

1932

EC1171 Suggestions for Making Simple Porch or Lawn Furniture

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IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

1932

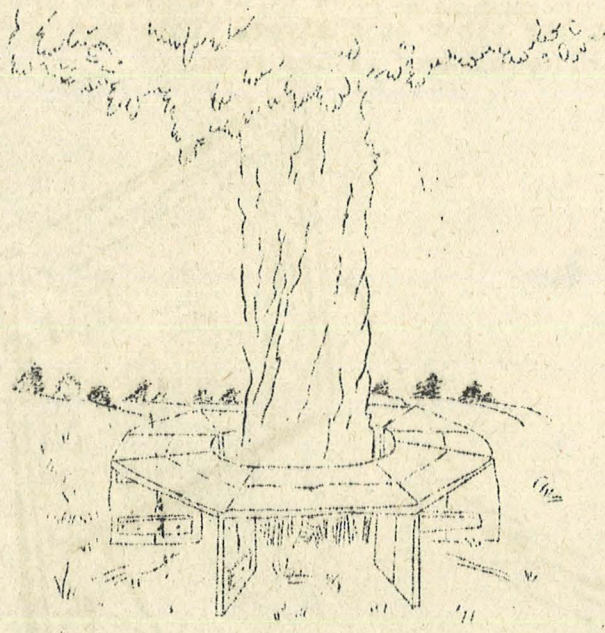
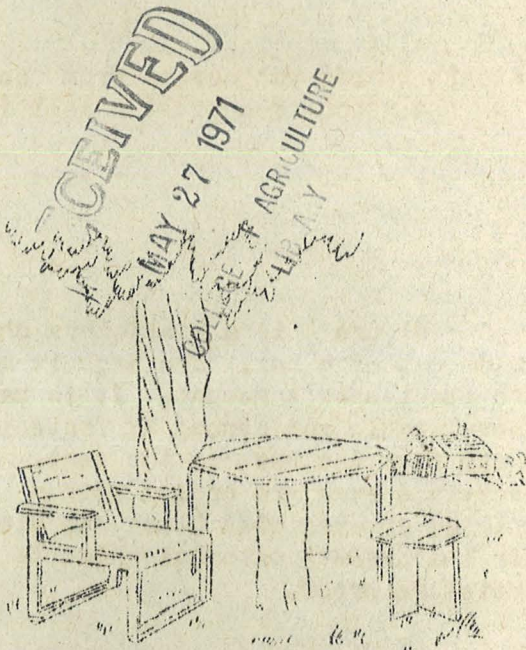
U. of N. Agr. College & U. S. Dept. of Agr. Cooperating
W. H. Brokaw, Director, Lincoln

Extension
Circular
1171

SUGGESTIONS FOR MAKING SIMPLE
PORCH OR LAWN FURNITURE

Many happy hours may be spent by the family out of doors either on the porch or in the yard. Every member of the family may contribute something in helping make these places more comfortable and pleasant.

This circular contains a number of suggestions for such articles that can be made with no great outlay of time or money.



Figures 1 and 2 - Chairs, tables, and benches such as these may be made out of boxes or orange crates.

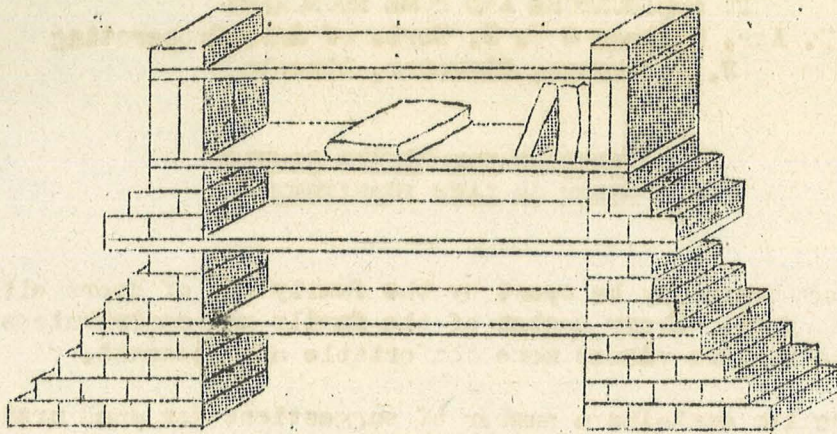


Figure 3

Book rack made of brick piled up and smooth boards put across from one pile to the other as shelves. This may be made on the porch or against a wall in the yard or outdoor living room.

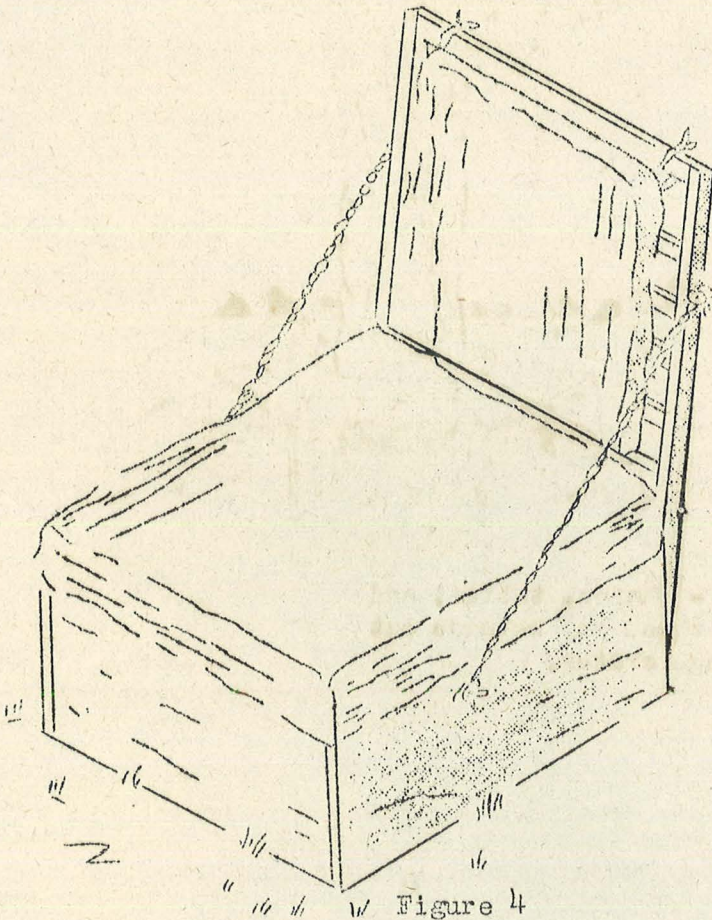


Figure 4 is a stationary chair made out of a box. The back is made to slant back somewhat. It is made more stable and strong by fastening rope from the back to the seat. The seat and back are padded with a pillow covered with black oil cloth or leatherette material which is moisture proof.

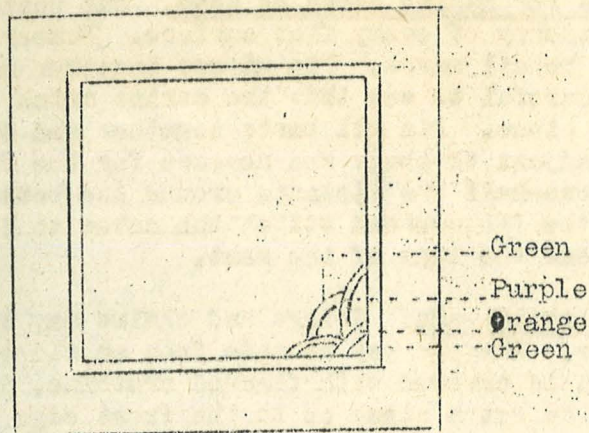


Figure 5

Pillow or table cover made of black oil cloth or leatherette material trimmed with bias binding. The bias binding is stitched on then carefully painted with shellac to make it water proof. The colors used should, of course, harmonize with the color of the furniture.

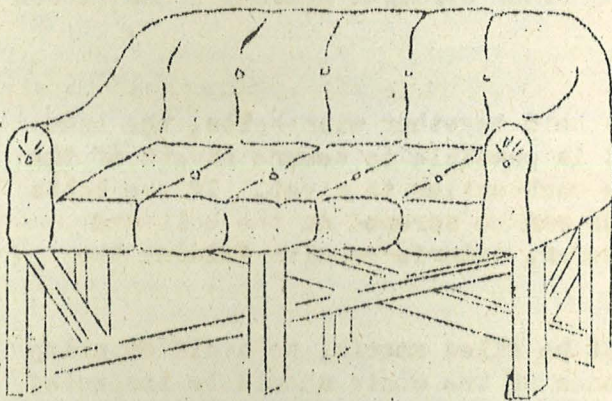


Figure 6

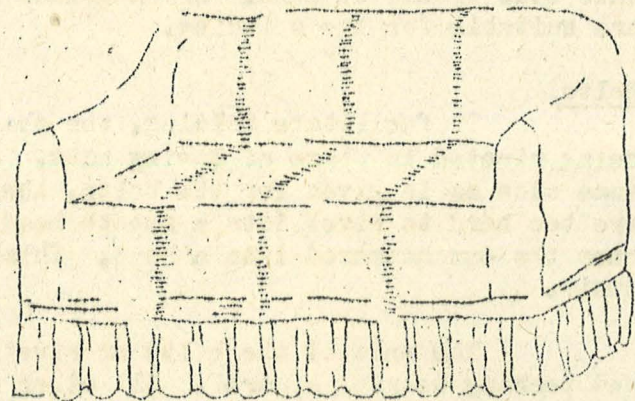


Figure 7

Covered Auto Seats

Figures 6 and 7 show what can be done to rear seats of an old Ford. The seat is made the right height by putting it up on legs. The whole thing is covered with striped awning or figured cretonne.

Directions for making cover on seat. Cut pattern by laying paper against it and draw an exact copy of every flat surface. Number each. Cut out pattern about 1" beyond the pencil marks. Pin pieces together and try on the chair. Cut the material being careful to see that the strips match or the pattern runs the correct way in each piece. Pin all parts together and try on chair. Baste. Try on chair. Stitch, adjust to chair and measure for the flounce. The length of the flounce is one and one-half the distance around the bottom of the cover. Hem. Box pleat or shirr the flounce and stitch the cover to it. The ruffle should be long enough to conceal the legs of the seat.

Swing and chair pads. Swings and chairs may be made more comfortable by making padded covers. The pad may be made from an old quilt cut the length and width desired. This is covered with figured cretonne, denim, or gingham. It is desirable to attach an extra piece on to the front edge of the seat pad to extend down about 6 inches. This prevents any rough edges of the swing from snagging or tearing clothing. It is not necessary to pad the back but to make a cover double thickness which is tied to the back at both ends and in the middle.

Directions for Making Deck Chair on Page 5

Lumber

Only straight grained clear material should be used. Stock 1" x 3" material when finished is actually only $7/8"$ x $2-5/8"$ and therefore nothing smaller than this size should be used. Broom sticks or any other straight grained round pieces are suitable for the spindles.

Bolts

To facilitate folding, the chair is held together with bolts, the ends being riveted in place of having nuts. If it is possible to secure rivets of the same size as is given for the bolts, they are much easier to rivet. If the bolts are too hard to rivet into a smooth head, nuts can be screwed on the bolt and then the end hammered into a head. This, however, interferes with folding the chair.

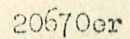
The ends of the bolts or rivets must be filed smooth, to avoid catching and tearing wearing apparel. All other surfaces of the chair should be inspected carefully and any rough places smoothed off.

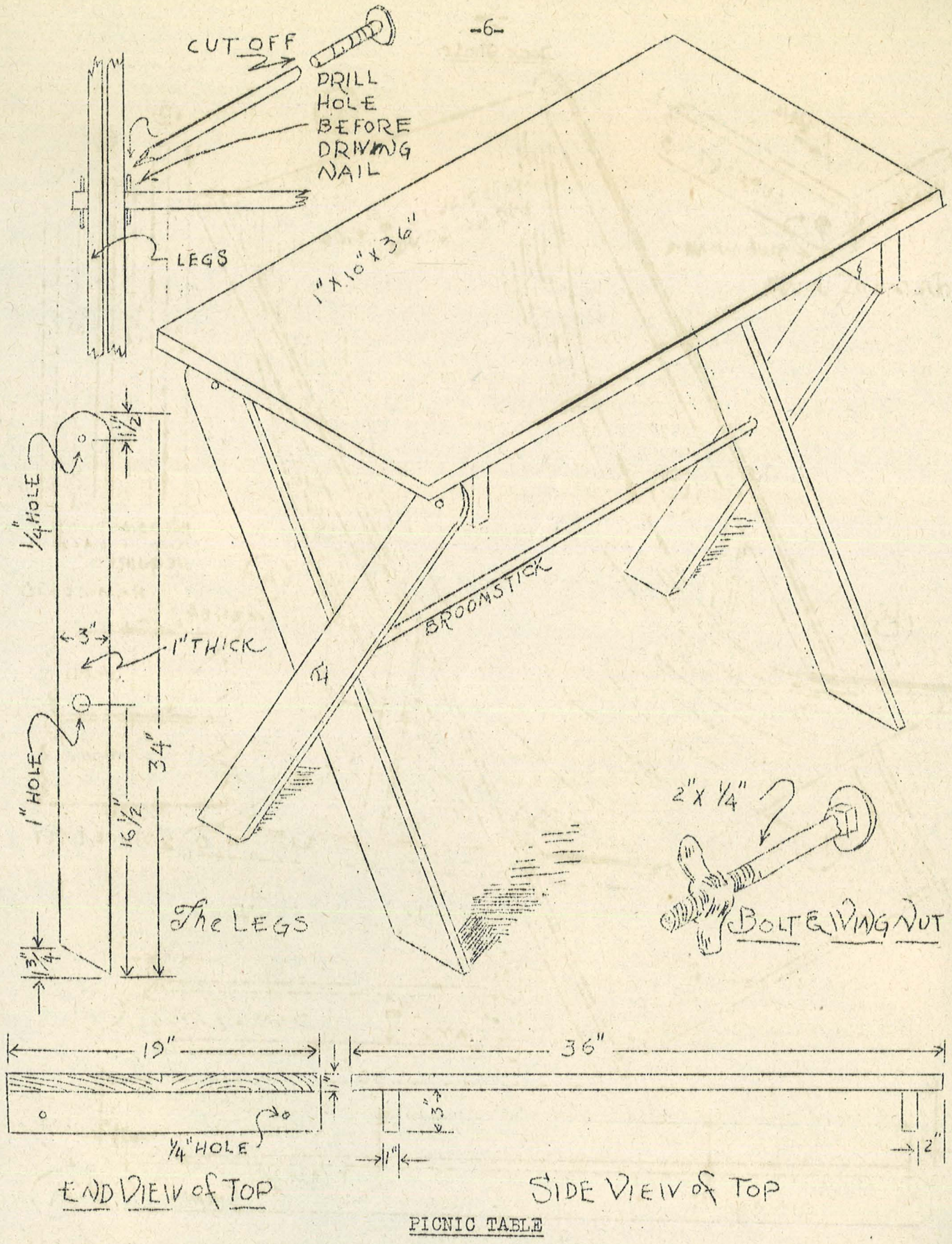
Assembling

All drill holes should be accurately placed otherwise the chair will appear to be warped. The notches controlling the angle of the chair must be cut deep enough so that there is no chance of the round slipping out and allowing the chair to collapse. In using the chair make sure that the round is always in the notches before the chair supports any weight.

Material for Seat

The combination seat and back may be made of a number of materials. Canvas, ticking, denim or a heavy sack material is equally suitable. All stitching should be very strong, as the entire weight of the person occupying the chair is held by the stitching.





END VIEW OF TOP

SIDE VIEW OF TOP

PICNIC TABLE

Colors for Painted Furniture

Furniture that is painted one color without trim is always safe and often the wisest choice. Bands of harmonizing colors or stencils may add interest and are often desirable. When using a trim of any kind the following principles should be observed:

1. Follow structural lines.
2. Use colors that do not make a strong contrast in their lightness and darkness.
3. When stencils are used it should conform with the general shape of the space in which it is to be placed. The parts of the stencil design should be close enough so that they seem to belong together.
4. Avoid too much trim or hit and miss spots of contrasting color on chair rounds, and legs.

Suitable Places for Trim on Furniture

1. Edge of chair seat and back.
2. Narrow edges of slats at back of lawn chairs.
3. Edge of table top.
4. Where the construction makes one part project beyond another, the edge of the projection may be painted.

Colors Suitable for Furniture

	<u>Background</u>	<u>Trim</u>
1.	Ivory - - - - -	Light apple green
2.	Ivory - - - - -	Soft medium blue
3.	Yellow - - - - -	Light yellow green
4.	Sand color - - - - -	Grayish orchid
5.	Apple green - - - - -	Light yellow
6.	Blue gray - - - - -	Medium dark blue

A wicker chair such as Fig. 8, if in good repair, can be painted a two tone effect and made to look very attractive either for a living room or for a porch. To make the two tone effect, apply the light color first and allow to dry. Apply the darker color over all the chair and before thoroly dry wipe off the surplus paint. Different values of the same color give a good effect, or cream with dark brown, or dull green with a dark brown.

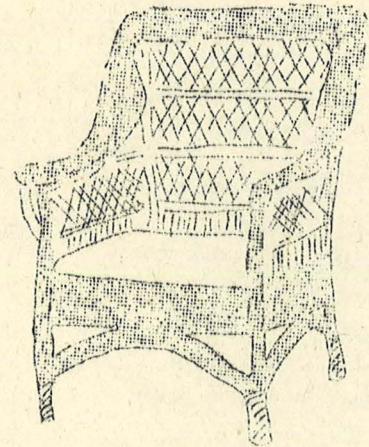


Figure 8

Attractive porch or lawn furniture may be made from old discarded chairs or benches. Be sure they will blend in with the color of the lawn. Soft blue greens, apple greens, white or tan with dulled orange trim blend better than using intense colors with a strong contrast between their lightness and darkness.

Gay colored pillows of cretonne or striped awning will help to add notes of color without over doing it. Pads and cushions in awning stripe are often more attractive than cretonne in floral design.

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