

Project: Making Small Clock/Frame Presents - Part 3



It is time to add the brass hinges all 40 of them.

With the first box glued up, Beth tries mounting hinges. At this point, they are not mortised but just surface mounted. By the way, you can't see the center panel, since she has covered it with Saran wrap to protect the natural finish.



Here, she is trying to get an idea of how it will look on a cherry base and at what angles the side panels should be.



After looking at the hinges, Beth decides that they serve little purpose, and that she could mortise the sides into the center case. She marks where the mortise should be.



Deciding that the two sides should be at an angle of 15° , Beth has installed the stacked dado set and set the blade tilt angle to 15° . She uses a push shoe to guide the box over the dado set.

She is making progress. The tilted dado is cut on this first clock case. Now she figures out how large the base should be.





Beth re-saws a piece of 5/4 cherry. The half thickness should be just right for the base.

A few passes through the thickness sander, and all the saw marks are removed.



One last look before she cuts the base to length.



The new router table was all setup so Beth popped a new classic ogee bit into it and made the cut on three of the sides.



Beth displays her finished clock. Of course, there is still a lot of finishing to do, but she has resolved several issues and can now get going with the others.

This close-up gives you a better view of the shaped edge. It gives the whole unit a very finished look and is the ideal shape for this narrow wood.



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On the last page, we showed the thought process and main steps in finishing the clock. We left out all the detail that took place over the past week/

Here Beth is sanding the clock panels between coats.

She is using Minwax Wipe-On Poly finish. Five coats, sanding with 220 grit paper in-between, seems to give the right finish.



With the clock panels totally dry, Beth wraps them in Saran Wrap. This will keep the cherry stain and finish from ruining these face panels. The thickness of the plastic wrap will not interfere with the panels being placed in the case dados.



She dry fits the pieces.



Beth mixes a very small batch of quick curing epoxy. This mix has about 6 minutes working time just enough for assembling two clock cases.

She uses a disposable "acid" brush to spread the epoxy over the locking miter surface.





Two clamps pull the ends in nicely. She is careful not to over tighten them. Only gentle pressure is required.

Once the glue has cured, Beth can finish sanding the assembled boxes. The Delta Bench Orbital Disc Sander works very well here.



The 120 grit disc gives the completed case a very smooth finish.

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With all the cases assembled, Beth turns to the finishing process. She uses cherry Minwax Wood Putty to touch up some of the tearout.

We didn't like the light color that the Minwax "cherrytone" stain gave us. Here, Beth mixes some dark color (walnut) into the cherrytone. A little bit goes a long way.



This darker color is more to her liking.

A day later and Beth can now start to add a finish. She is using the same Minwax Wipe-On Poly finish that she used for the clock faces.



It takes several coats to build up the right finish, but the wipe on finish is quick to do.



With one unit completed, Beth can insert the picture frames with photos of her two cats. She also can remove the plastic wrap which has been protecting the clock insert.





With the based attached, she can admire the finished unit. This has been a fun project certainly a good first project for the Beth, the first WoodShopDemos-U student.