

Laruel Ridge Dowry Chest Instructions

The Laruel Ridge Dowry Chest plans are measured drawings of an antique Dowry chest we discovered in the Laruel Ridge community.

It's not a large chest and has simple clean lines. The original front, back and side panels are single width boards. The top is two wide boards glued together to make one large panel.

The Bracket Feet are the norm for a lot of chest and furniture pieces during the era in our American history of Period furniture. The plans have full size templates of the Bracket feet and the lower rear support panel.

Bracket Feet: The Bracket feet are joined together with a 45 degree angle and has $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ " support cleats around the tops and down the middle on the joint on the inside of the feet. The inside support cleats are what holds the feet to the chest. The original had screws through the support cleats into the bottoms of the panels of the chest.

Lower Rear Support: The lower rear support was one single board with a $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ " support cleat across the top screwed to the bottom of the rear chest panel. Another $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ " support cleat was screwed to the ends of the support and screwed into the rear of the rear chest Bracket feet.

Panel Joinery: The original chest front, back and side panels were joined together with a 45 degree miter joint. The plans give you three methods. Mitered, half lap mortise and tenon and butt joints.

Chest Top: The chest top was attached to the rear chest panel with regular small flat hinges. One side was screwed to the outside of the top and the outside of the back panel. No mortising the hinge into the top and rear panel.

Chest Bottom: The chest bottom was one single board nailed to the support cleats. Unless you have some very wide boards you'll have to glue-up all the wide panels.

Cove Molding: The chest was trimmed out with a small cove molding you can easily make yourself or purchase. The cove molding was a little wider than the Bracket feet and with it over hanging a little gave the chest a nice look. You can tell on the plans.

I hope you enjoy your build and if you have any questions please contact me.

Bruce
Period Furniture Designs

Bruce's Period Furniture Designs Plans Material & Cut-List

PLANS NUMBER:		Plans Description:	Laruel Ridge Dowry Chest
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Item:	Qty:	Description of Item	Thickness	Width	Length
A	2	Front & Back Panels	3/4"	18"	32"
B1	2	Side Panels (Butt Joint)	3/4"	18"	16 1/2"
B2	2	Side Panels (Hald Lap Mortise & Tenon)	3/4"	18"	17 1/4"
B3	2	Side Panels (45 degree miter joint)	3/4"	18"	18"
C	6	Bracket Feet	3/4"	4"	4 11/16"
D	1	Chest Top	3/4"	19 1/4"	34 1/2"
E	1	Chest Support Lower Rear	3/4"		
F	1	Chest Bottom	3/4"	16 1/2"	30 1/2"
G	2	Front and Rear Chest Bottom Support Cleats	3/4"	3/4"	30 1/2"
H	2	Side Chest Bottom Support Cleats	3/4"	3/4"	29"
I		Support Top Horizontal Cleats for Bracket Feet	3/4"	3/4"	
J		Support Vertical Cleats for Bracket Feet	3/4"	3/4"	
		Should be 3 support cleats for two Bracket feet			
		Measure & cut to fit			
K		Cove mldg. Cut to fit.			

