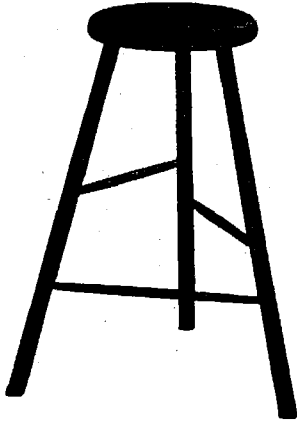


Turning the Three Legged Stool



Dimensions—nominal:

SHORT STOOL

TALL STOOL

15-17 inches height

25-30 inch height

18" legs

25-31 " LEGS

10-12 inch rungs (design and location dependent)

12-15 inch rungs, dependent on location

10-14 inch dia. Seat

10-14 inch seat

75 degree leg angle, approx.

78 degree leg angle , approx.

1.25" leg/seat sockets , or 1' thru tenons Use forstner bit for clean holes or a sharp spade bit

Rungs can be located as desired, with options of :

1. 3 high-low rungs at 15 deg . angles (eyeball the drilling with long bit)
2. 3 rungs at different heights to accommodate differing leg lengths (as above)
3. A combination of the above.

FINISHES:

As a utilitarian object subject to dings and scratches, an oil/wax finish is most practical. Typically, I use a sealer with Russ' T.T.V. as a top coat.

GLUE: Polyurethane(Gorilla) glue is OK, but epoxy is better for flex and gap filling. (5 min. type is easy

Wedging joints improves strength: wedge perpendicular to leg grain and not too tightly, to allow epoxy to fill gaps.

TIPS:

Line of sight boring is really more forgiving than it appears, there's a bit of wiggle room in the holes, and a bit of rung racking provides rigidity

Use straight grain wood for the rungs to prevent splitting –oak, ash, hickory, etc.

Remember the wonder of the “80 grit gouge”

No one will ever see the flat spots on legs and stretchers

Use “story sticks” for measuring internal length on rungs

Art gum erasers take pencil lines off wood

No need for centering jigs when your fingers will give you spindle center for mounting

Steb centers are handy for spindle turning and can/should be resharpened if teeth are dulled by gouges

Use those yummy cutoffs for finial stock

REFERENCES:

AlanLeland.com

Scottwoodworking.com

Whartonesherickmuseum.org