



## Building and Installing Under Sink Drawers

This project was to build and install drawers under the water closet sink. My wife had been storing her curling irons and blow dryer in a plastic tote which took up more space than necessary, so in an effort to gain extra brownie points I added this project to my list.

The under sink cavity allowed me to design two drawers with outside dimensions of 6 inches tall by 13 inches deep by 17 inches wide, the two drawers are stacked on top of each other with a 1/2 inch between the drawers. I used 1/2 inch birch plywood for the drawers and also for the wall structure needed for mounting the two 12 inch drawer glides.



The bottom drawer has a small divider which will keep a few black tank chemicals separated from the blow dryer and curling irons. The top drawer will hold the necessary back up supply of toilet paper and any other water closet necessities.

I purchased the 1/2 inch plywood at Lowe's for this project. Lowe' did not stock the 12 inch drawer glides, I found them at Home Depot for \$ 4.99 each.

The plywood was cut using a Craftsman 10" table saw with a 60 tooth carbide blade. The drawers were assembled with wood glue and 18 gauge 1 inch brad nails.

I made one mistake in my design these drawers do not have a face covering the drawer front. The mistake was in designing and cutting the face to fit inside of the sides which leaves the ends of the sides exposed.

#### Material List:

2 - 2' x 4' pieces of birch plywood.

2 - 12 " drawer glides.

120 - 1" 18 gauge brad nails



A plywood three sided wall was built around the drawers it is used for attaching the drawer glides. The left side wall of the structure is 13 1/8 inches deep by 9 inches tall and has a 2 inch plywood piece glued and brad nailed to provide a floor mounting plate which is screwed to the floor of the sink base with a 1 1/4 inch drywall screw at each end. A 1 1/2 inch x 1/2 inch piece of plywood 9 inches tall and recessed 1/2 inch to the left and behind the left door of the sink base was brad nailed in place. This provided

an attachment point for the left front end of the left wall. A 1 1/4 inch drywall screw was used to attach the two pieces. The right side of the wall is 13 1/8 inches deep by 12 inches tall. I also added a second 1 1/2 inch plywood piece glued and brad nailed to the right side wall providing a floor mounting plate which is screwed to the floor of the sink base. A 1/4 inch piece of paneling was used for the back support and to keep the rear of both left and right walls perpendicular and properly spaced, the panel was cut 19 inches wide by 11 inches tall and brad nailed to the rear of both left and right walls.

On the 2007 40QSH Phaeton Tiffin installed a small carpeted inspection access under the sink floor carpet. The inspection access is not secured so it can be just lifted out to access wiring and connectors.

This design allows a small space for tall chemicals on the right side near the drain pipe and black tank flush anti-siphon valve. The top of the top drawer clears the sink "P" trap by 1/2 inch. Taller items can also be placed in the top drawer to the left of the "P" trap.



Plywood cuts for the structure:

- 1 - 1 1/2" x 9" used for left wall end attachment point
- 2 - 2" x 13 1/8" floor mounting plates
- 1 - 9" (T) x 13 1/8" (D) left wall

1 - 12" (T) x 13 1/8" (D) right wall  
1 - 11" (T) x 19" (W) back panel  
1 - 2" x 4" spacer inserted and nailed between the right wall and drain pipe.

Plywood cuts for the drawers:

2 - 13 " x 17 " drawer bottoms  
4 - 13 " x 5 1/2 " drawer sides  
4 - 16 " x 5 1/2 " drawer fronts and backs  
1 - 2 1/2 " x 12 " divider

The finished project added two under sink drawers. The picture was taken prior to installing the drawer liner.



A lot of thought has been given to finishing my drawer construction projects with Cherry Bark stain to match our coach's interior woodwork. The reason I have not stained my work both my wife and I are sensitive to many chemicals used in the stain and paint formulas.

Written 12/24/2010 by **TAB**