

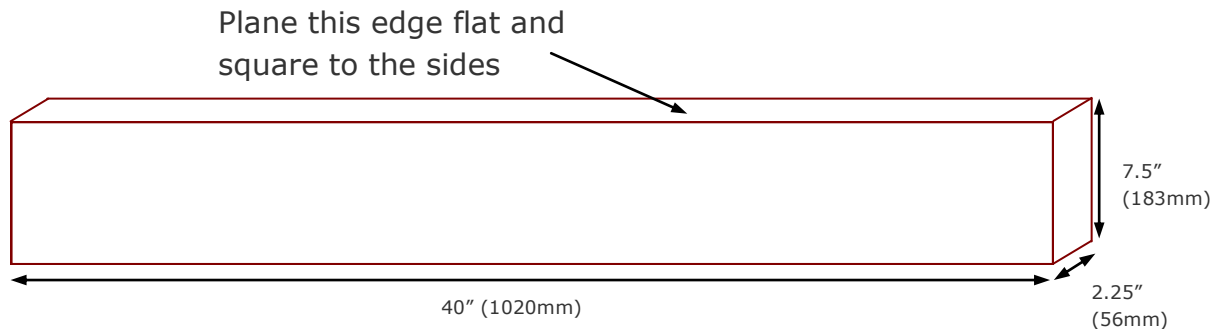


How To Series

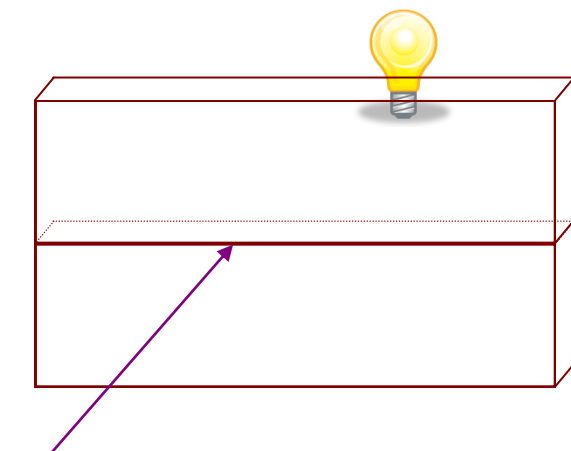
Make your Own Body Blank from a 40" Board

The most cost effective body blank option is to buy a length of 2.25" thick board at around 7" width and 40" long. With sharp hand tools, some clamps and glue, you can make your own body blank for about 40% less than buying a ready made blank.

Firstly, visit our website and buy one of our [40" body blank boards](#), and some [Titebond glue](#).

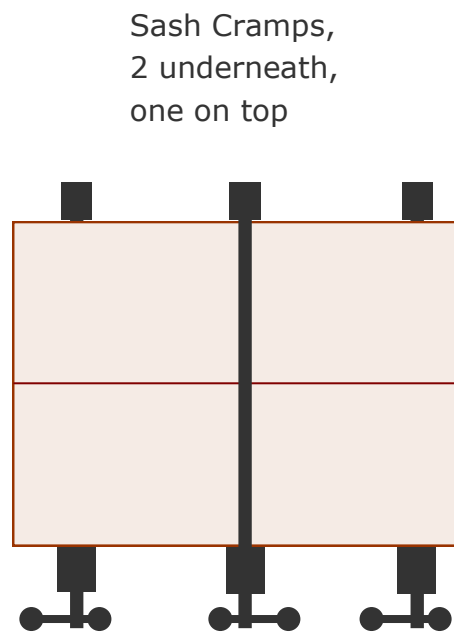
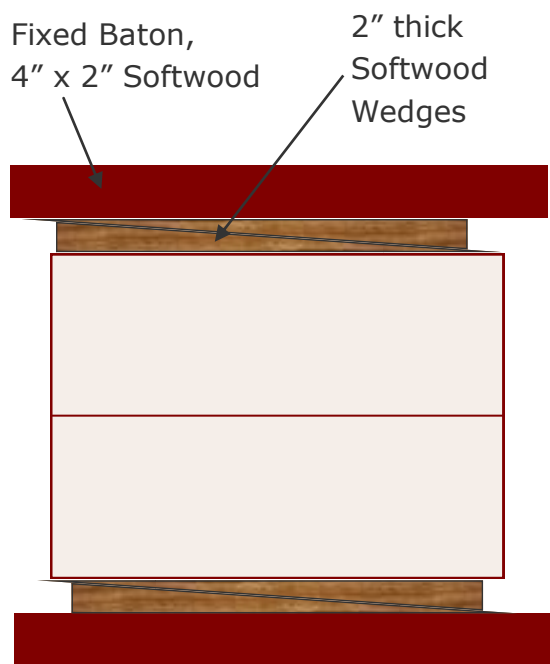


With a sharp jack plane (or electric planer) plane a flat, square edge along one side of the board. If you have a planer/thicknesser you can also thickness the board at this stage to your desired thickness.



Sight along the joint to highlight gaps

Once you have a nice straight and square edge, cut the 40" length in half, and bring the two planed edges together. Hold the join up to the light to spot any dips or gaps in the joint. Re-plane if necessary until you have a good butt joint.



Next, either with sash cramps or with wedges, dry clamp the pair of boards together, planed faces mating. If your clamping method holds OK, unclamp, apply Titebond glue to both planed edges and re-clamp. Put a sheet of newspaper under the boards so you don't glue them to the bench!

Make sure the seam of the join remains flat and don't over-tighten the clamps. Leave to one side for a couple of hours, remove the clamps, scrape off any glue squeeze out. And there you have it: One body blank.