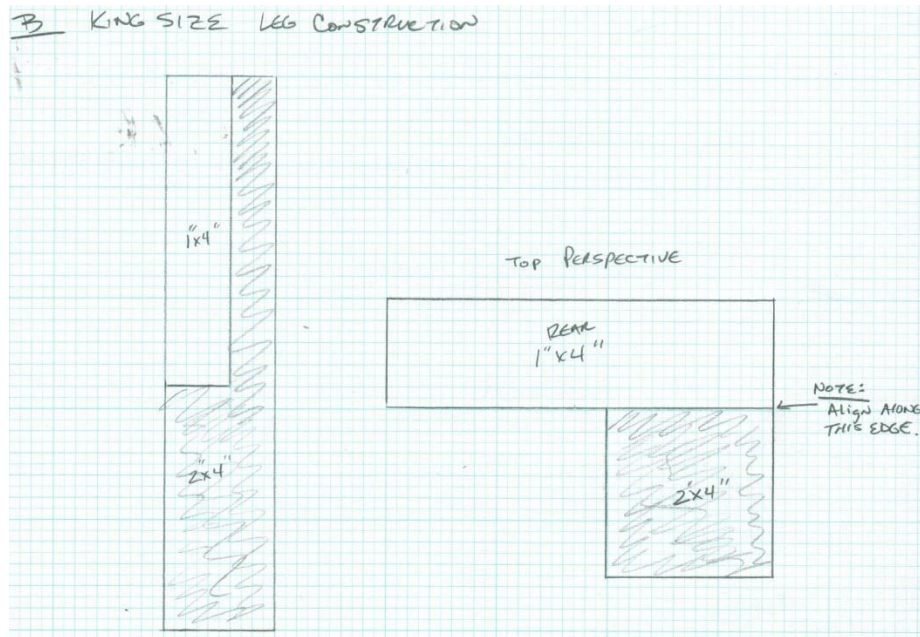


6) Length of 2x4's (Y) = Width of Door (D) + Notch Spacing (Z) therefore my leg pieces are 29 .” + 20 .” = 50” So all of my leg pieces can be cut to 50” in length.

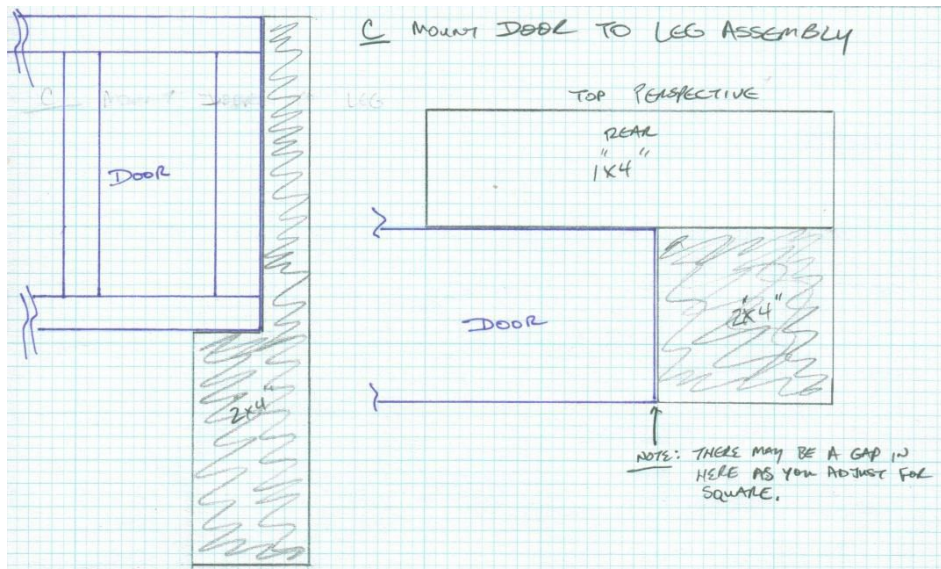
7) Now for the notch in our 2x4's. From the top of the 2x4 cut out a notch 2” wide x width of the door. This should leave you with a shape similar to the drawing above. Remember you need two total 2x4's cut this way.

8) Now you need to cut six total 1x4's each 50" long. Each leg assembly will consist of three 1x4's and one 2x4.

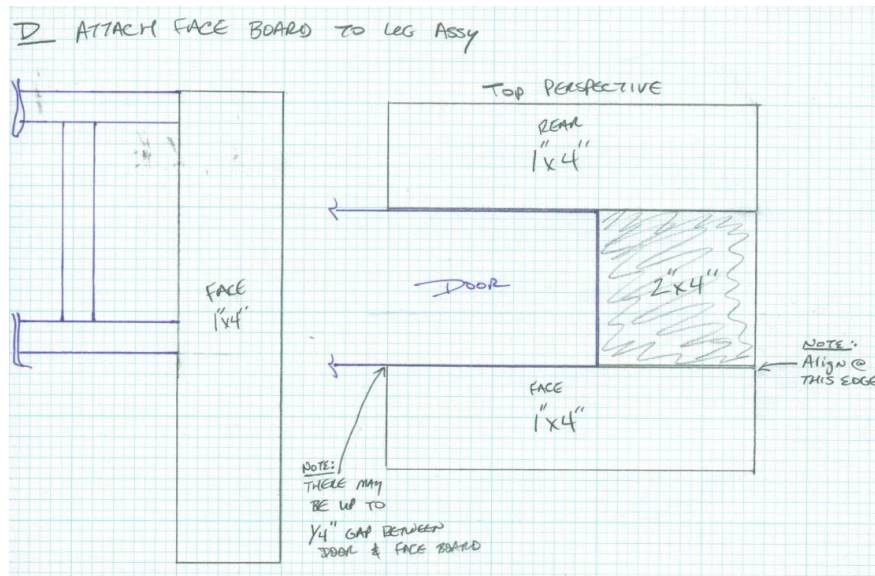
9) Begin building your left and right leg assemblies by gluing and screwing a 2x4 to a 1x4. Make sure you align the outside edge. In the figure below I drew the right-hand one, make sure your left-hand one is a mirror image.



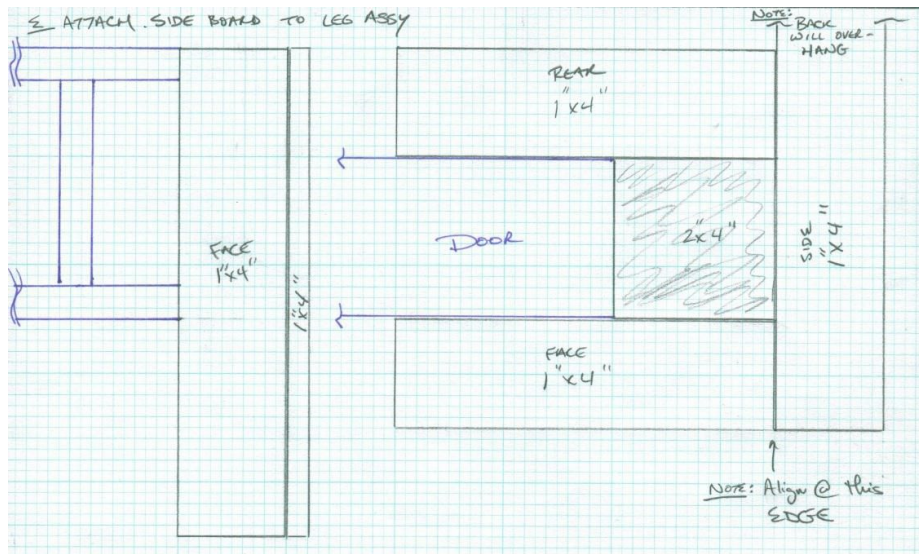
10) Lay each leg assembly down and place the door in the notches. Square the entire assembly up by measuring corner to corner and measuring the distance from outside edge to outside edge at the top and bottom of the legs. Once it is square screw the door to the leg assembly.



11) We will now place the face 1x4 on the leg. Pick your two best 1x4s for this as these will always be visible on your headboard. Place the 1x4 on the leg and align it to the outside edge of the 2x4. Attach this board to the 2x4 using finish nails and glue.



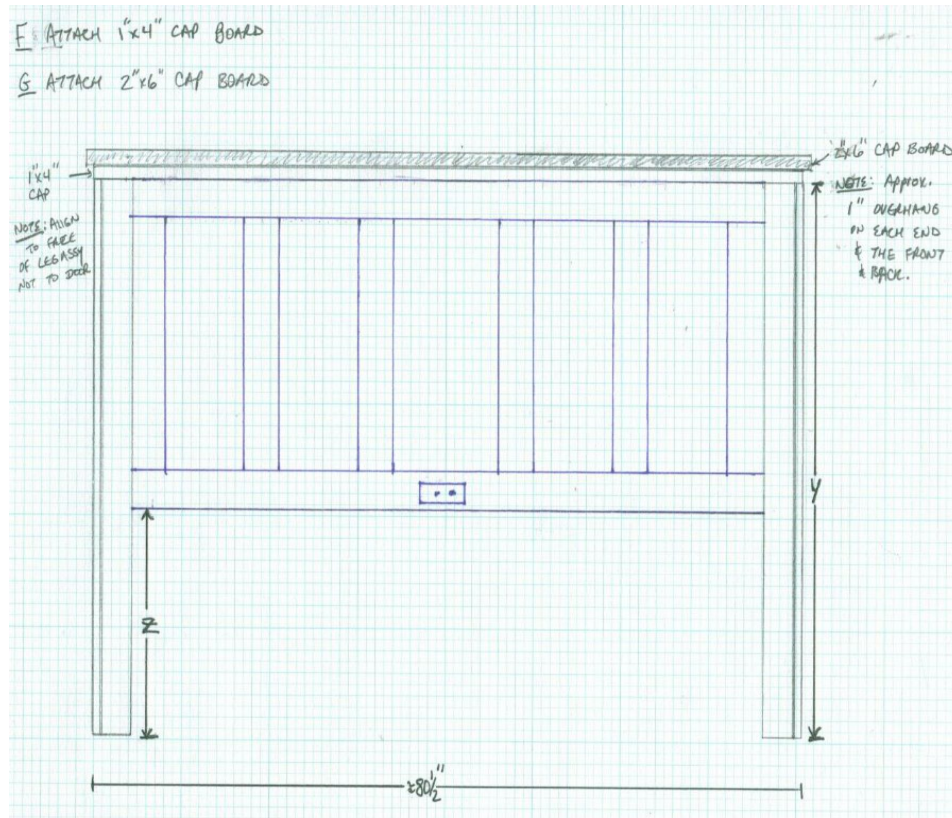
12) The side 1x4s are attached to the leg assembly using finish nails and glue. Align the edge of this board to the face board. NOTE: This board will overhang the leg assembly at the back but that is ok because it will hide the bolts.



FINISH THE HEADBOARD CONSTRUCTION

13) Now we attach the 1x4 cap board to the headboard. Its length is the same as the length of the headboard assembly. Mine was 80 ." long. Attach this using glue and screws.

14) The final construction piece is to attach the 2x6 cap board. This board will overhang on the ends and edges by about 1". So my length is 82 ." . Attach this with screws and glue.



PREP FOR PAINT

- 15) Fill all nail and screw holes with putty.
- 16) Sand all surfaces, except the door, with 150 grit sandpaper.
- 17) Mask any surfaces on the door where you want to preserve the original color. We chose to save the original baby blue color on the fields of the panels so I masked them off with blue tape and paper.

PAINT

- 18) Paint the headboard with the color of your choice. I used a high-gloss Krylon spray paint and was able to do all of the coats in about 3 hours.

MOUNT

- 19) Mount the headboard to the bed by drilling holes in the legs that match up to your bed frame. Insert bolts and attach the nuts.

CUTLIST

Please note these will be slightly different depending on the size door you use.

KING HEADBOARD

1 – Door 76” Long x 29 ½” Wide

6 – 1x4 – 50” Long

2 – 2x4 – 50” Long

1 – 1x4 – 80 ½” Long – don’t cut this to length until you verify actual length of headboard

1 – 2x6 – 82 ½” Long – don’t cut this to length until you verify actual length of headboard

QUEEN HEADBOARD

1 – Door 60” Long x 25” Wide

6 – 1x4 – 45 1/2” Long

2 – 2x4 – 45 1/2” Long

1 – 1x4 – 64 ½” Long

1 – 2x6 – 66 ½” Long