# www.CustomShutters.Guru

## "HOW TO BUILD A SHUTTER"

### **Tool & Hardware List**

DRILL/DRIVER MITER SAW LARGE & SMALL SQUARES ROTOR TOOL/TABLE SAW CIRCULAR SAW

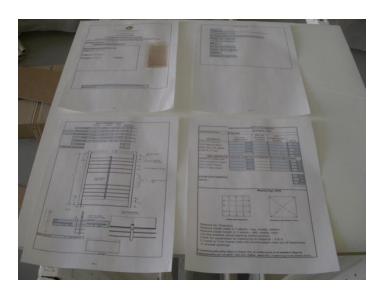
LOUVER/STILE JIGS DOWEL JIG HAMMER SCREW DRIVER WOOD GLUE 5/16" X 1-1/2" DOWELS

REAR TILT ROD 16 GA x 7/8" SERRATED NAILS LOUVER PINS HINGES MAGNETIC CATCHES

#### PAINT SPRAYER/CAN

Use our plantation shutter wizard to enter your window dimensions

- Deduct 1/4" from W and H for single panel for hinges and fit
- For 2 panels, there is a 1/4" overlap, so take just 1/8" on W and deduct 1/4" from H
- Enter dimensions into the wizard calculator along with the number of panels you are building
- Activate the calculate button
- The Shutter Wizard will create a plan cut list
- The number of components needed
- The feet of materials needed
- The shutter drawing
- Bill of Materials Tab



Our bill of materials tab will provide you with the total of components needed.

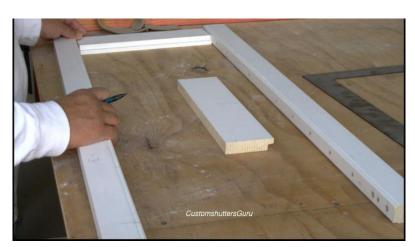
#### THE NEXT STEPS ARE THE CRITICAL PARTS TO BUILDING A SQUARE SHUTTER PANEL

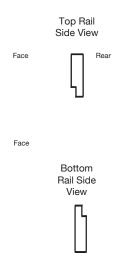
- Next cut the pre-drilled stiles (SFAP-D3 & SRAP-D3 3" pre-drilled or SFAP-D4 & SRAP-D4 4" pre-drilled) and rails to length from your cut list
- Gently Clamp the 2 stiles together
- We will use a layout step to confirm the other cuts to rail widths and louver lengths
- Take the left and right stiles and using a pencil mark, left-top & bottom, right-top & bottom
- Measure off the dimensions from your plan marking the rail and louver locations
- Locate the center point of the shutter panel (50/50, 60/40, 70/30, etc. split) and mark if you are using a midrail

Now take the 2 rails and mark one top and the other bottom



- The top rail you will want to have the ¼" rabbeted end facing out, looking at you and the bottom rail's ¼" rabbeted end facing the rear-this will make the louver's tops exposed and the bottoms covered by the next louver (louvers have a ¾" overlap)
- Now gently clamp the stiles placing the left top and right top accordingly between the corresponding rails
- Place the rails edges at the pencil marks you made for top & bottom
- Carefully mark with the pencil onto both the stiles and rails the 2 dowel locations for each joint (recommended dowel size is 5/16" x minimum 1-1/2")
- Now look over the lay out, looking over all your dimension marks again. Start at the top rail edge working to the bottom rail edge





- If it all satisfies you, mark the rails cut ends against the left and right stiles and rip cut the rails to that width
- At your marks, drill onto the center of the face of the stiles and rails the 5/16" x 7/8" deep, or a bit over ½ dowel length, dowel pin holes at 90 degrees. See our "Shutter Dowel Jig Kit PSDJ-2PC" @ \$35.00 for perfect dowel holes.





- Now you will do a dry fit of the stiles and rails
- Use C clamps to bring the panel tight
- Double check your width and length



Face

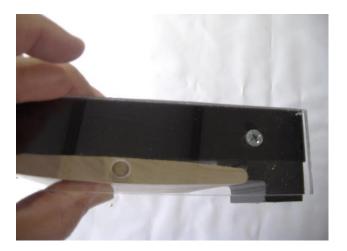
Bottom
Rail Side
View

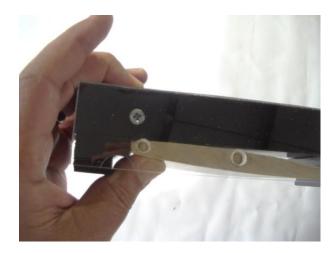
View

- Now check dimension for the louver length, louver must be 1/16" less than distance between the stiles (1/32" each side)
- Set-up for cutting the louvers
- Make your 1<sup>st</sup> louver cut to the correct length and use it as a template for the remaining cuts
- Place 2 to 3 louver at a time on top of each other and line the ends with the temple louver (or build a stop jig)
- Slide the template louver up to touching the saw blade, move template away and make cut



- Now we will drill the louvers for the louver pins and rear tilt rod
- You will need a louver jig to do this and drill 9/64" holes for the pins and a 3/64" pilot hole for the tilt rod nails We carry a 3-1/2" & 4-1/2" louver jig (3.5LJ and 4.5LJ @ \$65.00)









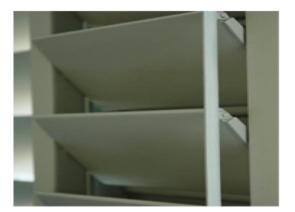
• On the hinge side stile, rabbet cut the stile about  $3/16'' \times \frac{1}{2}''$  tall x tilt rod length or notch each louver approximately  $3/16'' \times 3/8''$  for tilt rod clearance.





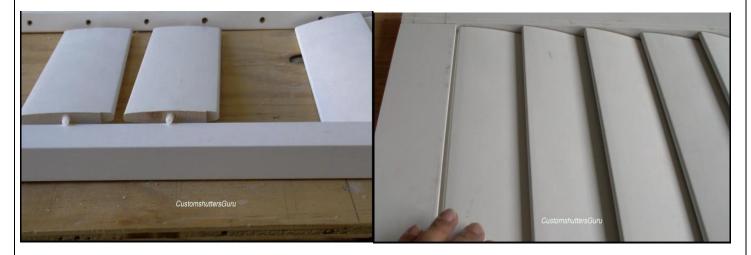
• Another option is to notch the end of each louver for installation of the rear control rod





- Install louver pins
- Set-up for dry fit with louvers installed

- Install louver into the panel
- Check louvers for fit, spacing and square
- Install louver with rear tilt pilot hole/notch end pointing to the bottom of the shutter on the hinge side



Rear tilt rod will attach to the bottom side louver using ss serrated 16 gauge x 7/8" nails



- Paint all components before assembly (use a face mask while painting HVLP or spray can)
  - Use a good quality interior/exterior latex enamel paint (we have had very good results with Sherwin Williams and BEHR)
  - Note: Make sure to remove all pencil and other markings from components
  - May do a light sanding
  - o Wipe down components with denatured alcohol before painting
  - Wear rubberized gloves through the process including painting parts

# The Finished Shutter Panel



- •Final glue up of completed shutter
- •Make any needed touch-ups
- •There is your beautiful finished shutter
- Hang the hinged shutter in the same manner as for hanging a door, use shims to hold shutters in place during installation
- •Check our store for all your shutter hardware needs (hinges, louver pins, stainless steel serrated nails and magnetic catches)