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# Schoolhouse Chalkboard Plan

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## Supplies

(2) 1x2x6  
24"x 48" chalkboard  
Sisal rope – about 48"  
#6 1-1/4" wood screws  
3/8" one hole straps or screw eyes  
Sandpaper  
Rust-Oleum Early American Ultimate Wood Stain

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## Tools

Stanley FatMax Tape Measure  
Hitachi Miter Saw  
DEWALT Circular Saw  
DEWALT Drill  
Counter drill bit

**Step 1.** Cut 4 pieces of 1×2 to 35-7/8". Round over the edges with sandpaper to give the pieces an aged, worn look.



**Step 2.** Stain the wood. I chose an Early American stain and I think the color came pretty close to the original piece.



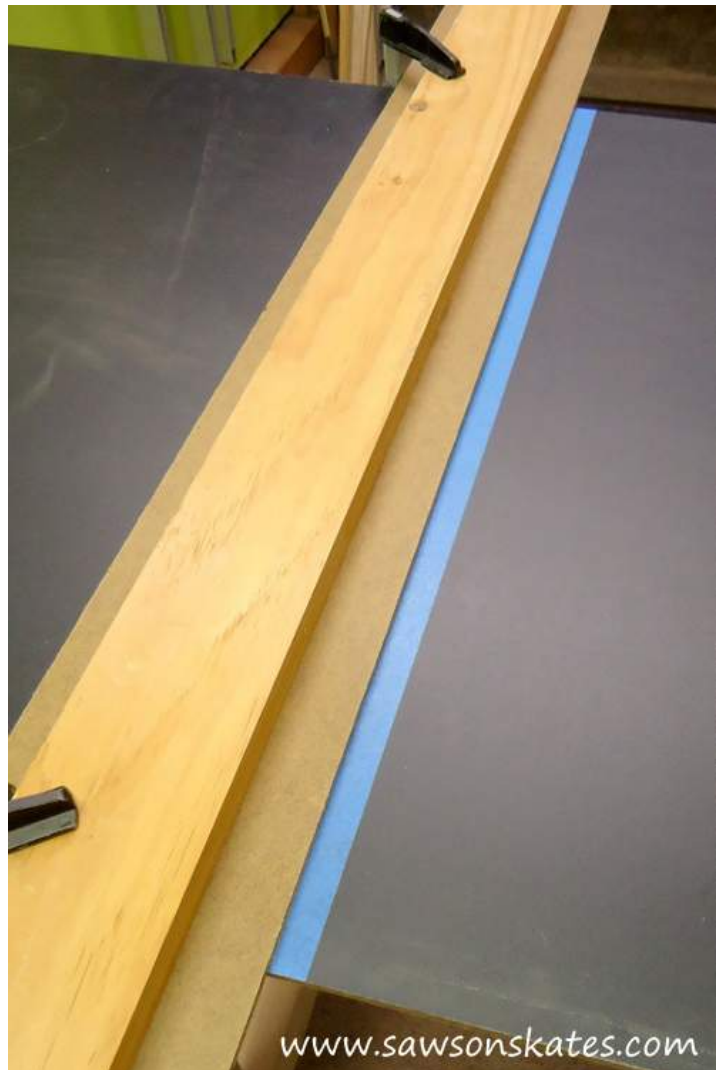
Be sure to stain about a 1/2" on the back of the wood, because the wood overhangs the chalkboard and you don't want to see raw wood on your finished piece.



Once the stain was dry I applied a couple coats of my favorite "can't mess it up" wipe on finish that gave the pieces a hand rubbed finish look.



**Step 3.** While the stain and finish are drying, you can cut the chalkboard. The chalkboard is 24" x 35-3/8". I applied a piece of painter's tape to the cut line to keep the chalkboard from chipping. Clamp a crosscut jig on the cut line and cut with a circular saw.





**Step 4.** To assemble, put two of the wood pieces on your work surface with the stained sides facing down. Place the chalkboard on top of the wood. Align the wood so the edges are flush with the chalkboard and the ends overhang about 1/4".



Apply glue to the remaining wood pieces and place on top of the chalkboard and align just as you did the bottom pieces.



Drill several countersink holes in the top pieces.



And attach using 1-1/4" screws.



**Step 5.** Attach the straps. Place the chalkboard with the back facing your work surface and the chalkboard facing up. On the back piece of wood, measure in 2" on each side and make a mark. Attach the straps with 1-1/4" screws, but leave the screws loose.



**Step 6.** Cut a piece of sisal rope to about 48". Make a knot in one end leaving a tail about an 1" long.



Insert the rope into the strap and tighten. Adjust the rope to your desired length and repeat for the other end.

