## BUILDING CUSTOM DIY BABY BLOCKS STORAGE SHELVES



As with most of my designs, this project is meant to be simple and does not require a great deal of tools, skills, or talent. Just to be clear, if you followed my building process on this project on social media, I did use a laser cutter to cut the letters for the blocks, but that is not necessary. I originally picked out letter cut outs that can often be found in most crafting stores, Amazon, and even at Walmart. I didn't personally use this option myself because I wanted the letters to be in "Baby Block" font and it was a simple task to download that font on laser cut it since I have a laser cutter.

That being said, if you feel up to the challenge and wish to also make that extra step and do not have a laser cutter the simple work around is to download the Baby Block Font, (or whatever font you wish to use) then Print your desires letters at roughly 12 inch height, then use the printed letters as template to mark it on 1/4<sup>th</sup> inch plywood (I personally prefer Basswood) and then use a hand saw, jigsaw, band saw, or scroll saw to cut it out. Or you could outsource to someone to laser cut your letters. The font download is below.

Baby Blocks Font | dafont.com

## **Materials List/Links**

Now with that out of the way, this design is one of the least complicated. What you need:

Flat White Spray paint/primer - x2 cans

Rust-Oleum 249126 Painter's Touch 2X Ultra Cover Spray Paint, 12 oz, Flat White (Pack of 2) - Amazon.com

Cube shelf in natural wood color - (However many blocks you'd like)

Amazon.com: FUSUNBAO Magic DIY Cube Storage Organizer Stackable Cubes for Home Books Clothes Toy -Modular Cubby Storage System -Closet Organizer - Bookcase Closet (Yellow Oak, General Cube): Home & Kitchen

Wooden Letters 15 inch – (Whatever letters you desire for your blocks)

Amazon.com: 12 Inch Wooden Letter O, 1/4 Inch Thick Large Unfinished Wood Letter for DIY Crafts Home Wall Decor

Acrylic Craft paint – (Recommend Red, Blue, Green, and Yellow as they are the most common colors found on wooden blocks)

Amazon.com: Apple Barrel Essentials Acrylic Paint Set, 12, 24 Fl Oz (Pack of 1)

Super Glue – (I us<mark>ed clear</mark> gorilla glue)

Amazon.com: Gorilla Glue Grip 3oz - Clear Clear: Industrial & Scientific

1 inch Paint Brush – x1

Amazon.com: Sdanart 1 inch Flat Paint Brushes for Acrylic Painting, 3 PCS Large

Acrylic Paint Brush Bulk, Fabric Paintbrushes Craft Brush, Artists Paintbrush for

Watercolor Oil Rock Face Body Art Canvas (3)

Flat Clear Spray Paint (Optional)

Rust-Oleum 285093 Stops Rust Spray Paint, 12 Oz, Matte Clear - Amazon.com

Lazy Susan rotating tray (Optional)

Amazon.com - Aketek 12 Inch Heavy Duty Rotating Swivel Steel Ball Bearings Stand Monitor/TV/Turntable/Lazy - Lazy Susan Computer

## **Build Instructions**

For this build, first you'll need to build the shelves following the instructions as

included with the product. Once the shelf is built, we are going to move on to paint.



Make sure you are in a well-ventilated area, and you just need to flip the shelf so that the back is facing up. (If you don't trust your skills, you can mask the sides to avoid overspray with masking tape) Paint the entire back of the shelf white as well as each of the letters if they are not primed. Let the paint dry according to the recommended directions.

Once the white paint has dried. Select one of your letters, one acrylic paint color, and one of the cube shelves. Simply paint the lip (outer edge) of the cube as well as the letter. You may need to apply multiple coats. Once the acrylic craft paint has dried, use the glue and apply it to the back of the letter and apply it to the back of the cube as centered as you can. Add books or some minor weight to provide pressure and leave for the adhesive to dry as the product recommends. Repeat using different colors and letters.





Optional: If you want, you can use clear spray paint to seal everything in. I recommend a flat clear paint as the building blocks don't have a glossy finish usually. The shelves should be light enough to easily move around, but for an added effect I placed them on a 12-inch lazy Susan rotating table I got on Amazon for \$12 so I could easily turn the stacked blocks.





Hope you find this guide helpful.

Stay Padded – Baby Jp.

www.AdultBabySteps.com