



Hot Dog Cart Junior



An Easy To Build Hot Dog Cart For Kids!



Plans And Step by Step Instructions

by Steve Schaible of HotDogProfits.com

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An Easy To Build, Super Fun Hot Dog Cart For Kids!

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Congratulations! You are about to start a fun and simple project that will spark your child's entrepreneurial spirit while making him or her the hit of the neighborhood!

When properly cared for, the Hot Dog Cart Junior should last a lifetime. Since you are the one who built it, you will know exactly how to repair it if necessary. There are no special skills involved, and the entire cart can be built in an afternoon using basic hand and power tools that just about every one owns. The parts are easily obtainable locally and sources for all parts are listed in the Bill of Materials.

The sturdy little Hot Dog Cart Junior contains a removable cooler for storing your choice of cold drinks or hot dogs. You can cook the hot dogs for your child, place them in buns and individually wrap them in foil before putting them in the cooler. Please note that Hot Dog Cart Junior does not have a heating element, therefore hot dogs should not be stored in the cooler for prolonged periods. Use your best judgement.

Hot Dog Cart Junior is not designed for commercial purposes and is intended for entertainment only. The author assumes no responsibility or liability for any injury and/or damage to persons and/or property arising from the implementation of material contained in this publication.

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Bill of Materials

Qty	Item	Source
1	4'x8' sheet of 1/4" luan plywood	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
4	2x2x8' lumber	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
1	2x4x8' lumber	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
3	1/2" two hole pipe straps for axle	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
1	36" long 5/8" diameter steel rod	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
2	5/8" shaft collars	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
2	5/8" washers	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
1	1" washer	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
1 lb	1" coarse thread drywall screws	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
1 lb	3" coarse thread drywall screws	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
4	1/4" x 1 1/2" lag screws	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
	wood glue	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
	exterior latex paint	Home Depot / Lowes, etc.
2	10" pneumatic tire (5/8" axle hole)	http://www.harborfreight.com/10-inch-pneumatic-tire-30900.html
1	4" x 1 1/4" swiveling caster wheel	http://www.harborfreight.com/4-inch-x-1-1-4-quarter-inch-rubber-swivel-caster-90995.html
1	6' diameter umbrella - kid's picnic/beach	toy store / hardware store / WalMart, etc.
1	cooler (16" wide max. - we used a 13")	Igloo Island Breeze 9 QT / 13 Can from WalMart, etc.

Notes:

1. A 2x2 from the lumberyard actually measures 1 1/2" x 1 1/2", and a 2x4 is actually 1 1/2" x 3 1/2". Be sure to sight down the length of your lumber to check for warped or twisted boards. We only want the straight ones. A little time spent sorting your lumber will pay big dividends during construction.
2. Have the guy at Lowes or Home Depot cut the plywood for you (the long way) at 28" from the edge. They have a big panel saw that will leave you with a nice straight edge to work from. Fits in a mini van this way too, which is nice.

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Tools Required



Jig Saw



Drill



Drill Bits and
Driver Bit



Hack Saw



Metal File



4' Straight Edge



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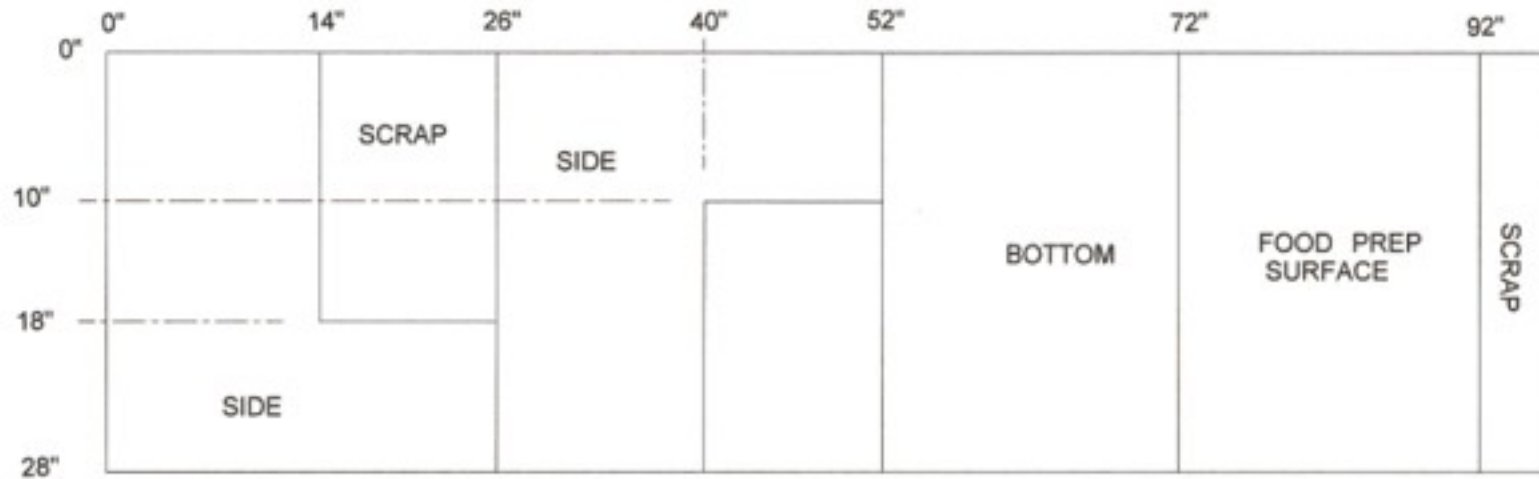


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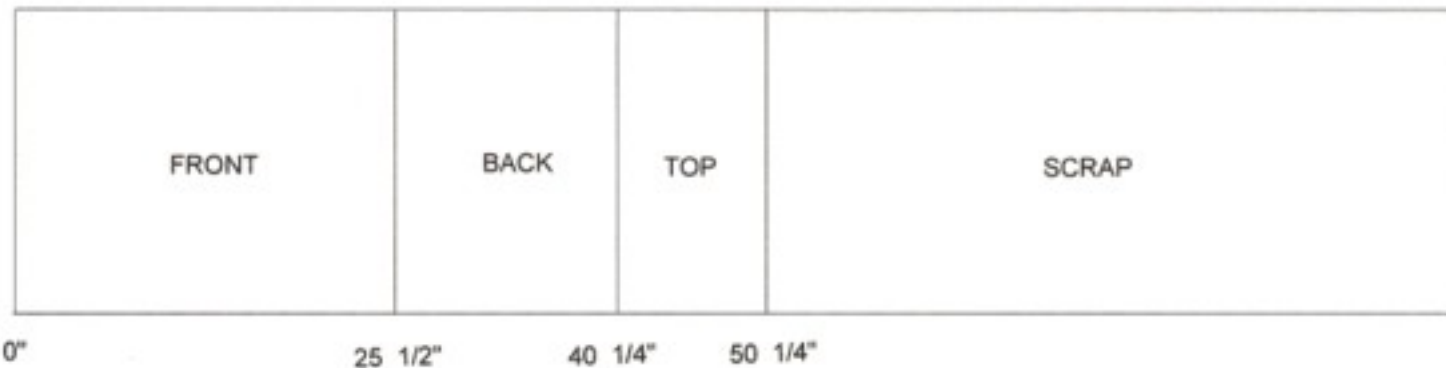


Ready? Let's Build It!

1. Begin by drawing out and labeling all of the plywood parts according to these measurements:



----- 4' x 8' x 1/4\" luan plywood, cut at store with panel saw at 28\" width. -----



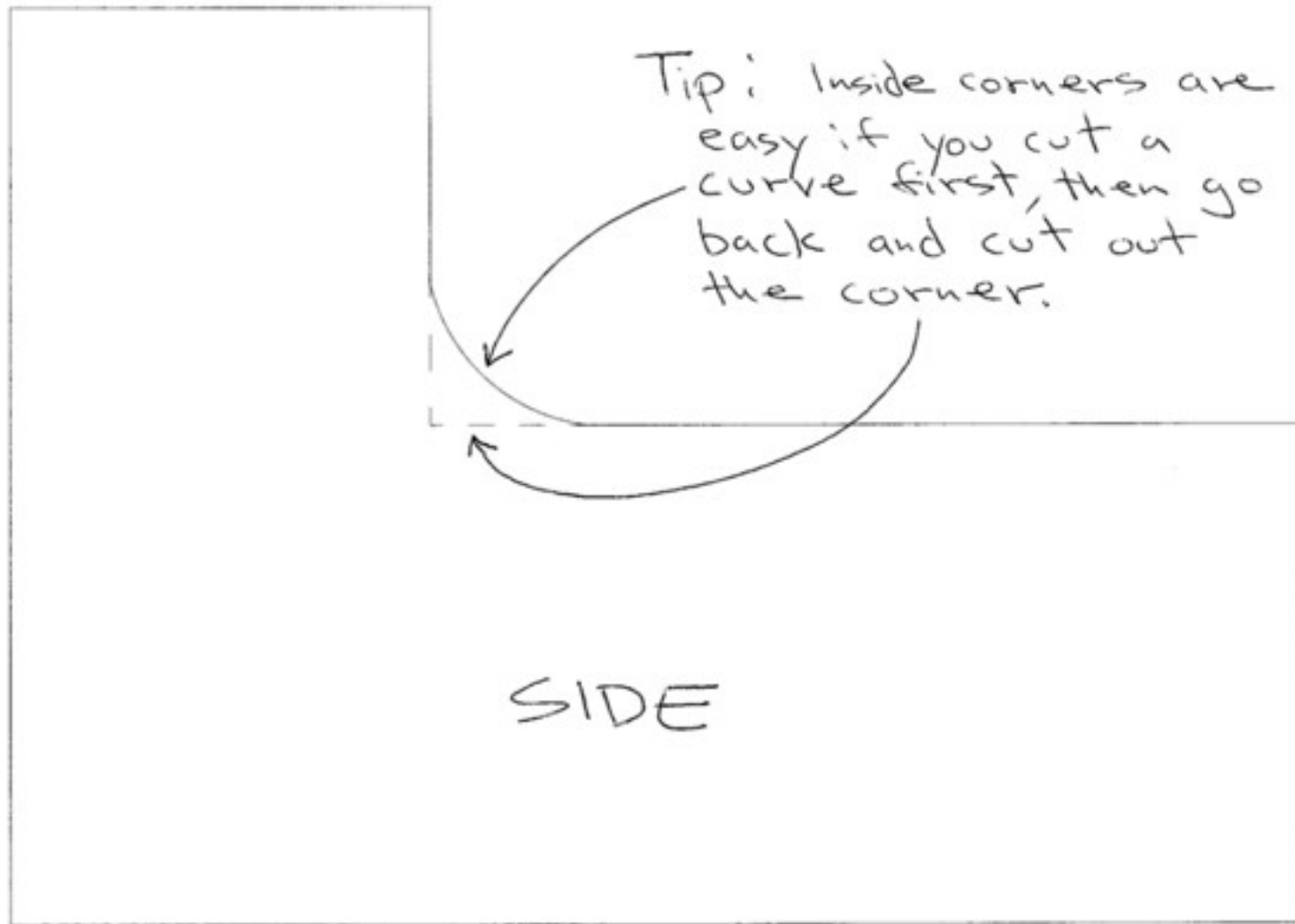
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2. Cut out all the parts with a jig saw.



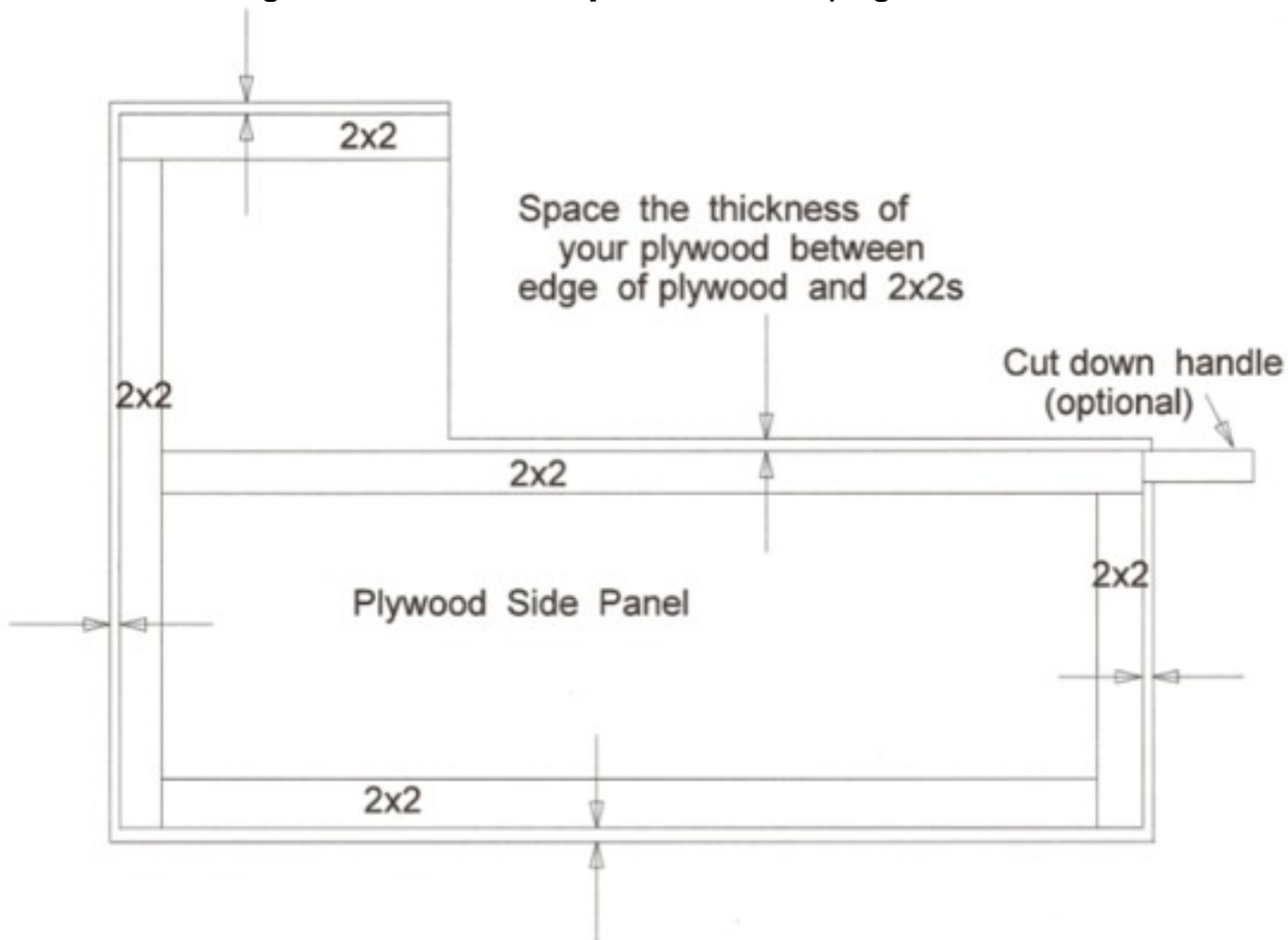
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3. Attach 2x2s to both side panels with wood glue and drywall screws. Be sure to leave a space the thickness of your plywood for attaching the top, food prep, bottom, front, and back parts as shown in the drawing below. See the **tip** on the next page...



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Tip: For a perfect fit, hold a scrap of plywood against the side of the 2x2. Then line up the outside edge of the scrap with the edge of the plywood side panel as you attach it. Sink the screw head just below the level of the wood so you can fill it later.



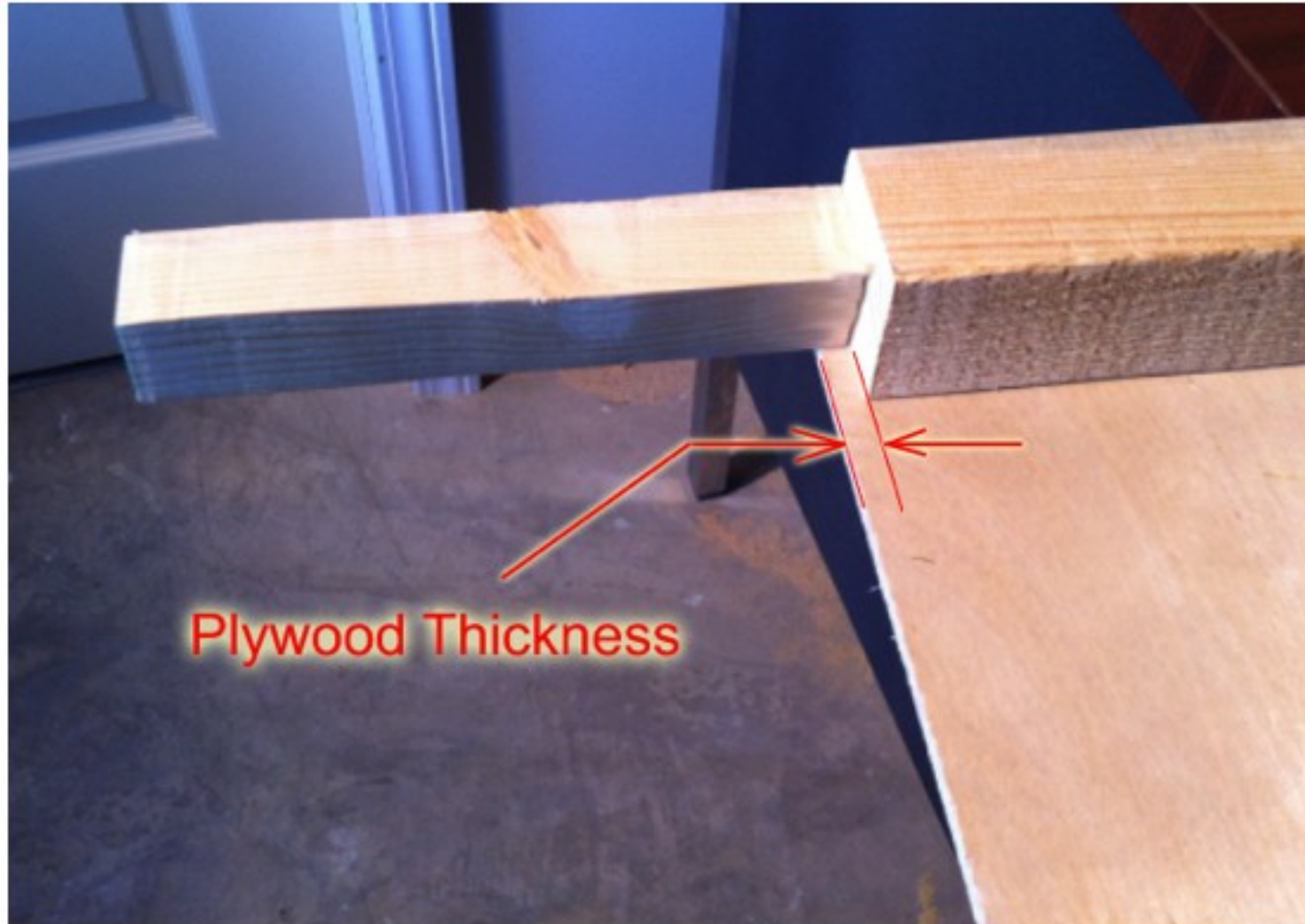
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4. Cut down the handle if you wish before attaching to the plywood side panel. Be sure to leave space for the plywood back panel as shown in the picture.



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5. Be sure to make a right and left side. Here is what they should look like at this point.



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6. Trim the bottom panel to the length of the frame members to make room for the front and back panels. Hold the bottom panel even with the frame member on the left, and mark the right edge of the frame.



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7. Glue and screw the bottom panel onto the side panels.



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8. Attach the bottom frame members front and rear before turning cart right side up.



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9. Attach the top panel.



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10. Trim the length of the food prep panel so it fits from front edge of the front frame member to the back edge of the plywood side panel.





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11. Notch the front of the food prep panel to clear the front frame members and attach.



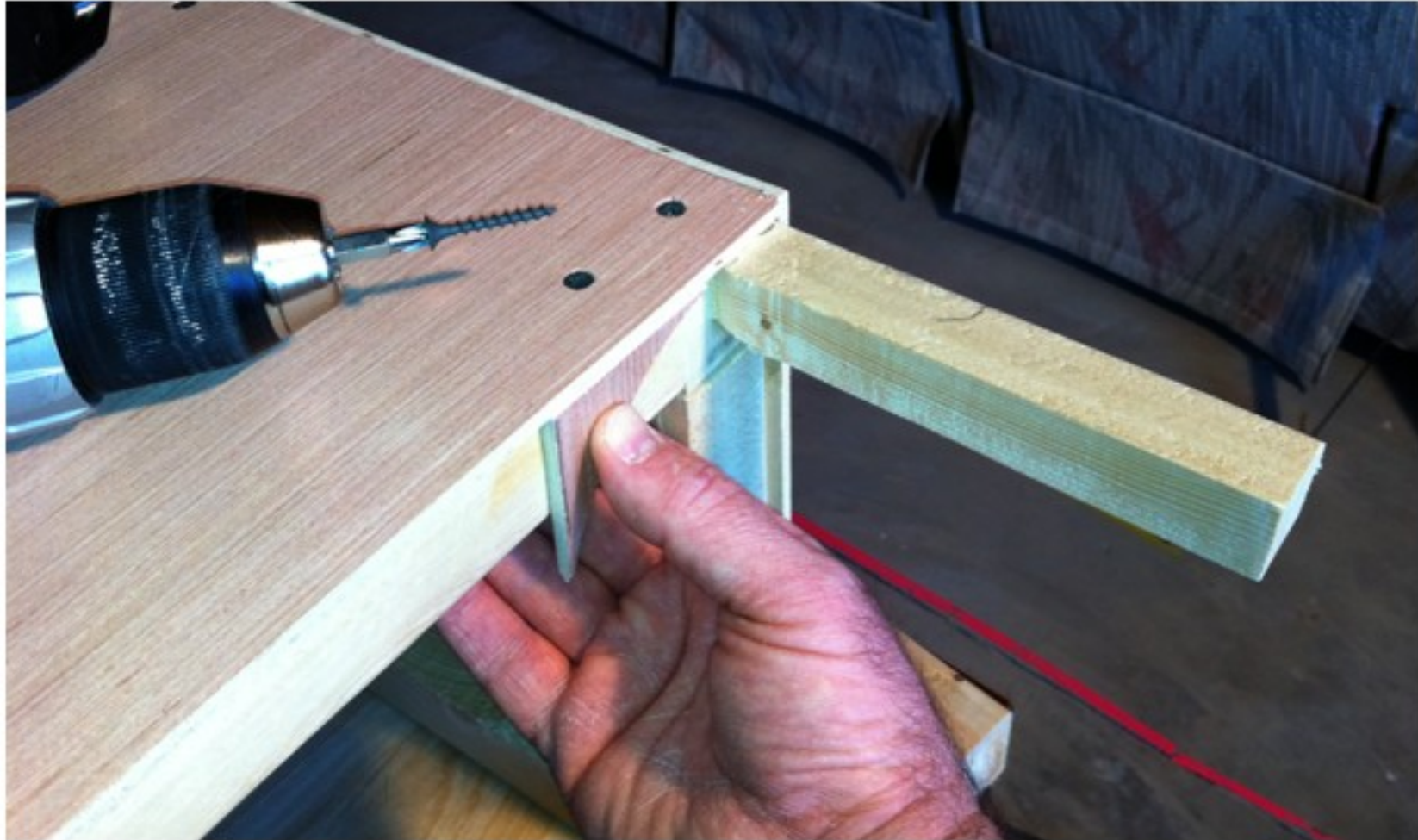
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12. Attach the rear frame member to the underside of the food prep surface. Use your spacer to set it back from the edge.



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13. Attach the front frame members to the underside of the top and food prep panels. The top frame member is set back with a spacer, the food prep frame member is flush with the edge of the food prep panel.



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14. Place your cooler upside down on the food prep surface and trace around the outside.
Tip: Holding your pencil against the side of the cooler while tracing will give you just the right amount of clearance.



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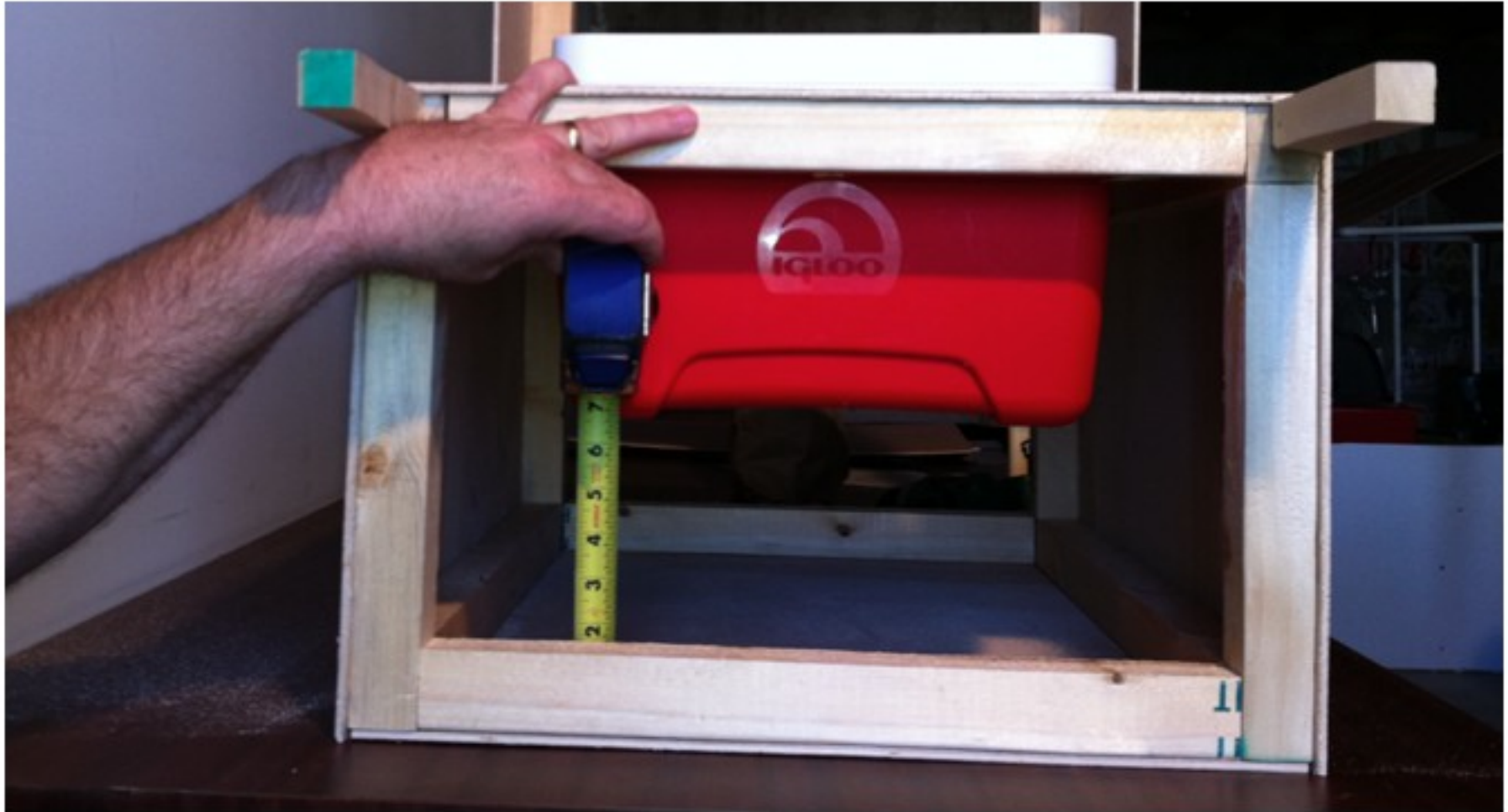
15. Cut out the opening. **Tip:** Drilling a hole inside the line gives you a place to start your cut.



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16. Next we need to make a riser to hold the cooler at the right height. Place the cooler in position and measure from the bottom of the cart to the underside of the cooler.



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17. Use this measurement to make your riser. It will sit on the bottom frame members as shown below.



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18. Secure the riser by screwing through the side panels and finish it by attaching the plywood cut out from the cooler opening.



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19. Attach the front and back panels. Trim and notch as necessary before final installation.



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20. Attach frame members around storage cabinet opening, and add a frame member under the food prep surface behind the cooler opening.



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21. Trim the front of the cabinet opening with a piece of plywood. **Tip:** Lay a piece of scrap plywood against the cabinet face and trace the outline onto the plywood for a perfect fit.



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22. Turn cart over and attach the 40" long 2x4 tongue with four 3" screws and glue. **Tip:** Drill holes in the tongue slightly larger than the threads, so the screws grip into the cart frame, not the tongue.



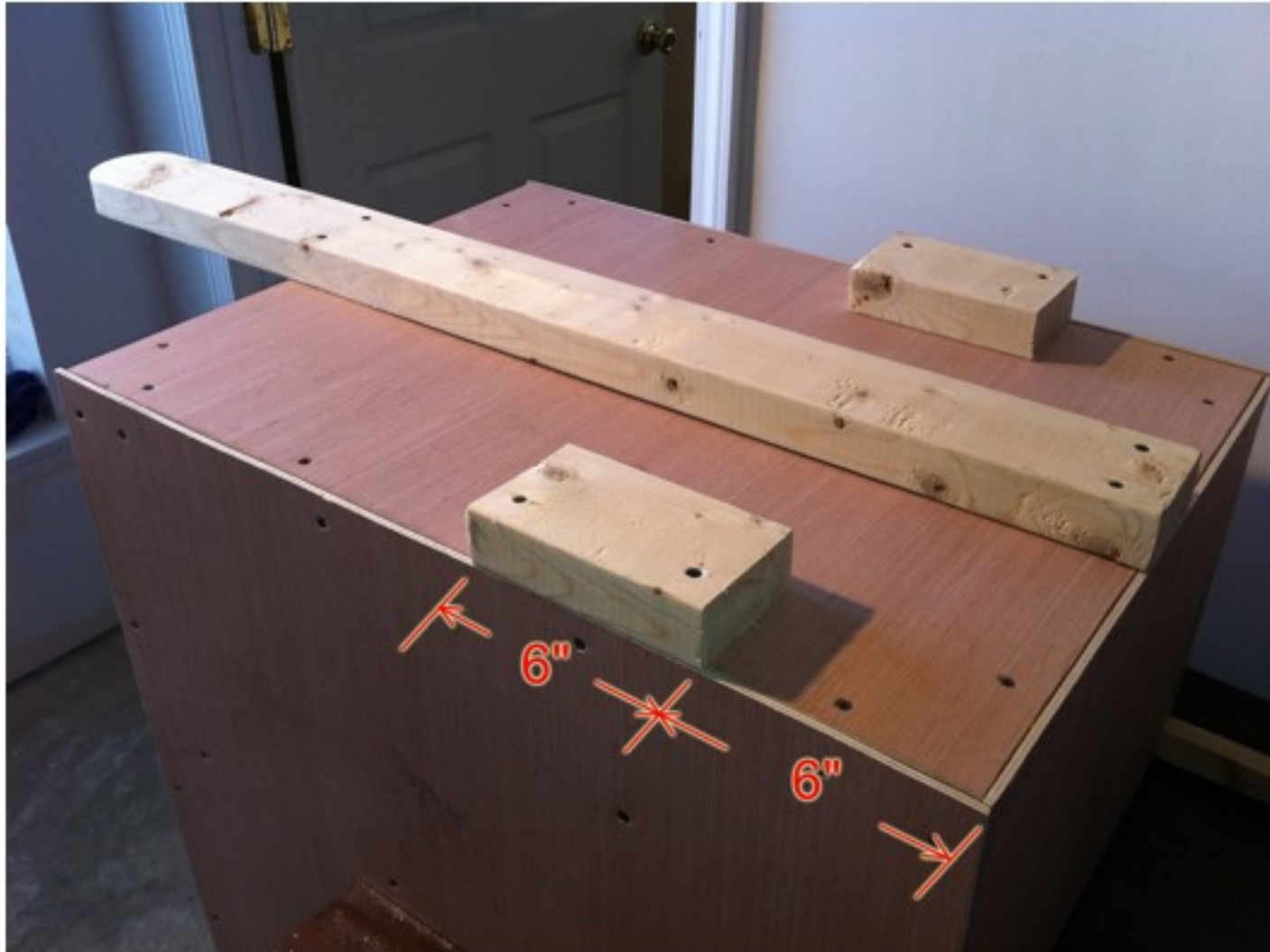
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23. Attach 2x4 axle mounting blocks with glue and two 3" screws. Install blocks flush with the side of cart. The screws need to be off center a bit so they go into the cart frame.



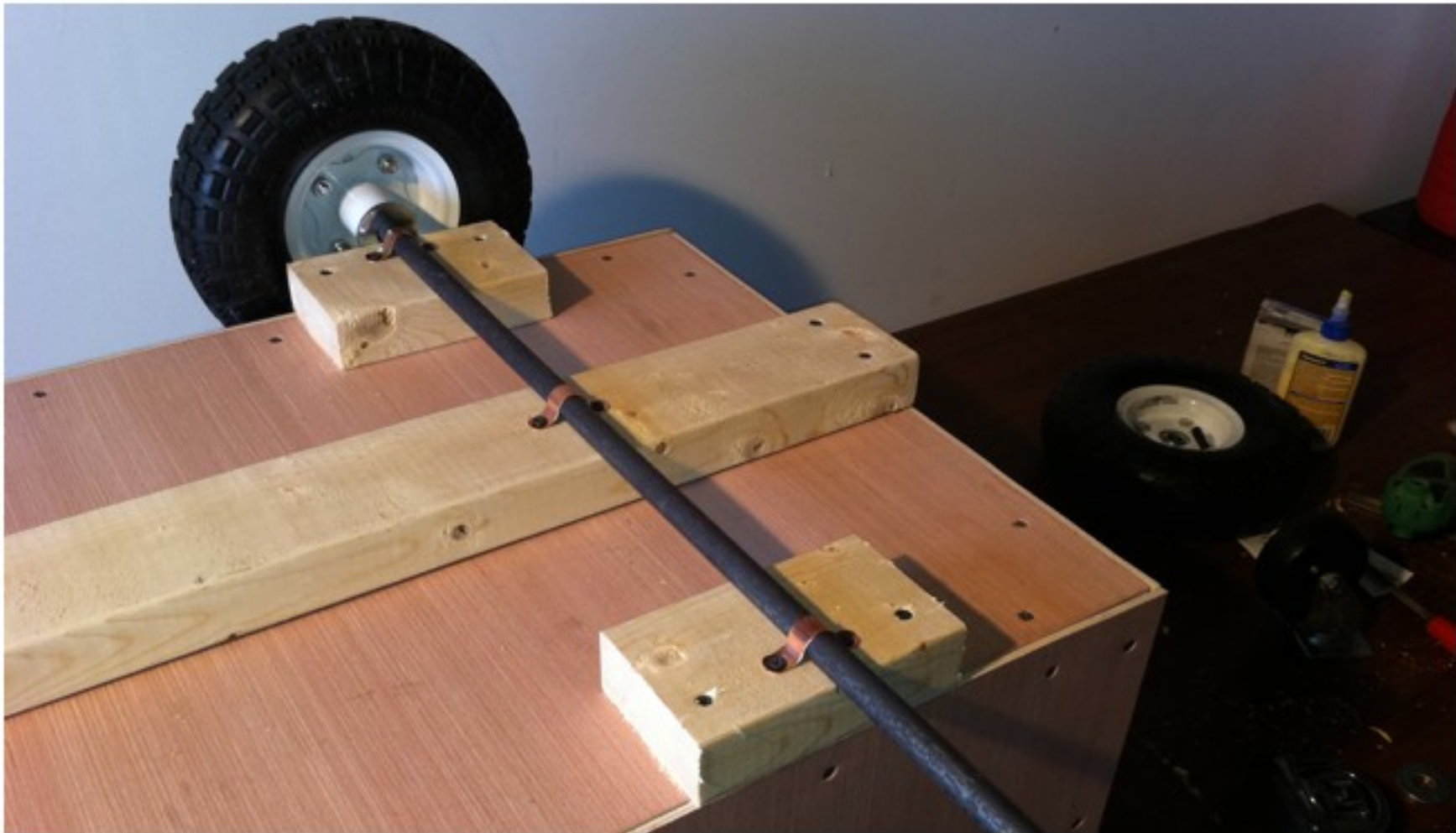
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24. Install a shaft collar on one end of the axle. Slide on a 10" wheel and a washer. With the shaft collar tight against the first wheel, place the axle into position and secure the axle assembly to the mid point of the mounting blocks with screws through three 1/2" pipe straps.



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25. Slide on the remaining washer, wheel, and shaft collar and mark the axle. Remove the wheel and cut the axle to length with a hack saw. File the cut end to remove any sharp edges.



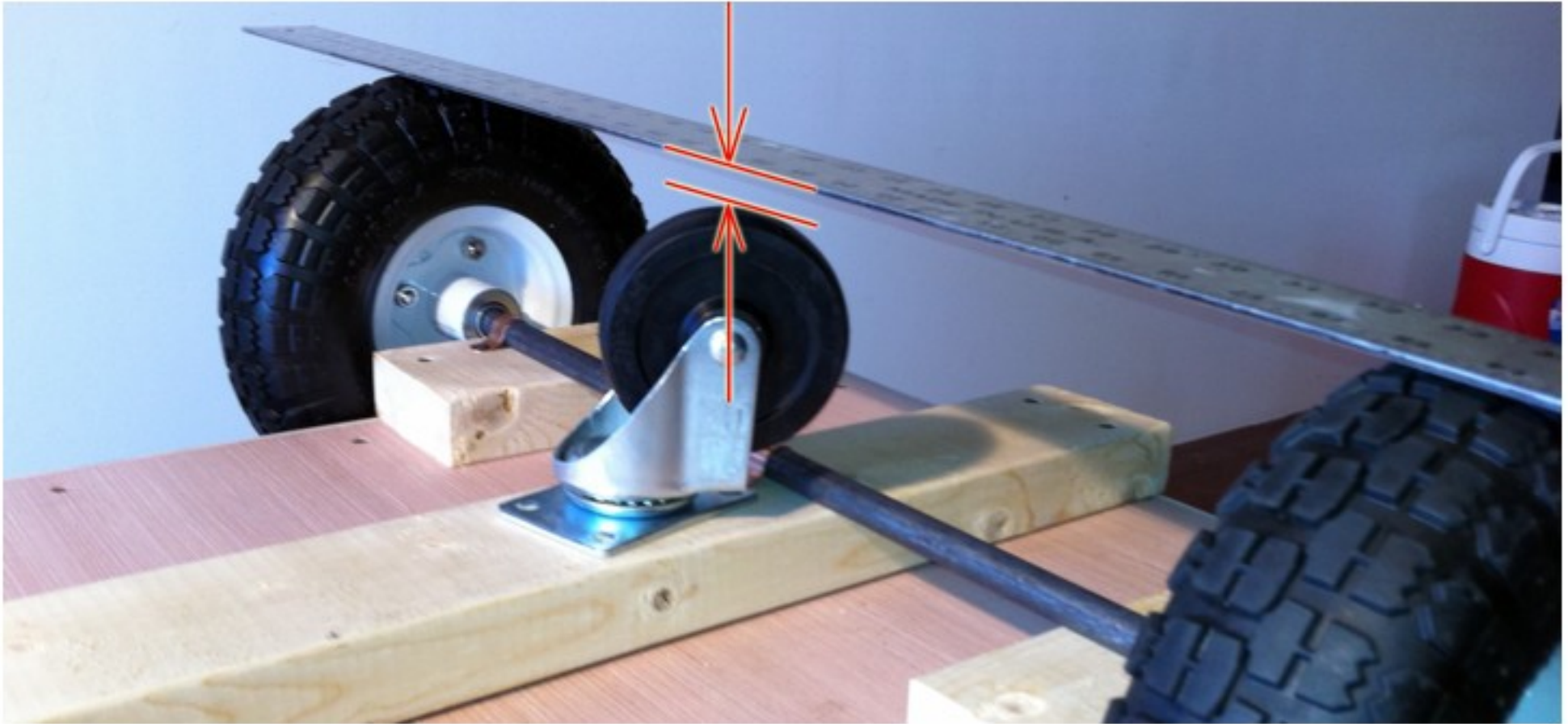
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26. Reinstall the wheel, washer, and shaft collar. Lay a straight edge across the tires and put your caster wheel underneath it. The space between the caster and the straightedge equals the thickness of the spacer you will need under the caster wheel to level the cart.



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27. Install caster wheel and spacer 6" from the front of the tongue with $\frac{1}{4}$ " x $1 \frac{1}{2}$ " lag screws.



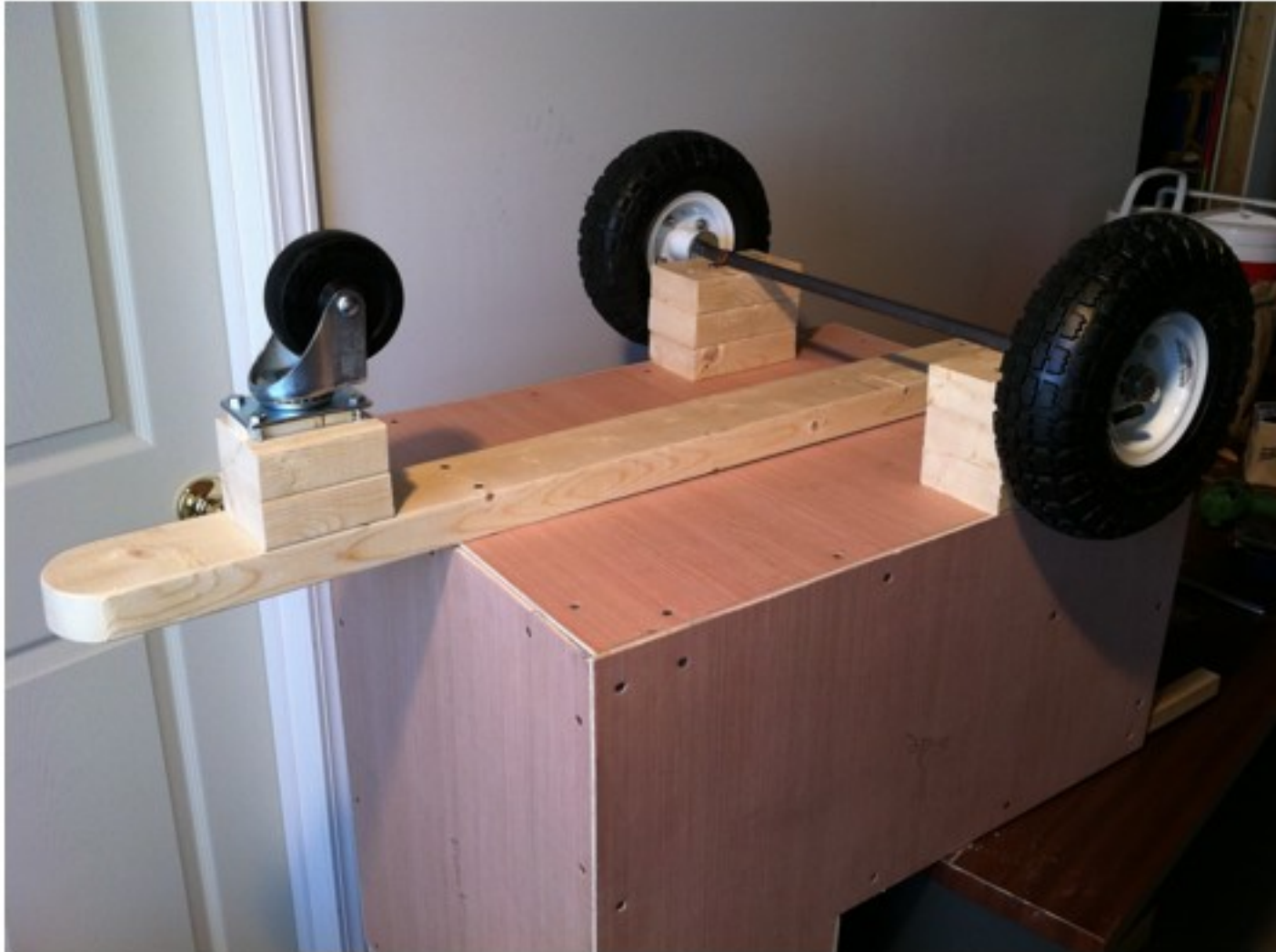
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28. **Tip:** Hot Dog Cart Junior can grow with your child! You can raise the height at any time by adding additional spacer blocks under the axle and caster wheel.



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29. Lemonade anyone? The tongue is a great place for a two gallon drink cooler! Secure it with a strap through two slots in the front panel.



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30. Here's how to cut the slots for the strap. First, drill holes at each end of the slot, then cut out the slot with your jig saw.



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31. Fill the screw holes with wood putty along with any gaps between the panels. Wait for the putty to dry, then sand it smooth. You may want to soften the corners and edges of the handles for a more rounded appearance. Paint with an exterior latex paint. A roller or brush works fine.



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32. Drill a hole for the umbrella in the top panel just behind the frame member. Then drill a second hole directly beneath the first one through the food prep surface. Glue a washer to the top panel to reinforce the hole. That's it, you're done – good job!



“I hope you enjoyed building Hot Dog Cart Junior! Thanks for letting me share this with you. Feel free to recommend this by giving the following link to anyone you think would enjoy it.” -Steve

Share this: www.HotDogProfits.com/hot-dog-cart-junior.html

P.S. I have a FREE GIFT for you on the next page...

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About The Author - And a free gift for you...



Steve Schaible is the editor of the premier industry newsletter “Hot Dog Cart News”, and host of his own podcast “Hot Dog Cart Radio”. Steve also owns and operates his own hot dog vending business, in addition to being a mobile food industry author, trainer, and consultant.

He has taught thousands of people start their own hot dog cart businesses through his book and audio CD course, “Hot Dog Biz 101” as well as his 5 DVD video series, “The E-Z Built Hot Dog Cart” which shows you how to build your own REAL professional grade hot dog cart for less than \$500 in commonly available hardware store parts.

Steve has personally worked with everyone from college students running a single cart on campus, to a retired vice president of Wendy’s Hamburgers who is starting up a nationwide hot dog cart franchise operation. After having interacted with thousands of mobile food vendors, Steve is sharing his accumulated knowledge to help you successfully start, operate, and expand your very own hot dog cart business.

Lots of folks are making great money selling hot dogs. Some do it full time, others do it part time on weekends for extra cash at local craft shows, flea markets, birthday parties, etc. They all have one thing in common – they’re having a LOT of fun. Want to find out how you can do it too? Here’s how...

[Click here](#) to get a [free lifetime gift subscription](#) to Steve’s newsletter “Hot Dog Cart News” with instant access to 275 back issues, plus a revealing audio interview with one of the nation’s top hot dog vendors!

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