BUILD IT WITH

REDWOOD

Petaluma Planters

REDWOOD

Naturally beautiful
Easy to use
Practical and economical
Durable and stable
Resistant to decay and insects

Petaluma Planters

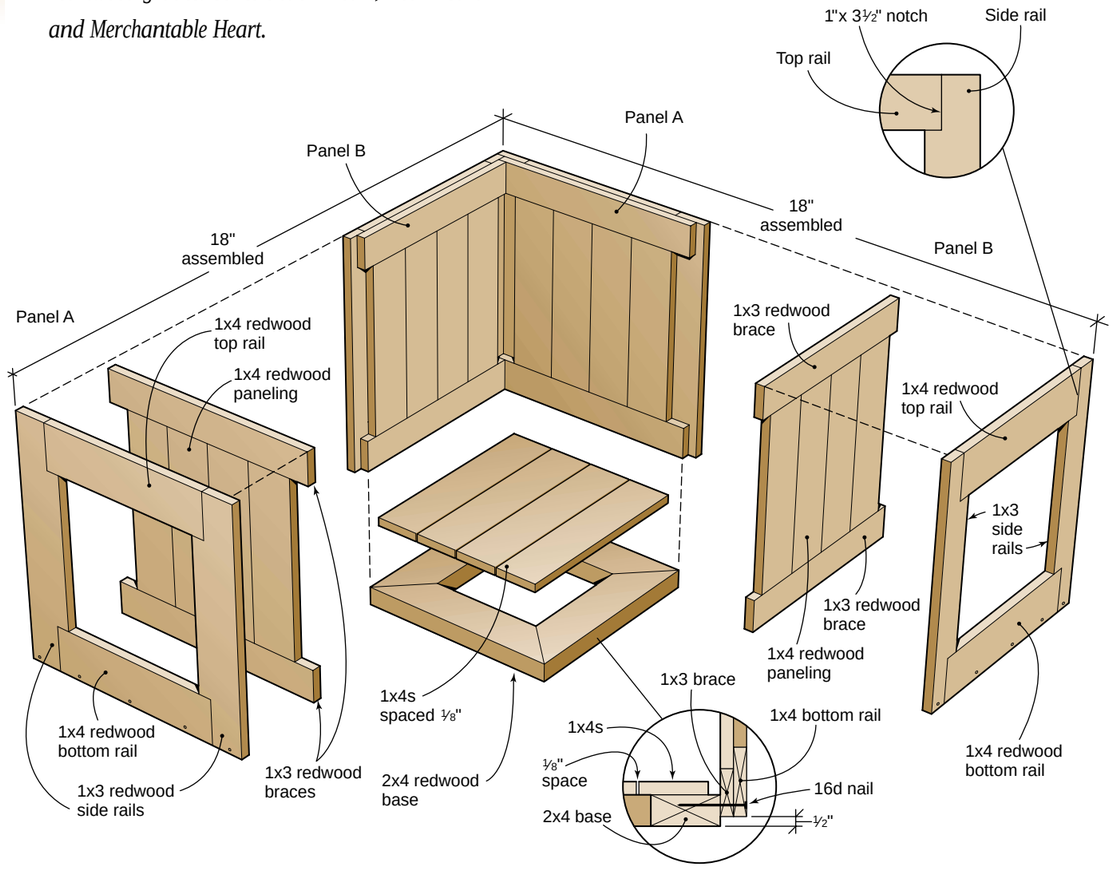
For quality planter boxes of all shapes and sizes, California redwood lumber provides outstanding endurance and rich beauty unmatched by other woods and planter materials. Redwood is easy to care for and easy to use. It is the ideal choice for simple and elegant patio and deck planter boxes.

Redwood lumber garden grades are available in a variety of appearances and prices. Construction Common, Deck Common, Merchantable and Merchantable Heart contain knots and sapwood. For a higher degree of decay resistance, use the all-heartwood grades: Construction Heart, Deck Heart and Merchantable Heart.

Redwood paneled planters are easy to assemble on a deck or patio or on an indoor workbench during winter months. They measure 18 inches square by 18 inches high including the base, and can be built to different lengths up to 4 feet without requiring additional bracing. Variations of the planter include the addition of a redwood butcherblock top to convert any length planter into a handsome storage bench, and horizontal, instead of vertical, panels. Plans for these are on the other side of this brochure.

Measure, mark and cut lumber as you build for best results. This design calls for 1x3 braces. You can easily trim down 1x4s if 1x3s are unavailable at your lumber yard. Remember to adjust the materials list to reflect this change.

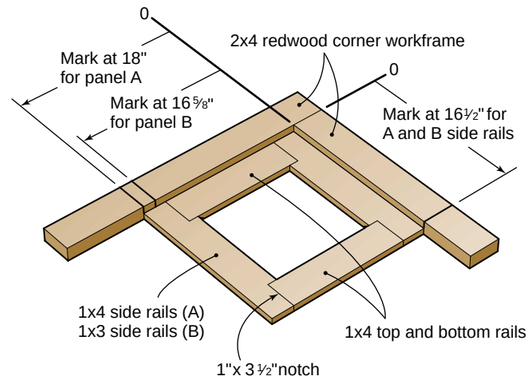
Use top quality hot-dipped galvanized nails or deck screws to prevent staining. Predrill nail holes near board ends to minimize splitting.



1. Corner workframe Nail together two long scrap 2x4s to form a square corner workframe. Secure it if possible to your work surface. Mark one workframe leg at 16½ inches from inside the corner for the vertical rails.

Mark the other leg from the inside corner at 18 and 16⅝ inches for panel A and panel B widths. For planters longer than 18 inches, subtract the thickness of two 1x4s to calculate the panel B measurement.

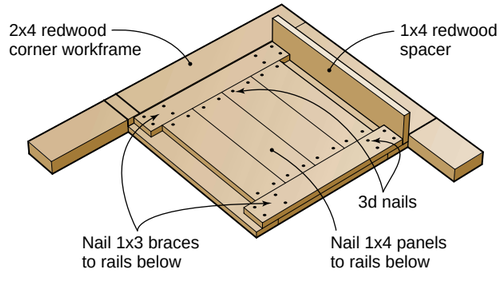
2. Panel construction Panels A and B are constructed similarly, but to different widths. Build the A panels first, using 1x4 side rails. Follow the same steps for B panels, but start with 1x3 side rails set to the B width marked on the workframe.



Side rails Trim four 1x4s and four 1x3s to 16½ inches. Along the length at each end, mark and cut 90° notches, 1x3½ inches.

Top and bottom rails Set notched side rails in the corner and at either the A or B panel marks of the workframe. Measure and cut four 1x4 top and bottom rails to fit between the notches for both A and B widths.

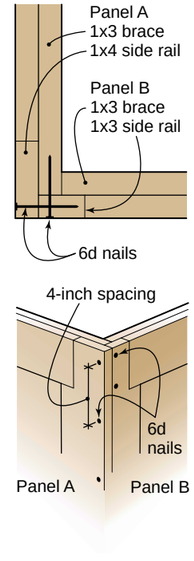
Braces On top of each side rail, set a 1x4 on edge. Measure and cut top and bottom braces to fit between the spacers. Set the trimmed braces on top of the rail assembly flush with top and bottom edges of rails.



Paneling Measure and cut four 1x4s to fit flush between braces as shown for all panels. The boards should overlap rails by at least 1 inch on all sides.

Lay out rails, braces and paneling and use a carpenter's square to check for 90° corners. Attach the braces to the rails with four 3d nails or 1¼-inch screws in a square pattern at each end. For longer planters, additional nails or screws are needed every 10-12 inches. Attach 1x4 panels with two fasteners at each board end.

3. Planter box assembly Drive 2-inch deck screws or 6d nails from panel A side rails to B side rails every four inches. Nail or screw through panel B side rails to panel A inside braces with just two nails each, at top and bottom corners.



4. Base Use a miter box to trim four 2x4s to 15¼ inches. Assemble the base using one 10d nail per corner. Install the base with ½ inch remaining below the planter box and drive five 16d nails or five 3½-inch deck screws equally spaced per side through braces into the 2x4 base. Use one 6d nail per board to attach the 1x4 bottom pieces from the top. Allow ⅛-inch drainage spaces.

Tools you will need Carpenter's square, hammer, electric drill with Phillips head drill bit (for driving deck screws), twist drill bits, miter box and hand or power saw.

Materials For Vertical Paneled Planter

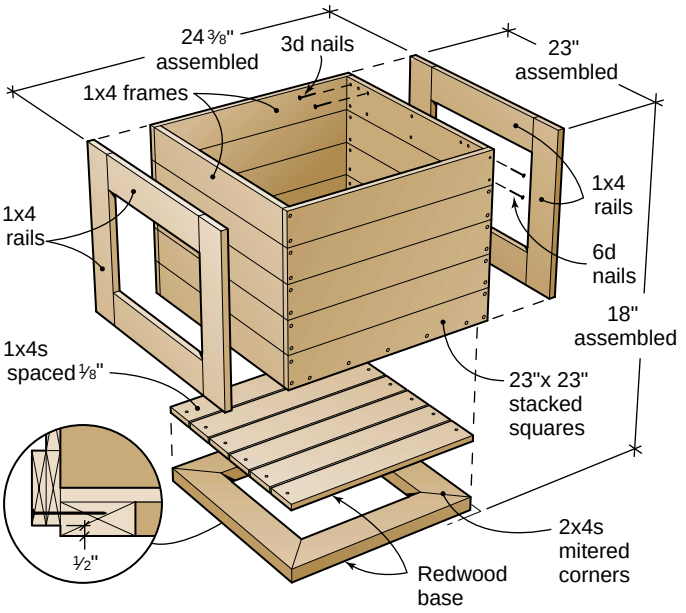
	Quantity	Size	Length
Side rails (A)	4	1x4	16½ inches
Side rails (B)	4	1x3	16½ inches
Top and bottom rails (A)	4	1x4	15 inches
Top and bottom rails (B)	4	1x4	13⅝ inches
Braces (A)	4	1x3	16⅝ inches
Braces (B)	4	1x3	15¼ inches
Panels	16	1x4	11½ inches
Bottom boards	4	1x4	15¼ inches
Base, miter join	4	2x4	15¼ inches
Nails			3d, 6d, 10d, 16d
Deck screws			1¼, 2, 3½ inches

HORIZONTAL PANELED PLANTER

This horizontal paneled planter calls for stacking square frames together to form planter sides, then attaching outer rails and base.

1. Frames Trim ten each 1x4 pieces to 21⅝ inches and to 23 inches. Nail together five square frames with two 6d nails per board end, remembering to pre-drill nail holes. Stack frames to form planter sides.

2. Rails Cut side rails to match height of stacked frames. Cut top and bottom rails to fit. Attach all rails by nailing from inside the planter with 3d nails as shown.



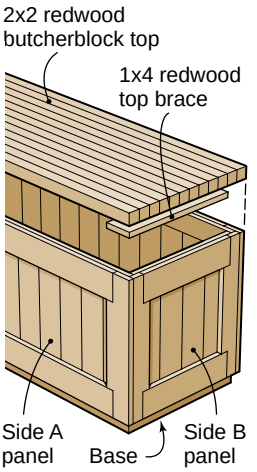
3. Base Miter or butt join four 2x4s to form a 21⅝-inch square base to fit inside the planter. Assemble with one 10d nail per corner. Cut six 1x4s to 21 inches and nail them to the 2x4 base, spaced ⅛ inch apart. Use one 6d nail at each board end. Insert assembled base into planter bottom and attach in the same way as described previously for the Vertical Paneled Planter base.

Materials For Horizontal Paneled Planter

	Quantity	Size	Length
Frames	10	1x4	23 inches
Frames	10	1x4	21⅝
Side rails	4	1x4	17½ inches
Top and bottom rails	4	1x4	16 inches
Bottom boards	6	1x4	21⅝ inches
Base, miter join	4	2x4	21⅝ inches
Nails		3d, 6d, 8d, 10d, 16d	
Deck screws		1¼, 2, 3½ inches	

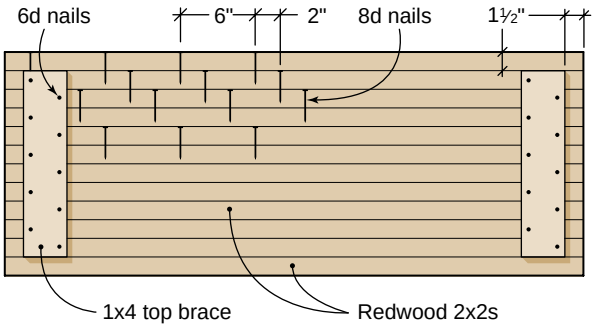
PLANTER BENCH TOP

Paneled planters built to different lengths can be topped with a redwood butcherblock bench top of nail-laminated 2x2s to provide comfortable outdoor seating or convenient storage for hoses or gardening tools. Use the corner workframe to align and to assemble the butcherblock lumber.



1. Butcherblock top Nail-laminate twelve 2x2s, working into the square corner frame. To minimize grain-raise on the seating surface, install the 2x2 boards with the vertical grain exposed. Nail each 2x2 with 8d nails every 6 inches, spaced as shown below.

Trim butcherblock top ends to fit the planter's length and lightly sand all trimmed ends. Trim two 1x4s to 15 inches. Nail these across all 2x2s, 1½ inches from each end and from each edge. Use one 6d nail at each 2x2 on alternating sides as shown. These braces will give the top a snug fit to the planter.



Contact the California Redwood Association for more great publications containing redwood technical and building information. Call us at 415 382-0662 for a complete literature list or to ask for any of the titles listed here:

Other Construction Tipsheets

Deck Over Concrete
8x10 Deck
Butcherblock Bench
4x4 Planter
Mendocino Bench
Sonoma Picnic Table
Lake Tahoe Gazebo
Windsor Shade Shelter
Monterey Potting Center
Calistoga Spa Surround

Also Available

Deck Construction
Deck Grades, Nails and Finishes
Fences for All Reasons
Exterior Finishes
Landscape Architecture

Redwood

For beauty and performance, redwood is naturally superior to other woods. That's why it's the first choice for decks, fences and most outdoor projects. Redwood retains its beauty outdoors, shrinks and swells less than other woods and is less likely to warp, split, check or cup. With little or no pitch, redwood is easy to drill, saw and shape. Redwood heartwood has natural durability and resistance to insects and will last longer outdoors than most woods.

Grades

The knotty garden grades of redwood are ideal for outdoor projects. These grades are beautiful, durable and economical.

Construction Heart/Deck Heart is all heartwood and contains knots; used for load-bearing applications near the ground. Deck Heart is graded for strength and is available in 2x4 and 2x6.

Construction Common/Deck Common contains sapwood and knots; used for decking and above-ground uses. Deck Common is graded for strength and is available in 2x4 and 2x6.

Merchantable Heart is all heartwood and contains larger knots than Construction grades; used near the soil.

Merchantable contains sapwood and larger knots; used for fence boards, rails and above-ground uses.

Finishes

Redwood accepts finishes better than most woods. Some heighten redwood's natural beauty, bringing out the color and the grain. Others help the wood harmonize or contrast with surrounding structures. Keep in mind that unfinished redwood will gradually turn soft driftwood gray. Read the labels on all finish products before using.

Clear water repellent finish with mildewcide is recommended to stabilize the color at tan.

Bleaching and weathering stains produce a permanent driftwood gray effect, a good, low-maintenance option.

Semitransparent stains in "redwood" shades tint the wood without hiding the grain.

Solid-color stains or paints should be applied over compatible oil-based primers.

Fasteners

Use only non-corrosive hardware such as aluminum, stainless steel or top quality hot-dipped galvanized screws or nails. Ordinary nails and screws will cause stains.

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