

# Porch Leaning Holiday Sled

## Full Build Instructions & Cut List:

This design is a one-of-a-kind Natalie's Creations original. These instructions provide a clean and simple method for building two rustic, farmhouse style porch sleds from a standard 10-foot 2x4 and three fence pickets. This guide contains no diagrams, just practical step-by-step instructions, material requirements, measurements, and tips for a smooth and repeatable build.

## Materials Needed:

- One 10' 2x4 (creates both sled frames)
- One additional 2x4 (for cross support pieces)
- Three cedar or pine fence pickets (center slat, side slats, and handle)
- Brad nailer or pin nailer (I used an 18-gauge nailer)
- Wood glue
- Sander (palm sander or if you have means of a belt sander)
- 1 ½ Forstner bit (for handle for the rope holes)
- Optional but recommended router with 1/2 round over bit
- Paint, stain, or finish of your choice
- Optional: PETG 3D printed lettering or vinyl decals

## Cut List (Makes two sleds):

From the 10' 2x4

- Rip lengthwise to create two long strips 1 ½ inch wide
- Cut each strip into two pieces at 5-foot lengths (total four runners at 5 foot long)
- Round one end of the two runners to your liking

From the additional 2x4

Rip 2x4 in half lengthwise, and cut four pieces at 6 ¼ long (2 pieces per sled)

## From the fence pickets:

- (1) full length picket, cut in half lengthwise (8-foot picket, cut to four foot)
  - cut one piece of the two halves down the middle (depending on how wide your picket is, these vary from manufacturer) this makes your two side slats, roughly 2 11/16
  - Put the fully cut 4-foot piece in the center and your two cut down the middle pieces on either side of the whole piece, and round the top section for the profile of the top of the sled
  - 1 fence picket cut to 18 inches (this will be your handle piece)

- Round the top and sides of your handle to your liking, and drill out the holes with the Forstner bit where the rope would go

## Assembly Instructions:

### 1. Build the sled frame

- Lay out the two 5' runners parallel to each other spaced 6  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches apart (inside to inside dimension)
- Install the first 6  $\frac{1}{4}$  cross piece 10 inches up from the bottom ends of the runners
- Install the second 6  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch cross piece 40  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the bottom ends,
- Make sure to apply wood glue to each of these joints and secure with your nailer

### 2. Prepare the picket slats

- Keep one picket full width for the center slat
- Use the two ripped halves of the picket and place on the sides of the full halved picket
- Radius or round the top corners of all three pickets laid out using a paint can or free hand
- Sand smooth and finish with paint or stain of choice, this is best before attaching to frame for the cleanest look

### 3. Build and install the handle

- Cut an 18-inch piece from another fence picket
- Round the top, side, and bottom edge to form a decorative handle shape
- Drill a  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  hole near the ends to for the rope (optional)
- Router all edges with the  $\frac{1}{2}$  round over bit for a smooth finish
- Mount the handle on the runner that is built 52 inches from the bottom of the runner pieces
- Attach with wood glue and pin nailer
- Paint the completed runner frame black or accent color of your choice

### 4. Attach the slats

- After everything has been finished with your choice of paint/stain, lay the frame flat and position the slats on top
- Center the full width slat first in the middle of the frame, then place the two narrow slats equally spaced to the sides
- Glue and nail the fence picket pieces to the completed runner frame

### 5. Finishing touches

- Once the sled has been painted and assembled, you can then add the lettering of your choice. In the past I have used stencils or free handed the Mery Christmas logo, and

in the image, you see on the cover is 3D printed and epoxied onto the sled. I use JB Weld clear to adhere to the lettering. I also used PETG to help with outdoor durability.

Your handmade Natalie's Creations porch leaning sled is now complete! Each sled brings a warm rustic farmhouse feel to the holiday décor and makes an excellent gift for friends and family during the holiday season. This design is original to Natalie's Creations and is created to be both simple to build and also visually striking! Hope you enjoy the build!