How to build a rustic Christmas tree box

Create a DIY wooden tree stand that will add flair to your holiday season

By Chris Palmer

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If your Christmas tree planter leaves a lot to be desired why not save money and try making one from durable, rustic looking wood?

I recommend an environmentally certified brand like MicroPro Sienna pre-treated wood as you really want something that is safe and non-toxic for pets and small children. This would make a great DIY project for those cold winter evenings. Follow the steps below...

1. Before you start, first make sure your wood is completely dried. Then measure out the base that holds your Christmas tree. This either is a round base or an X base, both will have a maximum dimension, use this to create the inside of your box.

2. Using 1x6 MicroPro Sienna Fence boards, cut the height you require for the outside of your box. Add 1.5" to each length to allow clearance off the floor. To count the number of boards per face, divide the width by 5.5" and then you will know the amount required. So for 20" face you will need 4, as the actual number is 3.6.

3. Create a frame using 2x2 Micro Pro Sienna cut the vertical pieces to match the height of your fence boards, then use the inside measurement you took from the base and cut the horizontal pieces at this length plus 1" for clearance.

4. Screw the horizontal 2x2 pieces to the vertical 2x2 pieces to create a cube frame.

5. Now mark the center and attach you first fence board to the center of the frame and work your way left and right of the center to make a symmetrical pattern. With any overhang, mark the overhang with a pencil and then simply rip it on the table saw.

6. For the inside, you'll need to measure the distance between the walls, take this number and cut more fence boards and then nail them in place to create floor that is on top of the lower portion of the frame.

7. If you want to get extra fancy, take a 2x4 and cut it to match the size of the opening of your box so that it overhangs the outer edge and lies flush with the inside. Pre drill and screw it into place to create a top lip.

8. You have now completed the perfect Christmas Tree Box Stand - feel free to add an "X" pattern on the front or a "V" to give it a little more detail.

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For more information on MicroPro Sienna pre-treated wood visit www.microprosienna.com.