PantoProject Spotlight

Lynn McKnight's PantoRouter™ Cart

When Lynn McKnight was designing a rolling stand for her new machine, she had goals similar to those of other PantoRouter™ owners: She wanted to hold the machine at a comfortable level for her height, she wanted to be able to roll it into various working positions and out of the way, and she wanted the stand to hold all of her PantoRouter™ accessories, keeping everything close at hand.

To maximize storage space, she decided on a cabinet-style stand, with roomy drawers. That afforded her some extra storage space for a few tools not directly related to the PantoRouter: routers and bits, a pocket hole jig, her collection of drill bits, and more.

Aside from storage, the other great thing about a cabinet-style base like Lynn's is that it makes it easy to bolt on casters. In general, you want two swivel casters that lock, and two fixed casters that don't, with wheels at least 3 in. in diameter.

Lynn found most of the materials she needed in her shop, as scraps left over from other projects. Most of the cabinet is made from prefinished maple plywood and solid walnut edging strips

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Elegantly simple. Lynn McKnight's cabinet features maple plywood with walnut edging, and contains three roomy drawers, holding everything she needs for the PantoRouter and much more.

Better yet, Lynn built the cabinet using simple cabinetry methods that anyone can follow. And she put her PantoRouter to work on the drawer boxes, using finger joints for the top two drawers and dovetails for the bigger bottom drawer.



Right size and height. The stand is deep and wide enough to hold the machine comfortably, and puts it at a height just right for McKnight.



Simple construction. Screws and glue are a simple but effective way to build a plywood stand.



Partial back. A short panel in back is enough to stabilize the cabinet side to side, though you could run this panel to the top.





Drawers courtesy of the PantoRouter. McKnight used the machine to make the two upper drawer boxes, using finger joints, and the dovetails for the lower box. The drawer fronts are applied after the fact, by driving screws from inside the drawer boxes. This is a an easy, effective way to create a nice-looking cabinet of drawers, with even gaps all around the drawer fronts.



All accessories close at hand. The top drawer is plenty big for all the PantoRouter accessories and more. McKnight plans to take them out of their bags and make separate compartments and holders for them down the road.



Extra shop storage is always welcome. The two lower drawers of this rolling unit hold other shop essentials, like routers, bits, and jigs.



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