

SOMETHING FOR AN ISLAND



The earth in many ways is an island. An autonomous piece of land surrounded by the void of space. We can only use what is on our island. The earth is an island, a city is an island, a family is an island, life is an island. Islands we are all part of. I want to make something for an island.

Alban Le Henry, 2014

SOMETHING FOR AN ISLAND

The Island Project is conceived and designed by Alban Le Henry, as a suggestion for each and every one of us to satisfy and resolve the need of a chair. Its deeply sustainable and participatory approach to furniture design specifically focuses on a chair that embodies both tradition and innovation. SOMETHING FOR AN ISLAND draws its inspiration from the Ibiçencan chair, a symbol of vernacular craftsmanship from Ibiza, known for its simplicity, use of local material (pine and esparto), and distinctive yet familiar design that varies subtly from maker to maker.

Boards and screws: an easily assembled furniture. a chair that everyone can afford and also can make, thanks to the rudiments of carpentry, cutting-gluing-assembling: age-old and accessible gestures. A chair made by the ones who will use it. This project echoes the principles laid out by Enzo Mari in his 1974 *Autoprogettazione?* initiative, which also encouraged individuals to engage directly with the act of making, thereby blurring the lines between consumer, creator and manufacturer.

Aiming to empower individuals and allowing them to reclaim autonomy over the objects in their lives, it's an educational journey as much as a practical one, teaching the values of craftsmanship, the importance of using sustainable material, and the beauty of creating something that is both useful and enduring.

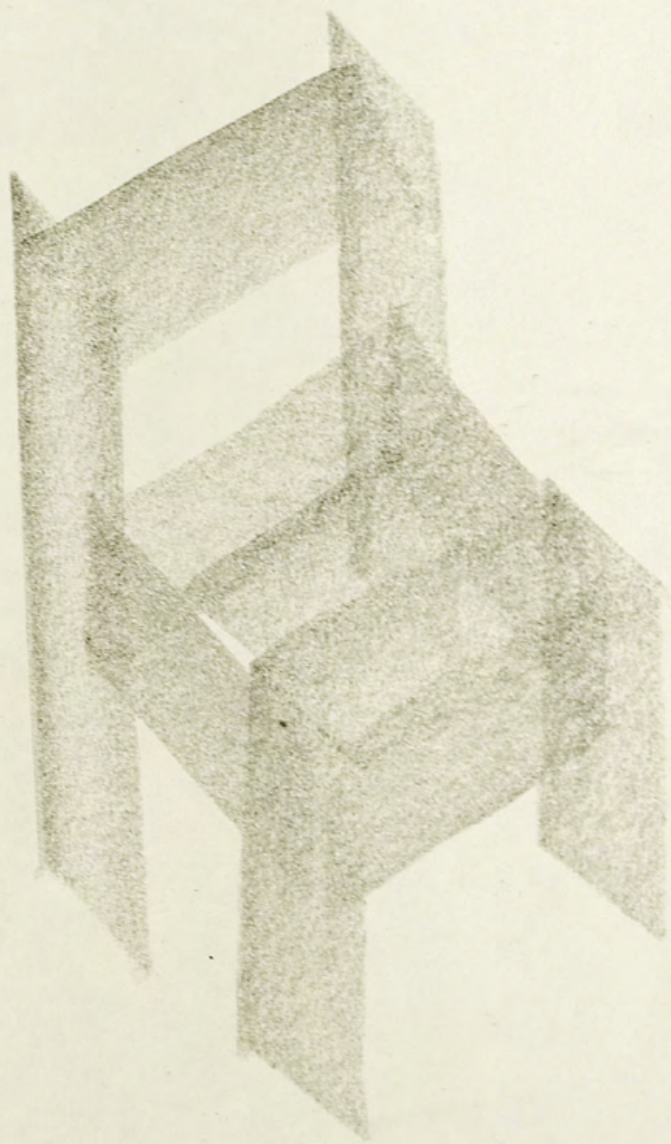
This initiative is a profound reflection on our relationship with objects, craftsmanship, and the environment. It challenges the prevailing notions of production and consumption, urging a return to basics where the act of making is as significant as the final product. In doing so, Alban Le Henry's SOMETHING FOR AN ISLAND project offers a pathway towards a more sustainable, empowering, and thoughtful way of living, where each individual has the opportunity to contribute to a shared future that values tradition, innovation, and the personal touch.

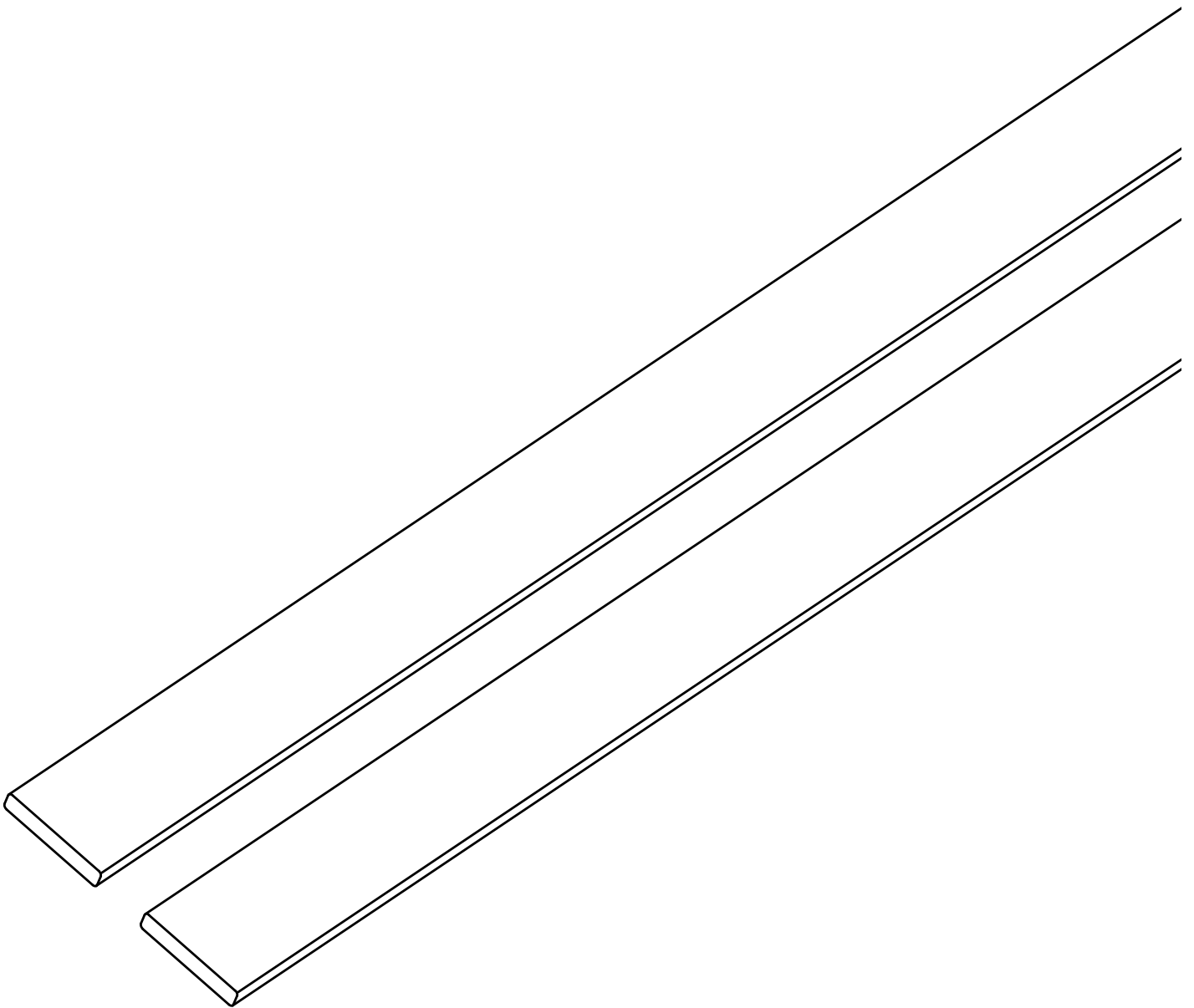
This is an open-ended design, a philosophy to be lived. This project invites us to take ownership of our creations, to infuse them with our spirit and to cherish the act of making not just as a means to an end or a replica, but as a vital expression of our humanity.

This is a SUGGESTION, it's up to each one of us to make it our own.

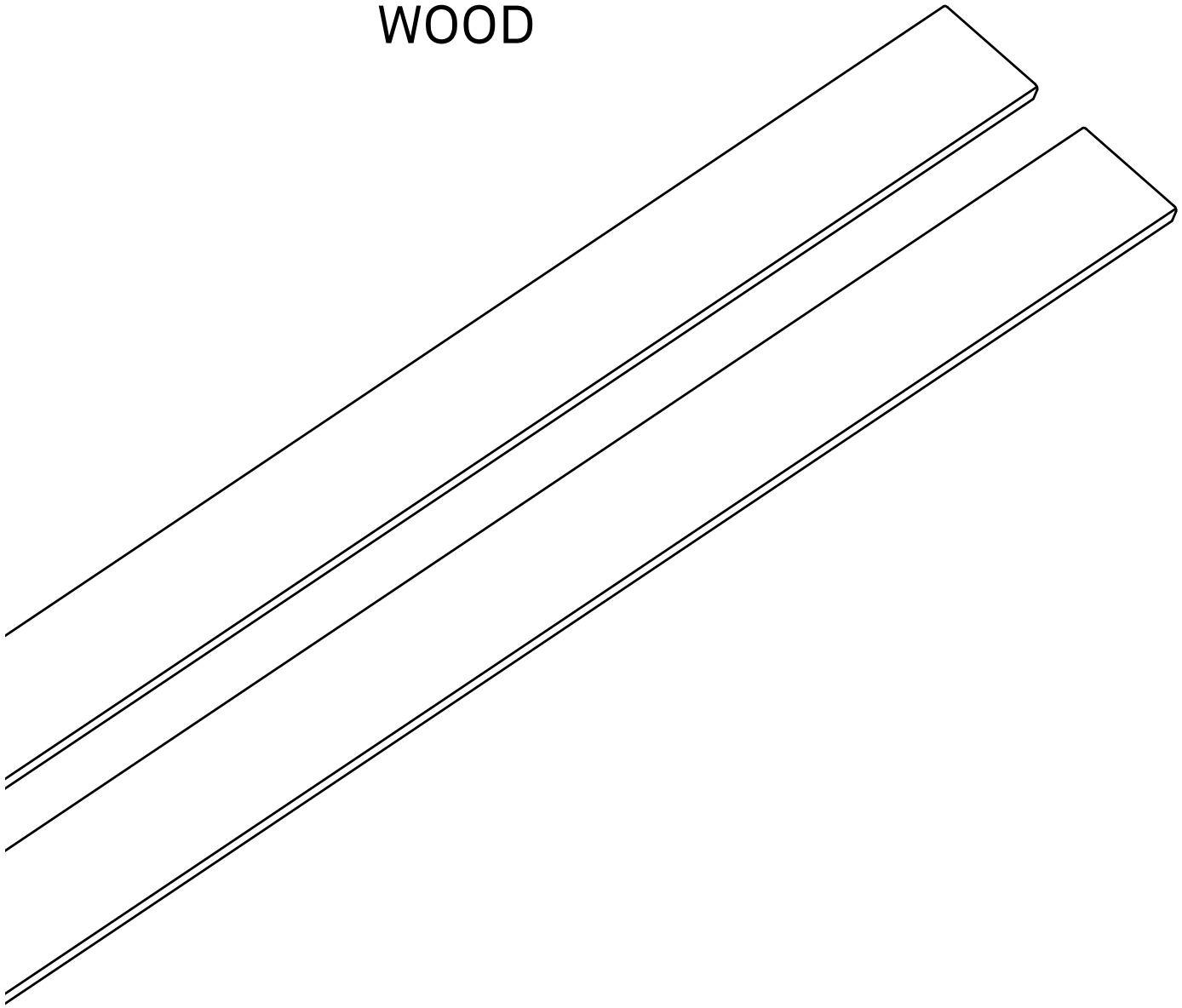
*Through making we progress and learn.
The first one might not be perfect,
but the second one will be better.
And if you made it you can repair it.*

Alban Le Henry, 2024





WOOD



12cmx2cmx300cm (x2)

TOOLS

For this build, you will need very basic tools. You will have to cut the boards, screw them together, glue them if you want the added strength, make some pilot holes. When buying the screws, you will need two sizes and one that is a little less than two thicknesses of a board, and another twice as long as the first. Personally, I like torx head screws because they are easier on the wrist. Also, as a part of the shank of the screws has no threads, this acts as a clamp when screwing, a small detail that makes things easier.



DIMENSIONS CUT / HAVE IT CUT

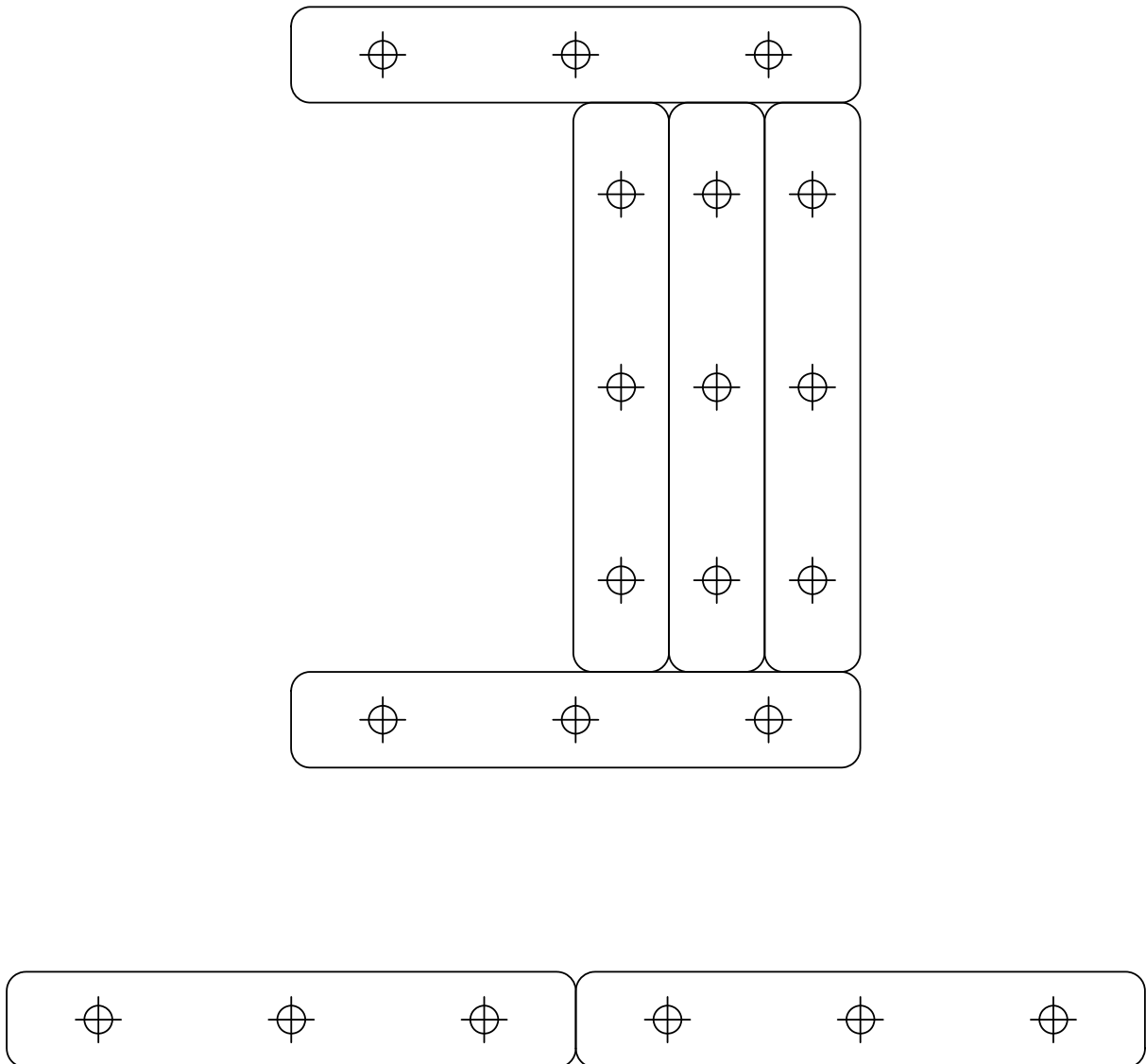
34cm (x10) + 70cm (x2)



HOW TO ASSEMBLE THE CHAIR

In woodworking, measuring is usually the source of errors. You will not need a ruler for this assembly. The planks will be your guide to find the position of each element. To make things easier, we made a template which represents the section of the plank and the position of the screws. Note that if the dimension of your wood is slightly different, use the plank as your guide or make your own template. For convenience, we will use the template provided in this edition but you can stack the planks together and use them to find the position of each assembly.

TEMPLATE

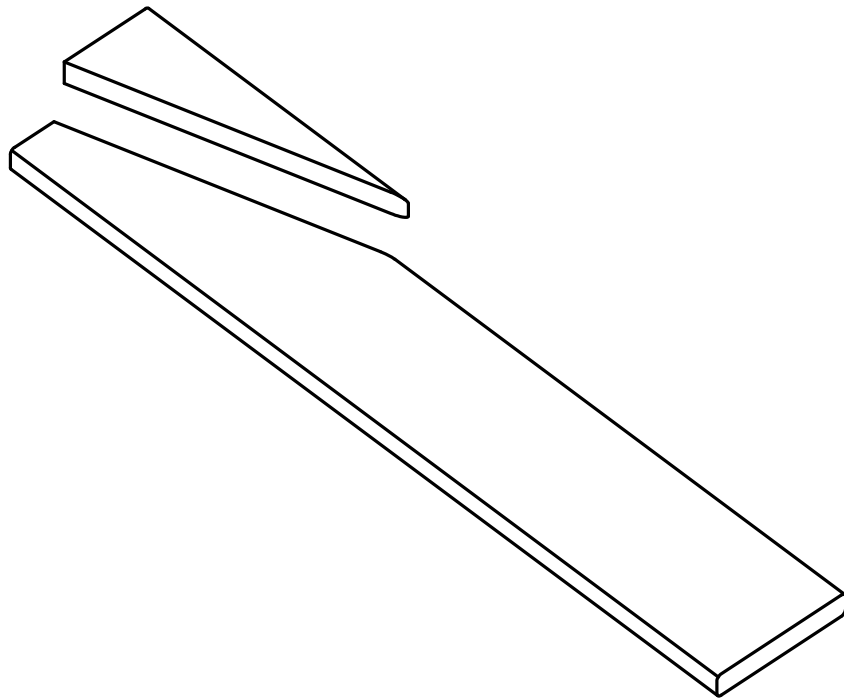


We use the thickness of the board as a unit.

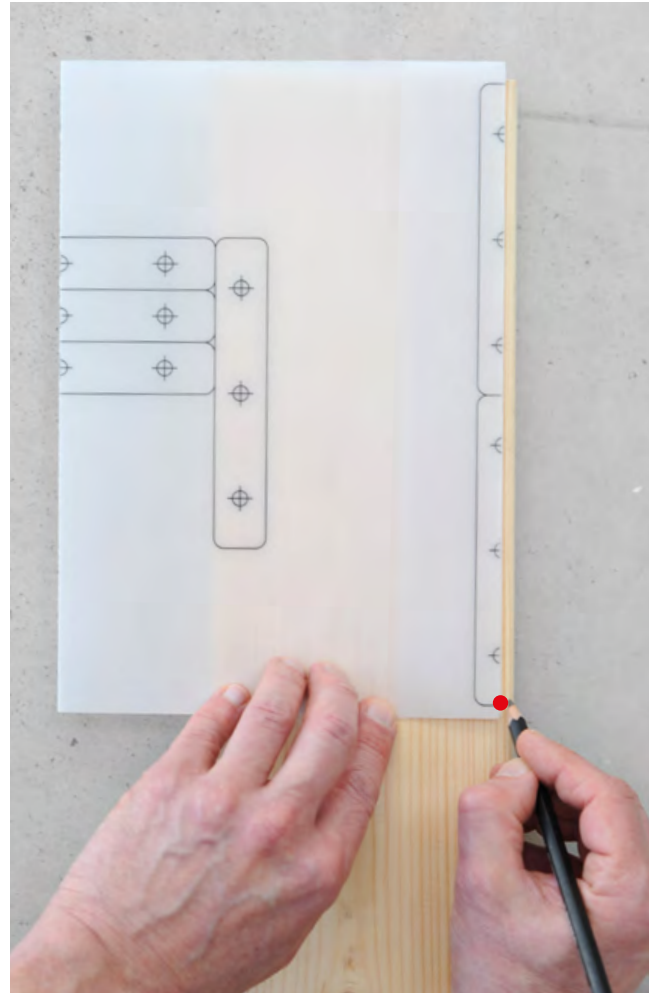
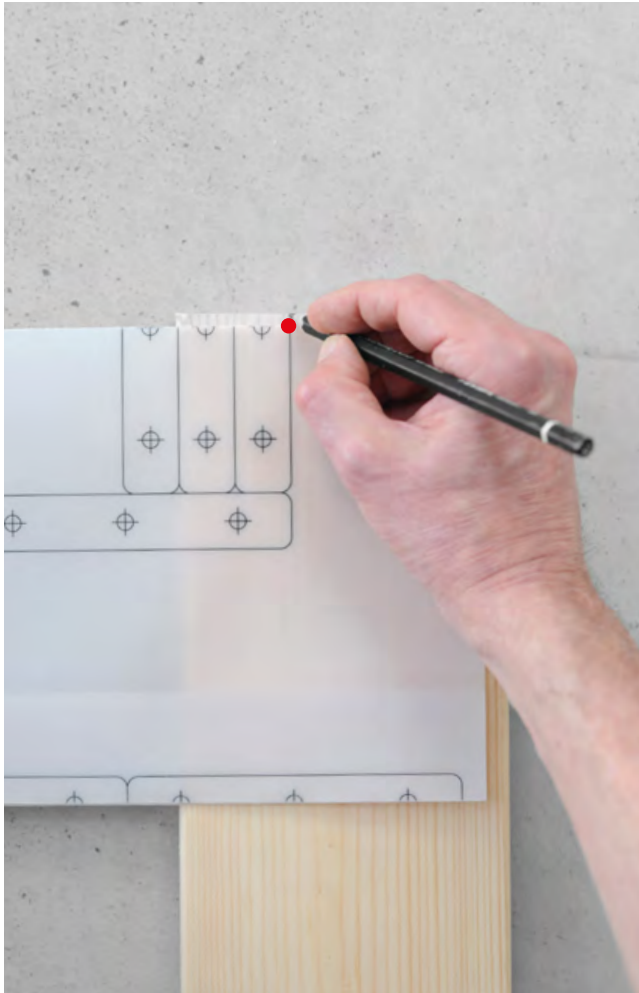
For example, the boards are offset by one, two or three thicknesses to be in position. This template represents the different configurations you will need to position the boards. You can use the template to find the position of the boards, mark the position of the screw, trace some lines and even check for square.

Note that, if the dimension of your wood is slightly different or you want to use another format use the section of your board to make your own template. Note also that you may find it hard to keep the parts still while screwing because of the viscosity of the glue. Sprinkle sawdust or a little salt to keep them from slipping.

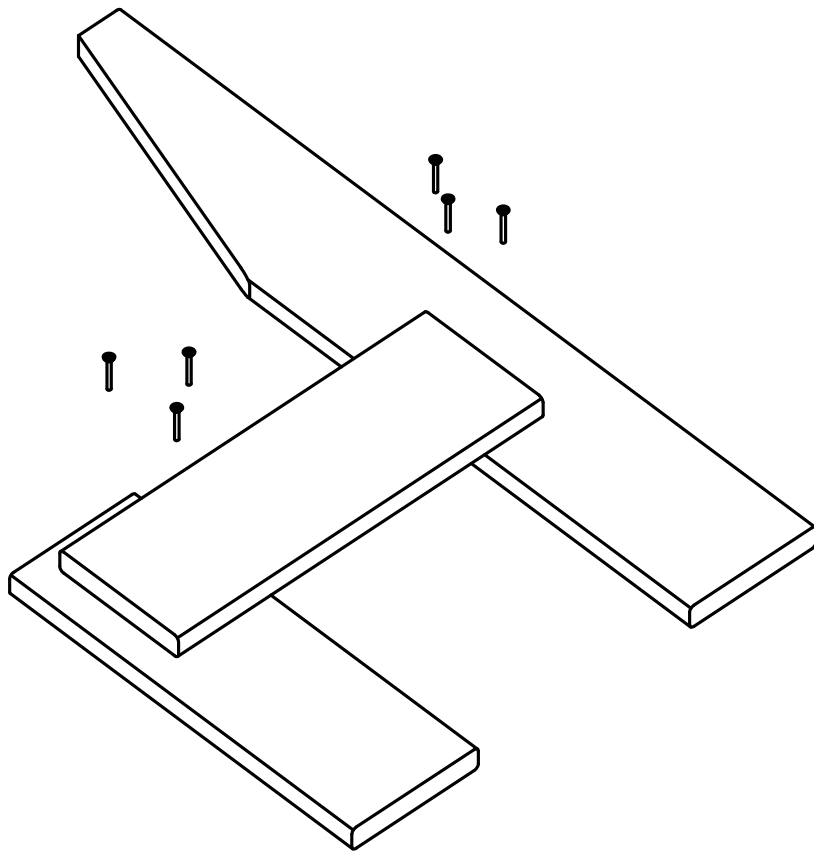
BACK LEG



MAKE THE ANGLE CUT

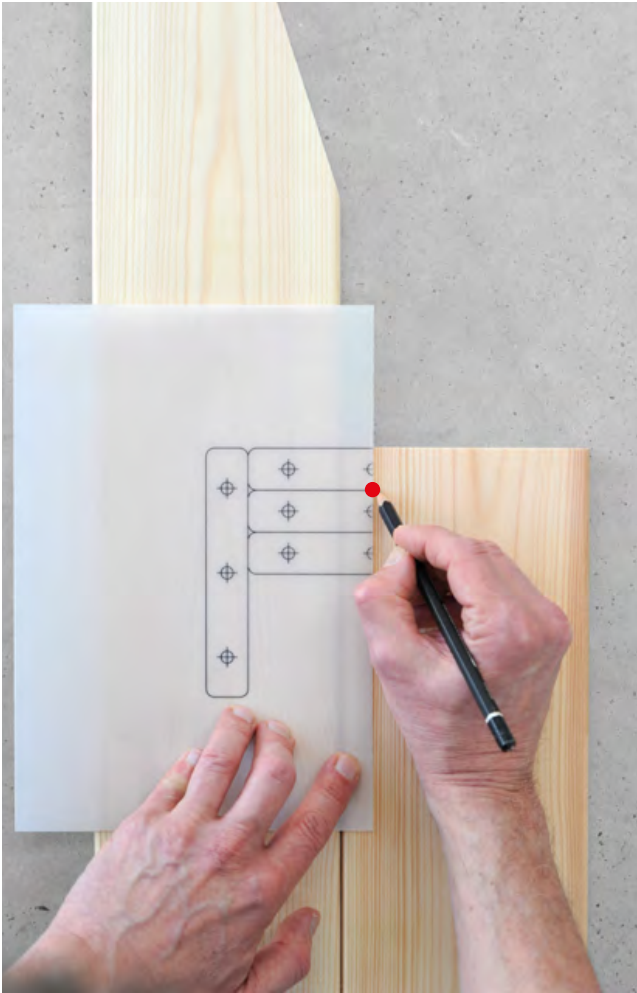


FONT AND BACK LEG



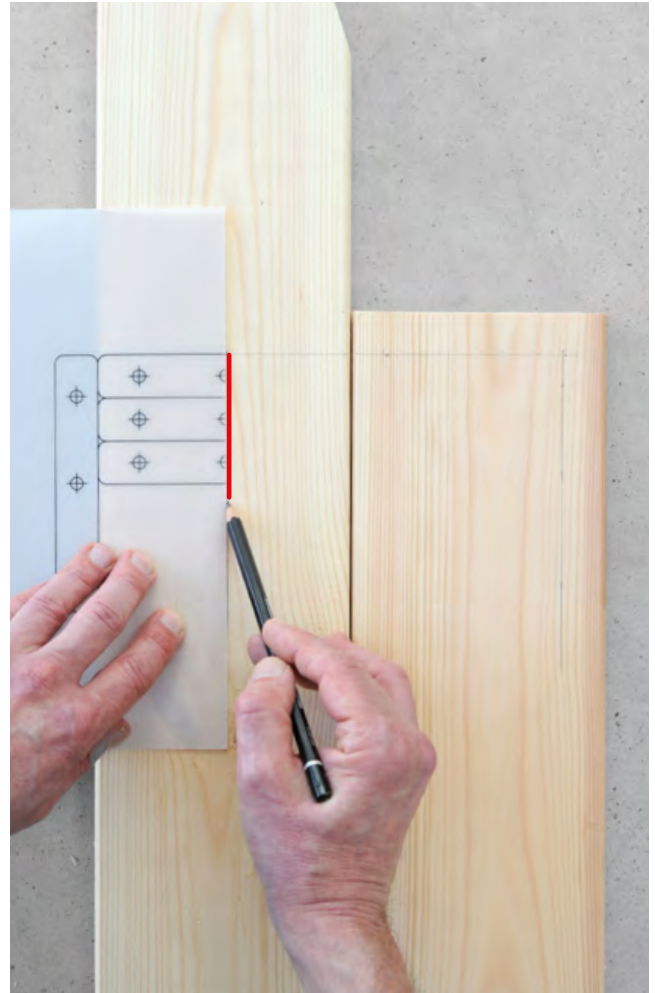
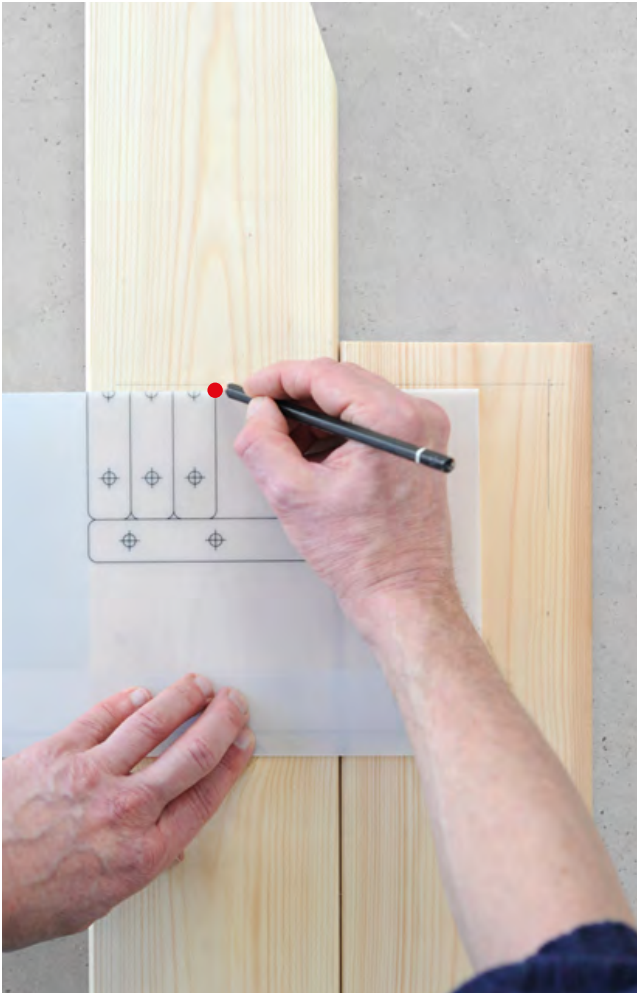
ASSEMBLE THE SIDES





Mark the position of the side element of the front leg.





Mark the position of the side element of the back leg.



Pre-position before screwing (align bottom of the legs).

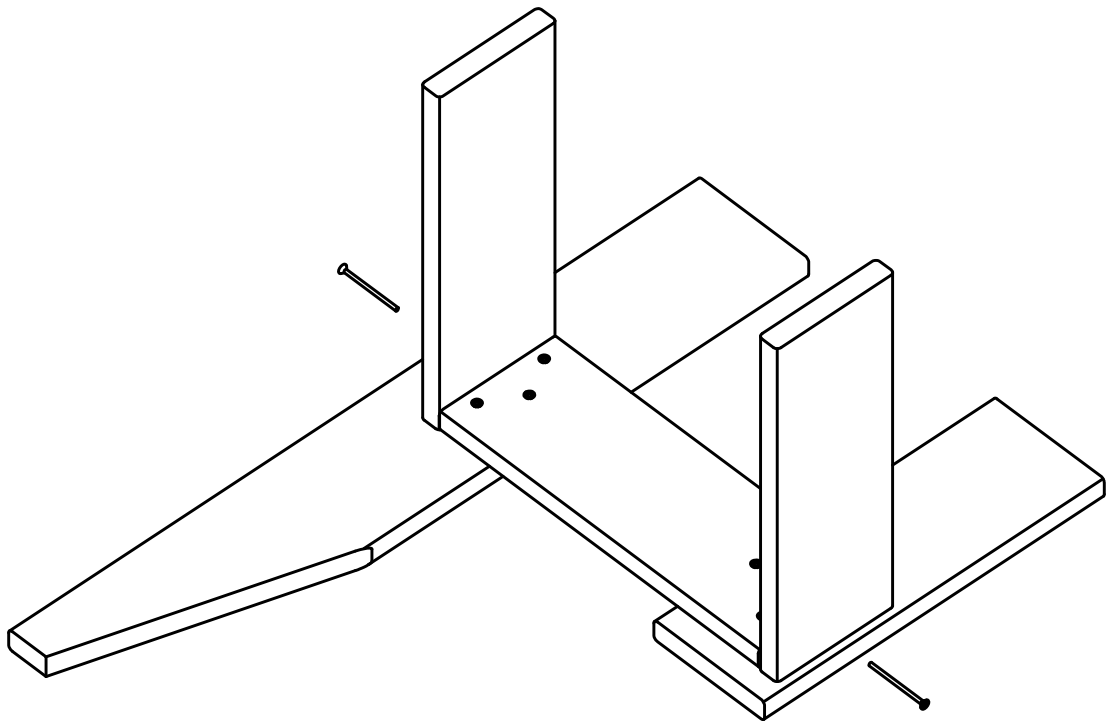
Screw the side (optional: you may glue and screw for more durability).
Don't screw too close to the edge, the wood may split.



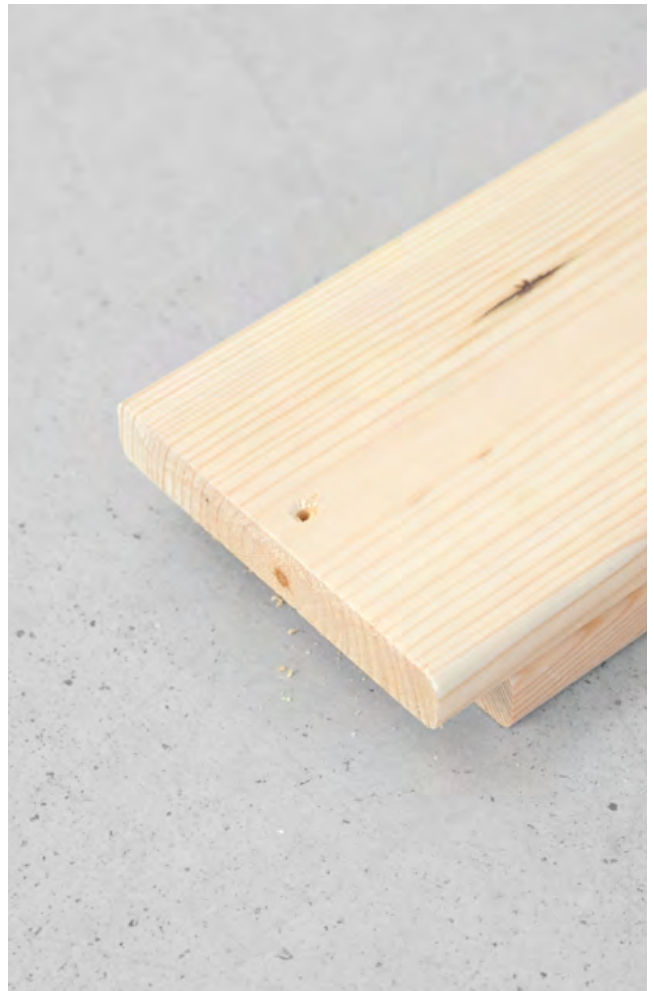
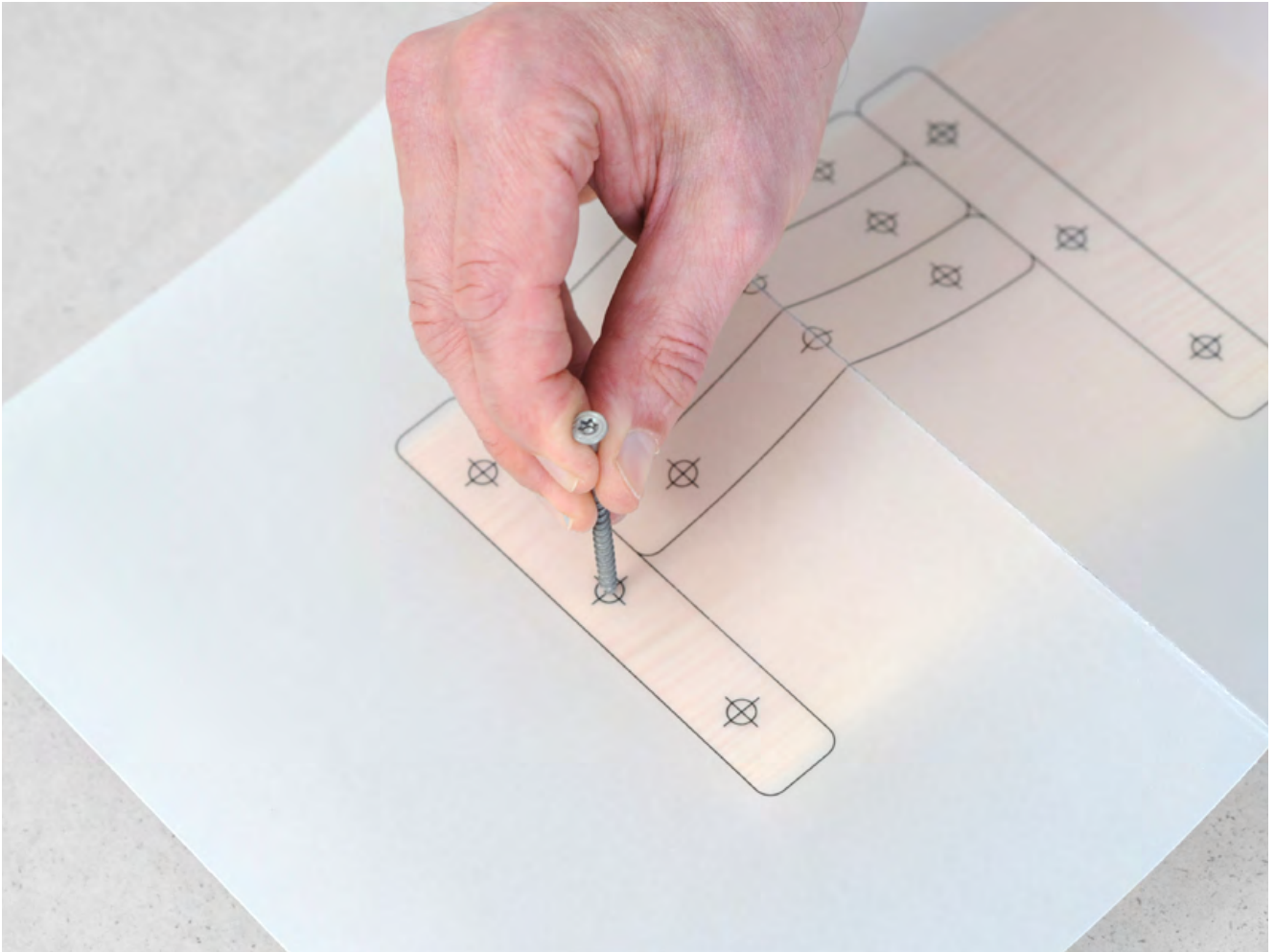




STRETCHERS



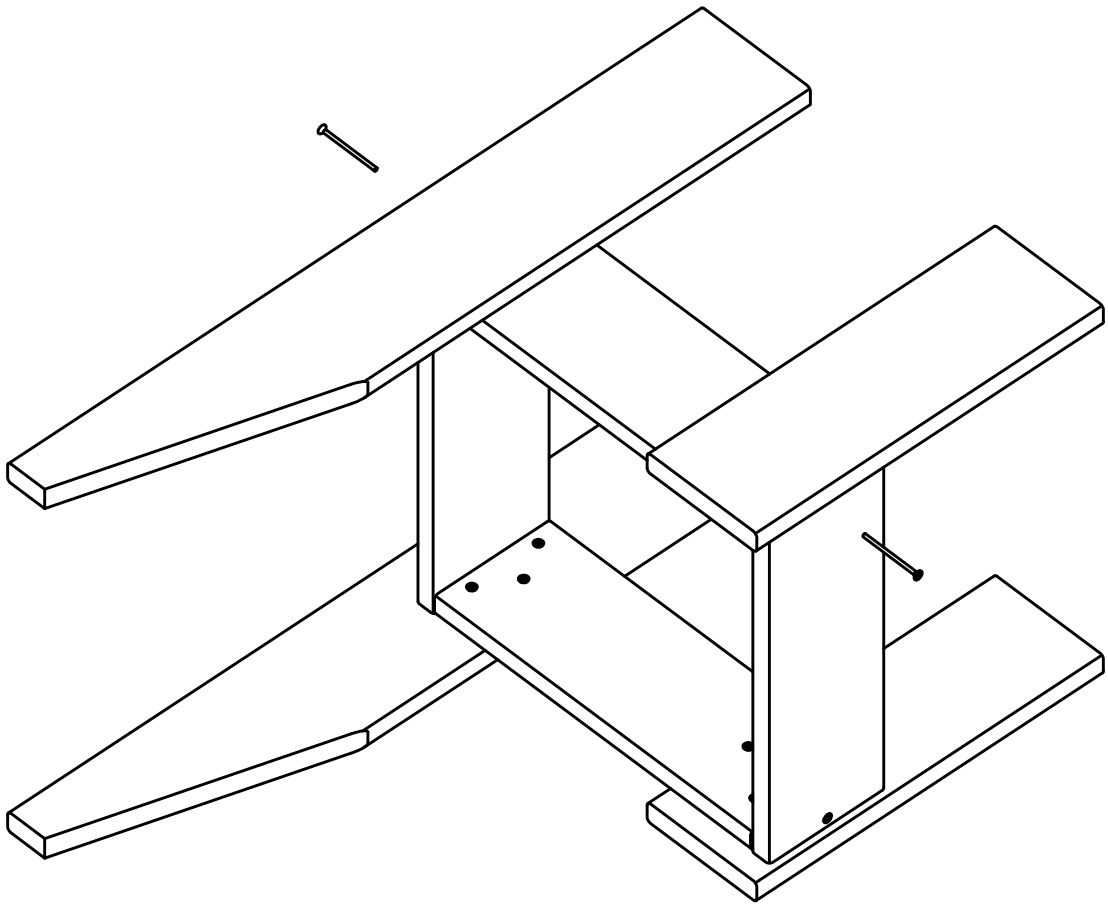
Pre-drill the boards. When driving a screw next to the edge of a board, it is good practice to pre-drill to avoid the wood splitting.





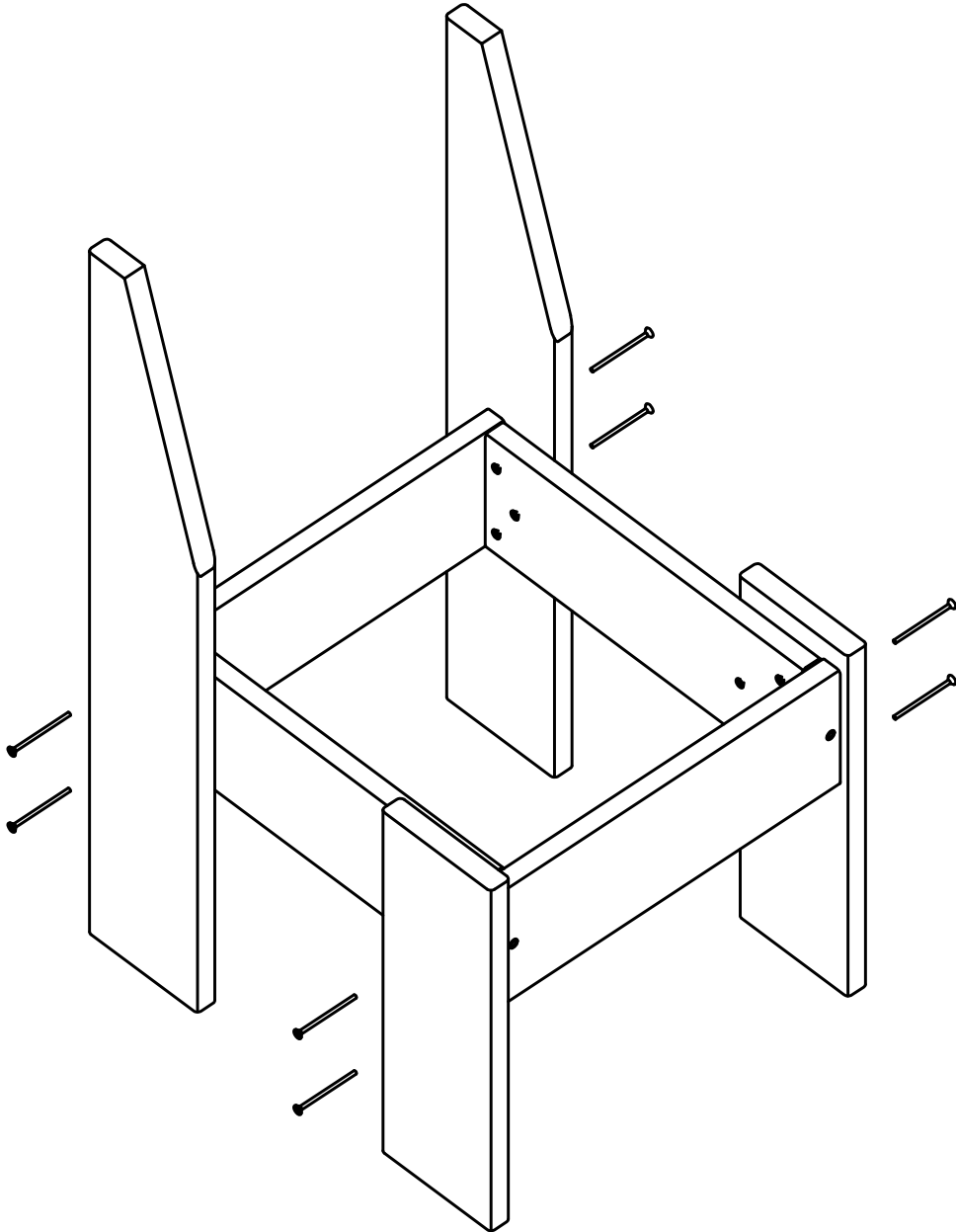


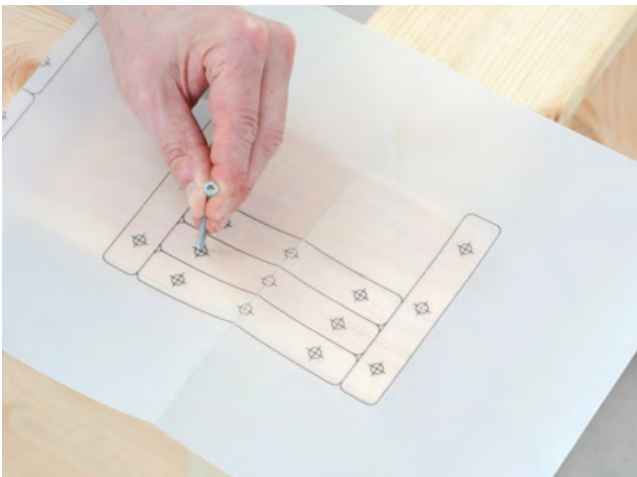
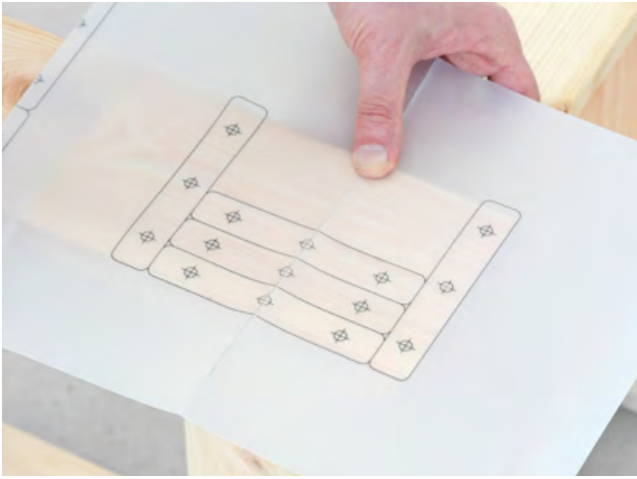
Make sure to align the planks before screwing.
Use your fingers to feel the alignment.



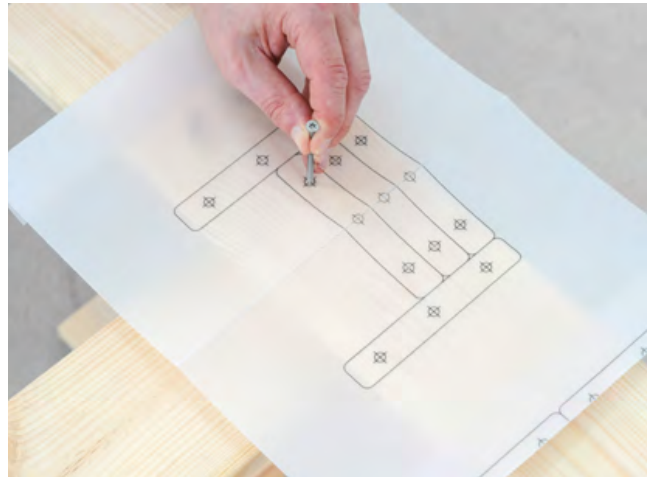
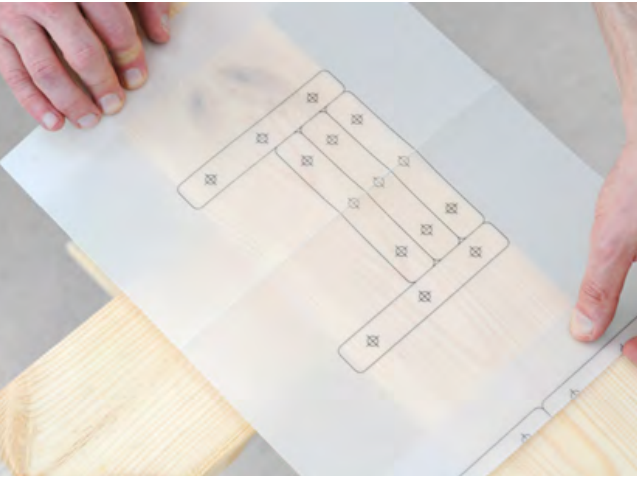


FINAL ASSEMBLY OF FRAME





Mark the position of the screws on the front leg and screw.

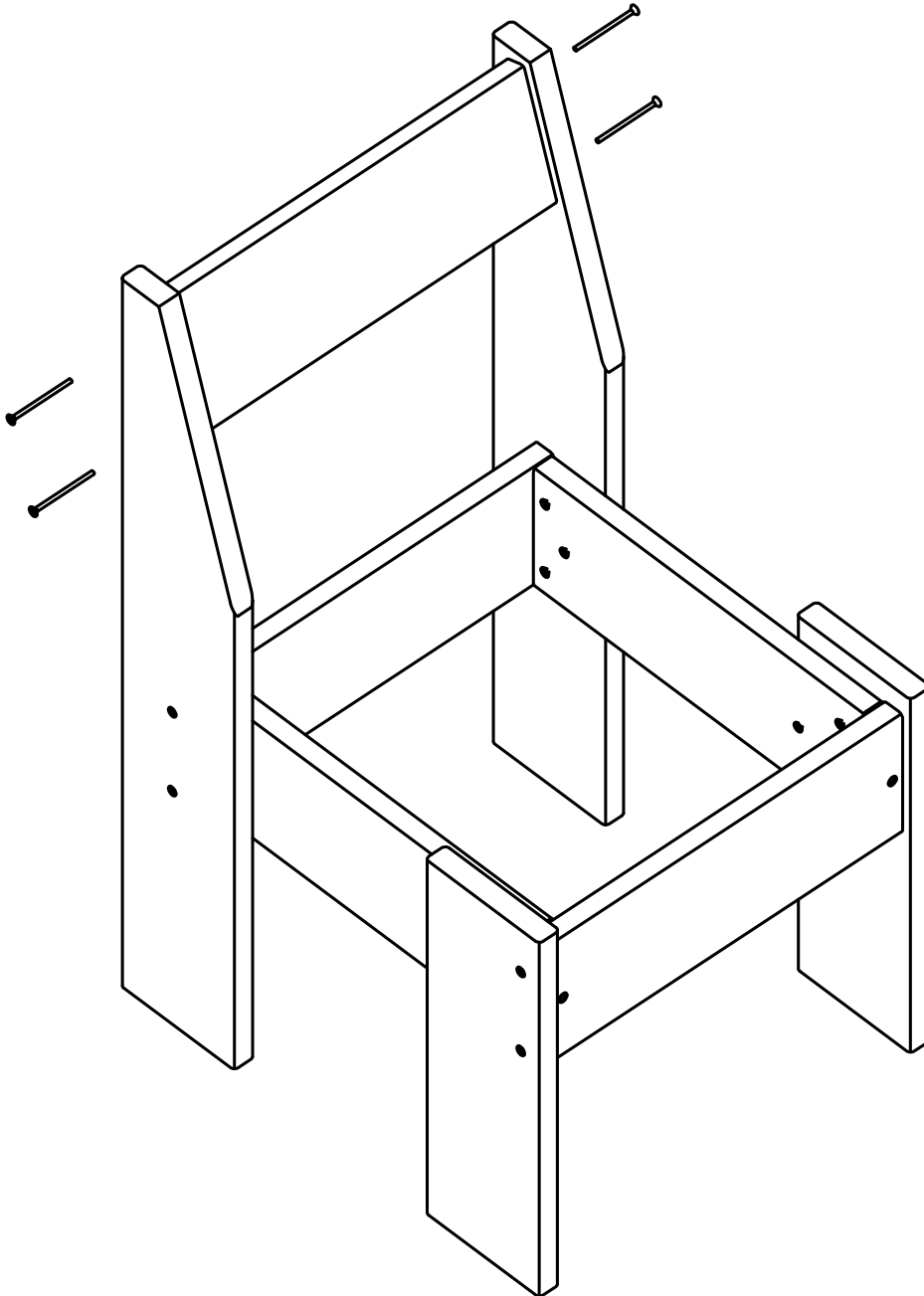


Mark the position of the screws on the back leg and screw.

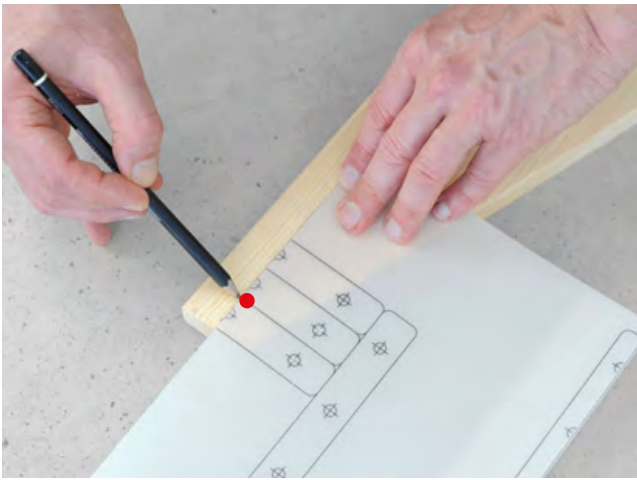
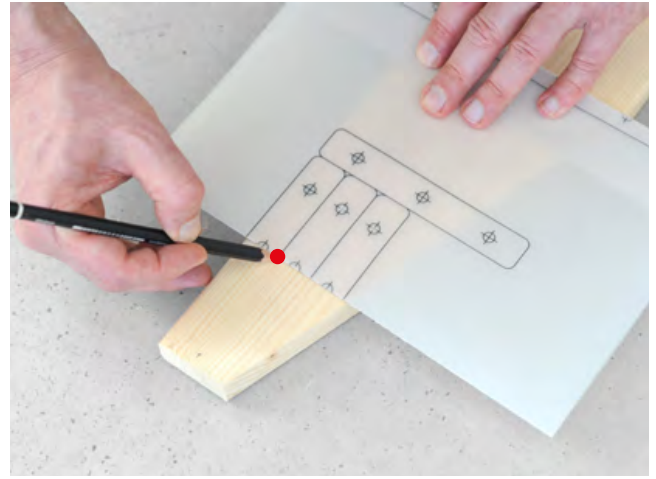
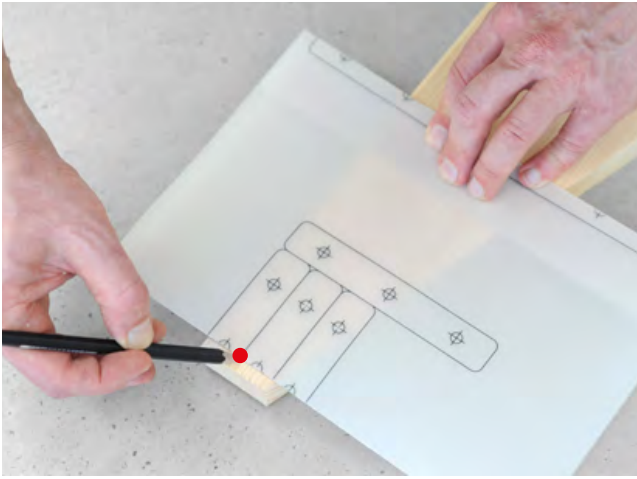


Repeat on the other side in a mirrored fashion.

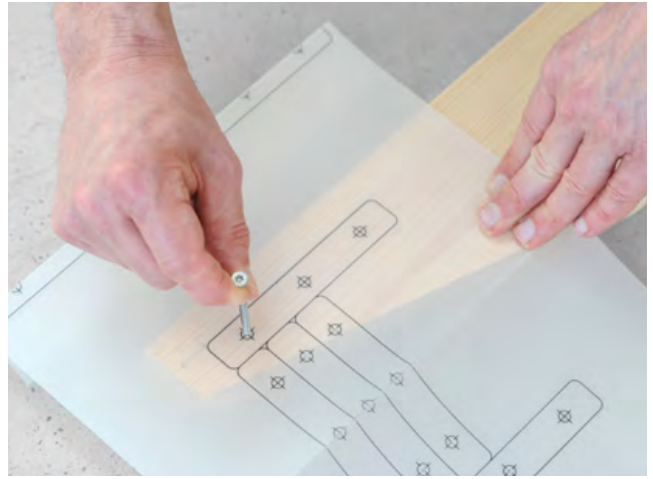
BACK REST



Check your wood. The wood may be curved due to the way it was dried.
<< It may look like this. To maximise comfort, put the curved side up.



Mark position of the top part of the back rest.

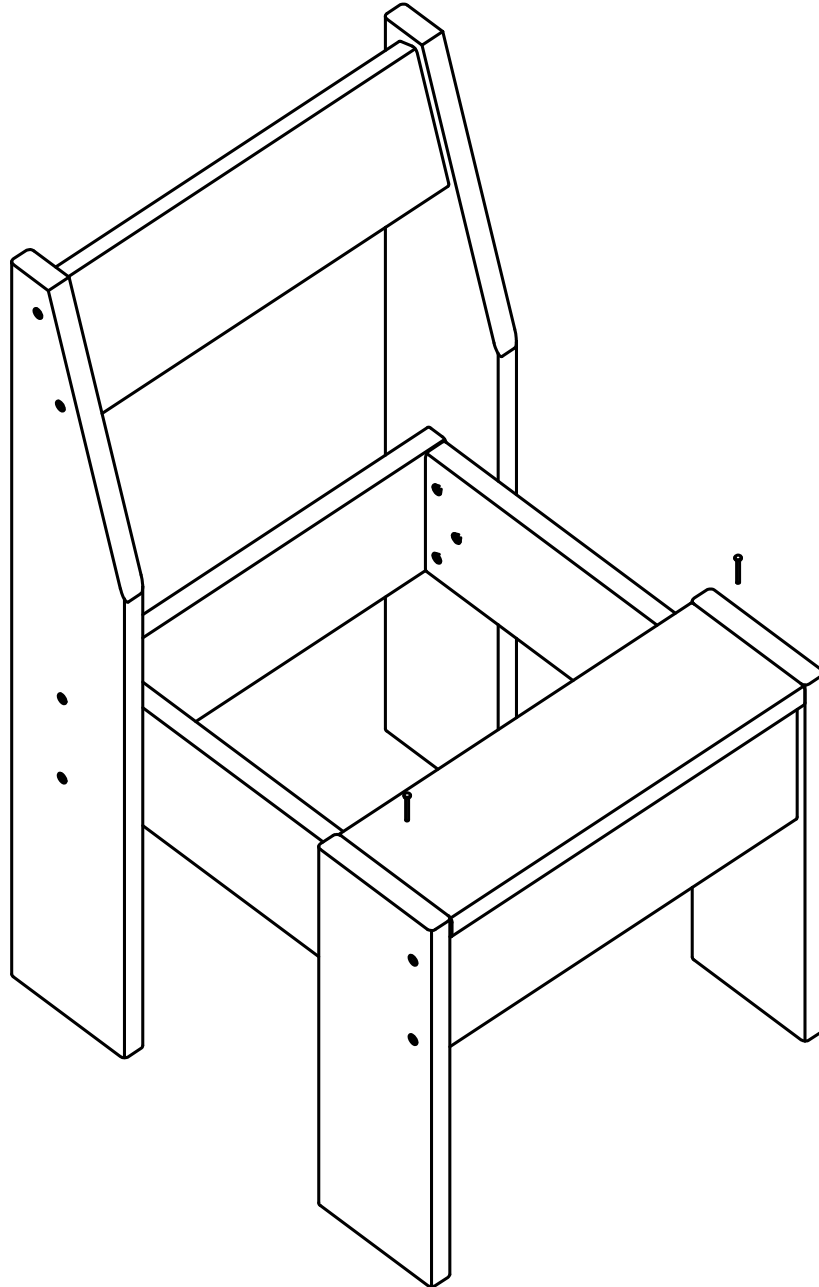


Mark position of the top screw and proceed to assemble the top of the back rest.



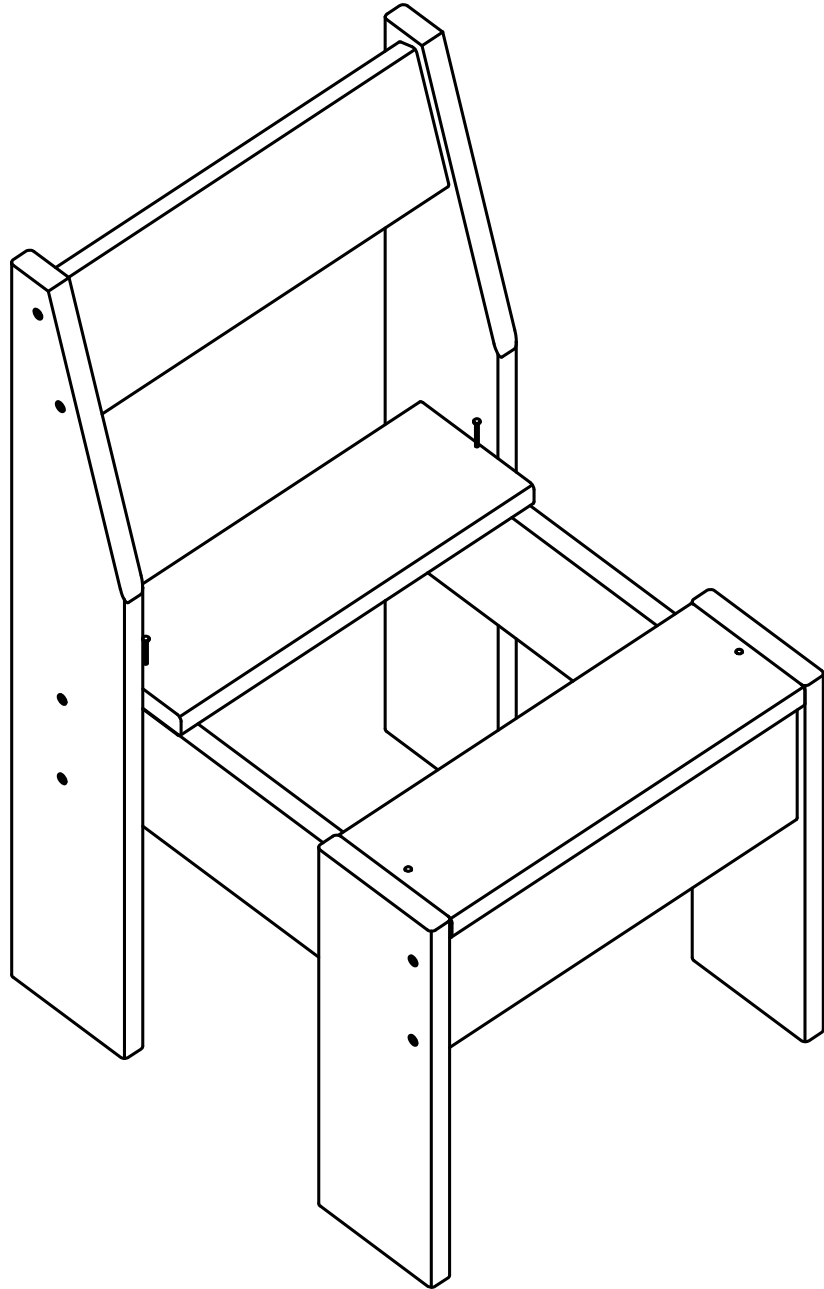
Rotate back rest in the position parallel to the angle. Mark the outline of back rest. Rotate the back rest out of the way to pre-drill the hole from inside for the position of the screw.

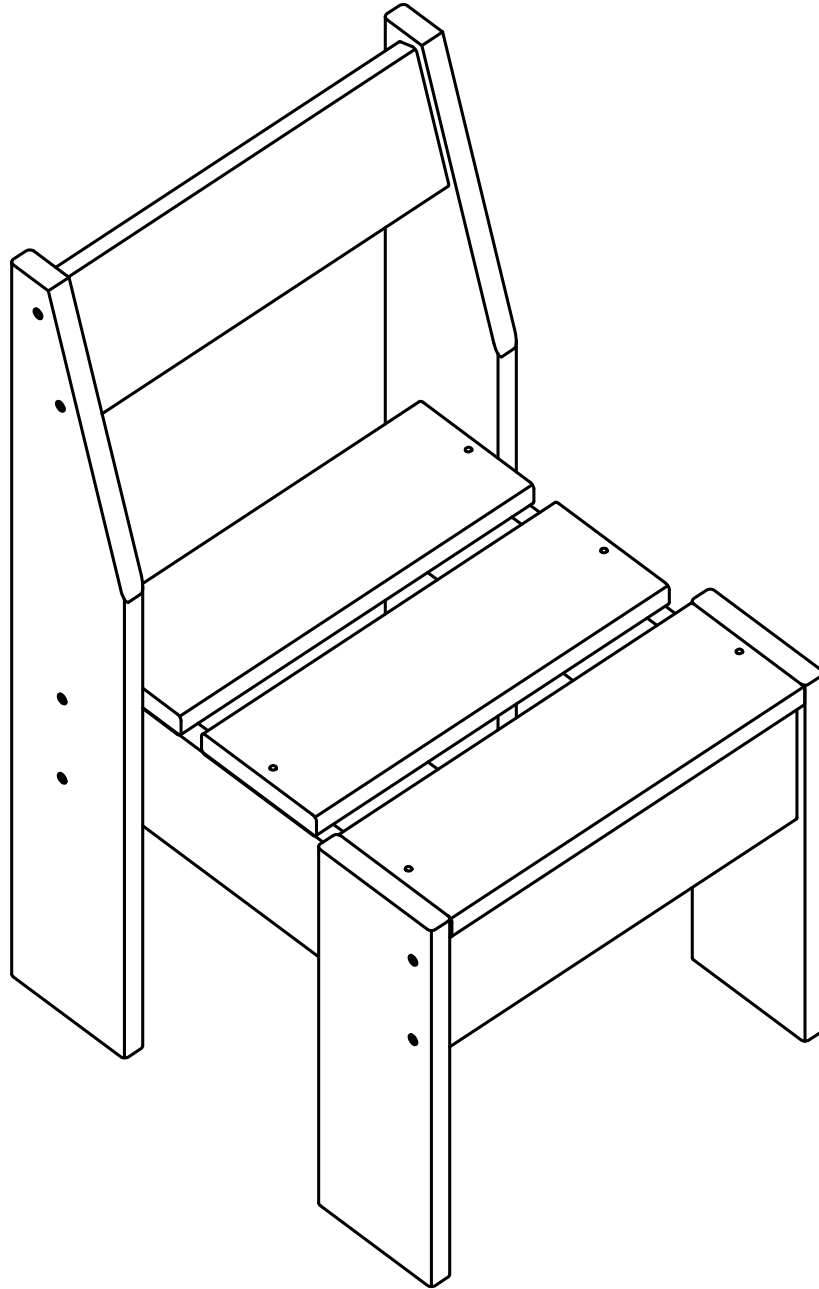
WOOD SEAT ASSEMBLY



Check your wood. The wood may be curved due to the way it was dried.
<< It may look like this. To maximise comfort, put the curved side up.





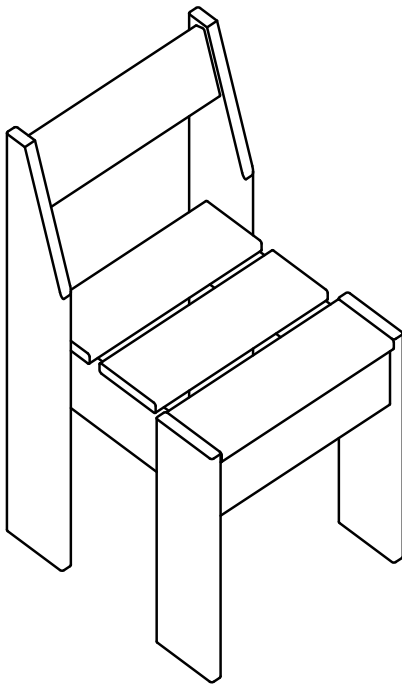
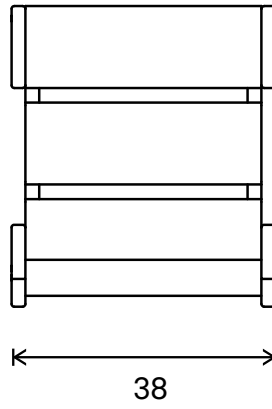
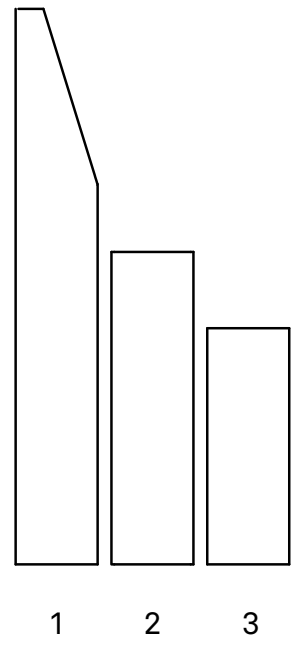
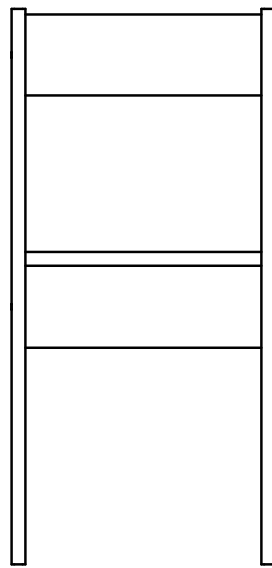
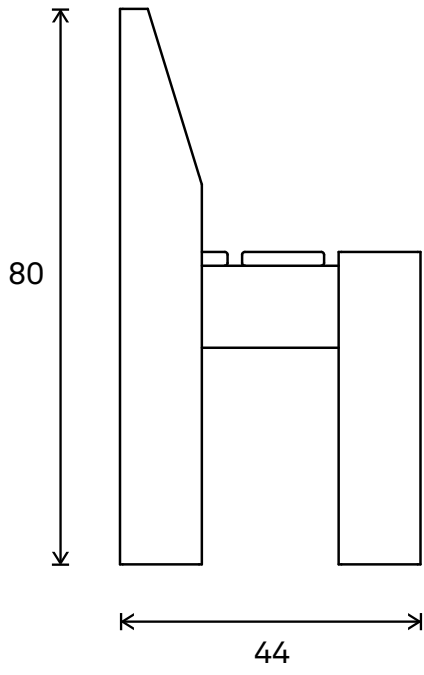


Measure or position the last board by eye to have an even spacing.
If it looks right, it probably is.

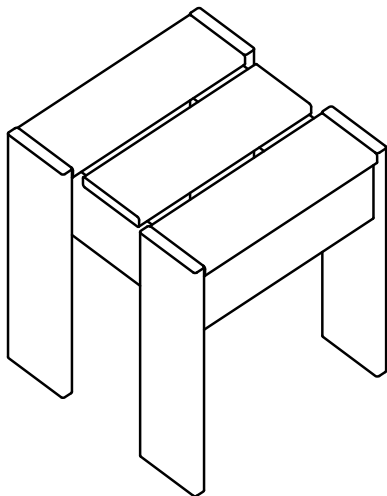
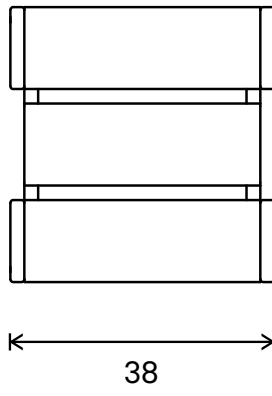
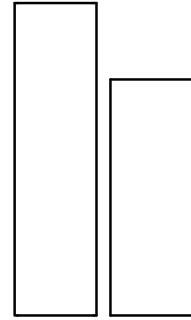
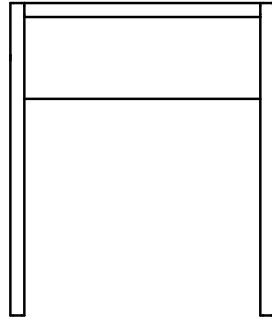
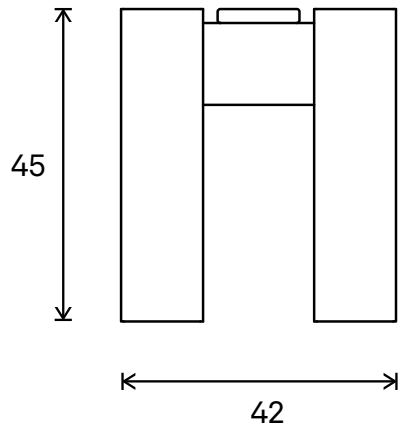


VARIATIONS

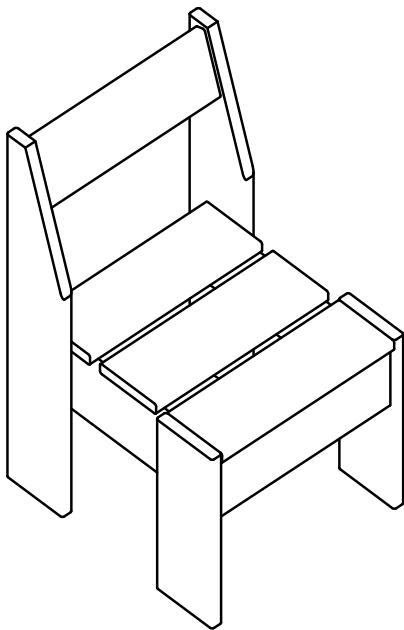
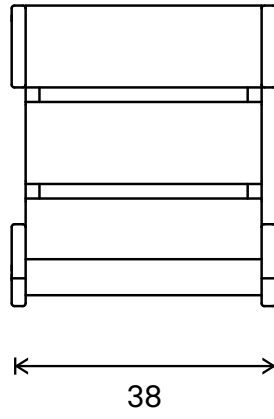
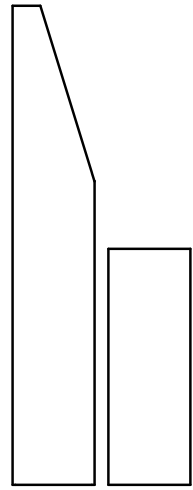
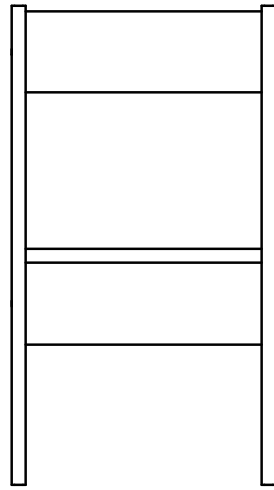
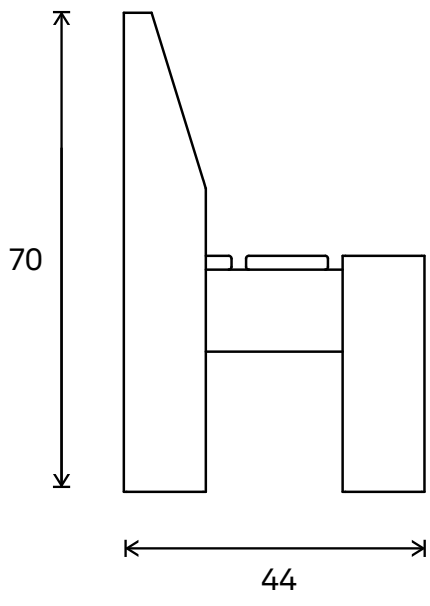
If you can use recommended dimensions of stock. The cutting list will remain the same if the thickness is different, adjust the template to the thickness of your boards.



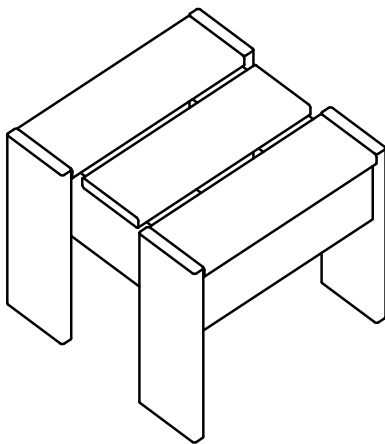
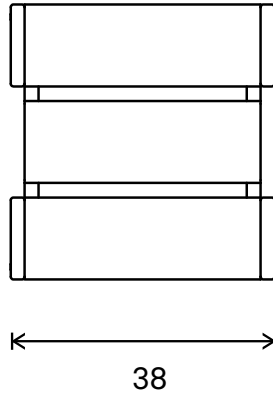
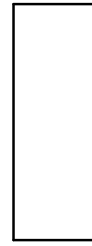
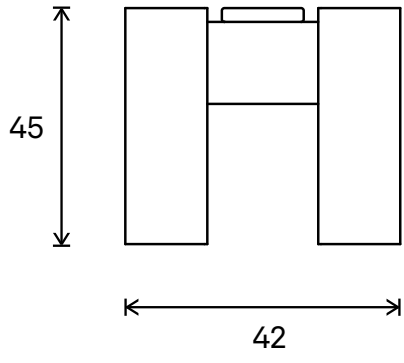
1 > 80cm (x2) / 2 > 45cm (x2) / 3 > 34cm (x8)



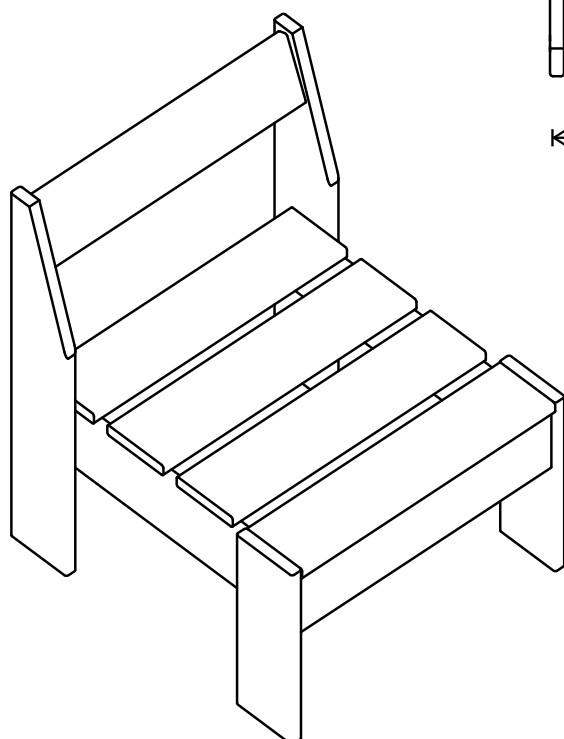
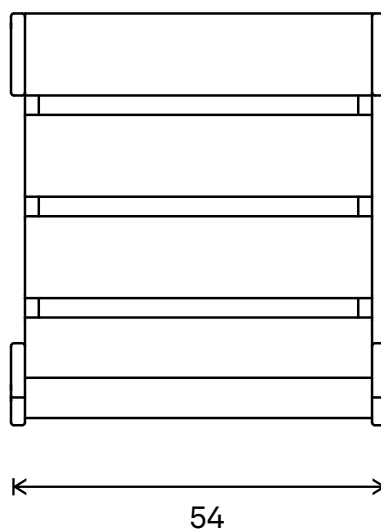
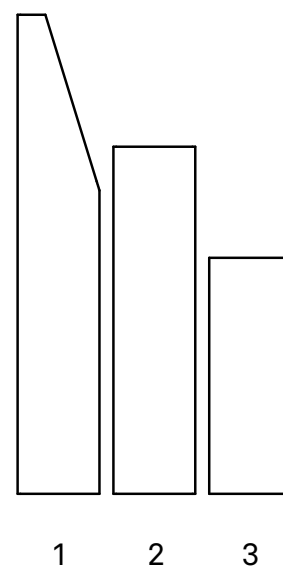
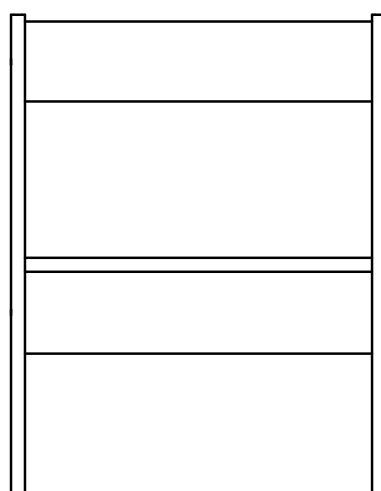
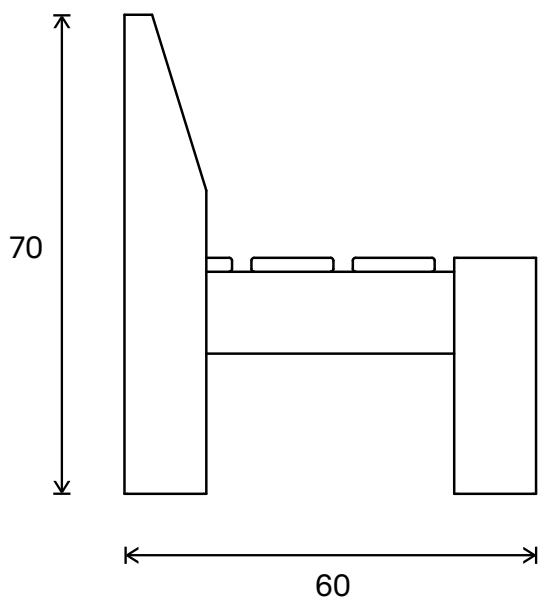
1 > 45cm (x4) / 2 > 34cm (x7)



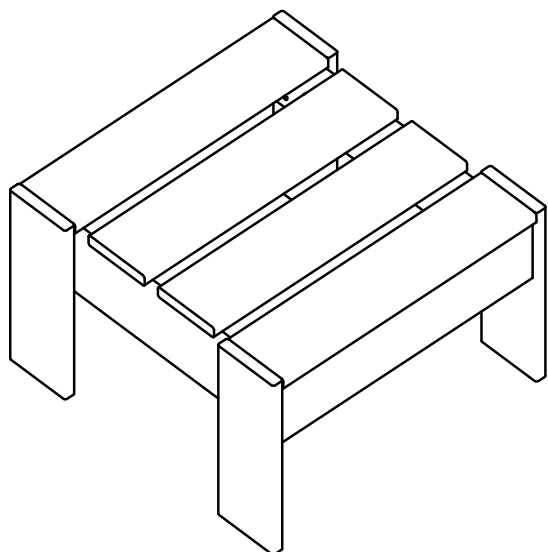
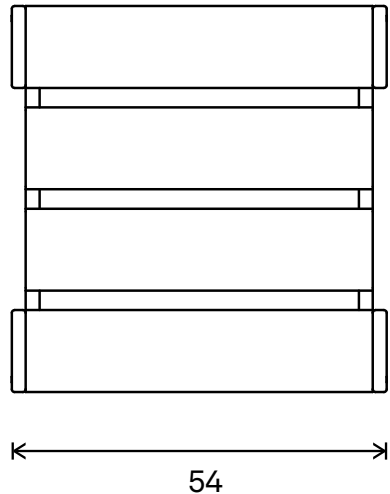
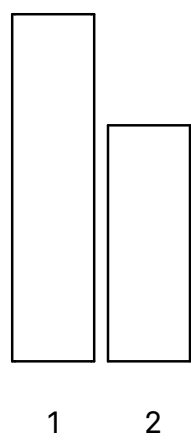
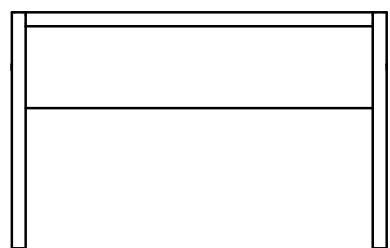
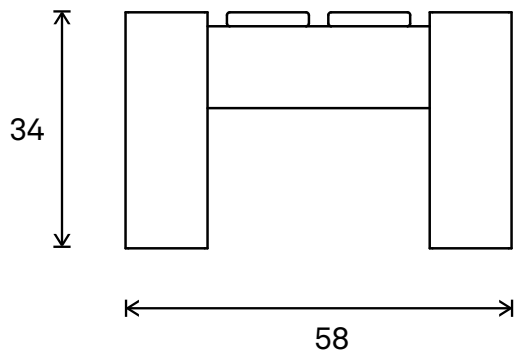
1 > 70cm (x2) / 2 > 34cm (x10)



1 > 34cm (x11)



1 > 70cm (x2) / 2 > 50cm (x9) / 3 > 34cm (x2)



1 > 50cm (x8) / 2 > 34cm (x4)







SOMETHING FOR AN ISLAND is an act of generosity. A gesture from Alban Le Henry to Ibiza. A gesture, a suggestion, a publication, a reflection, and an exhibition that places community participation centrally in its very conception.

Since we started Ses Dotze Naus Foundation, the relationship between contemporary creation and the cultural dynamics of Ibiza constitutes the core of our work. This dialogue is also central to the project that we now present together with Alban Le Henry.

Our mission is to enrich and build this cultural exchange with proposals such as this - to develop this vital connection between disciplines, to remain aware of the role of the past and tradition in our future, and to ensure that the dynamism created from collaborations is developed sustainably. We believe that these creative processes drive the development of our society.

We would like to thank the organizations that have supported this project; OD Hotels, Servicios Palau and Bon Lloc Restaurant, and to all the people who have made it possible. Additional thanks to the Institut d'Estudis Baleàrics for their support to the Foundation.

We hope you enjoy the 'island' family as much as we enjoyed accompanying Alban in its creation.

Angeles Ferragut, Ses Dotze Naus Foundation, 2024

SOMETHING FOR AN ISLAND

A project by Alban Le Henry supported by Ses Dotze Naus Foundation.

Drawings and images: Alban Le Henry – albanlehenry.com
Art direction and design: Pierre Hourquet – templeparis.com

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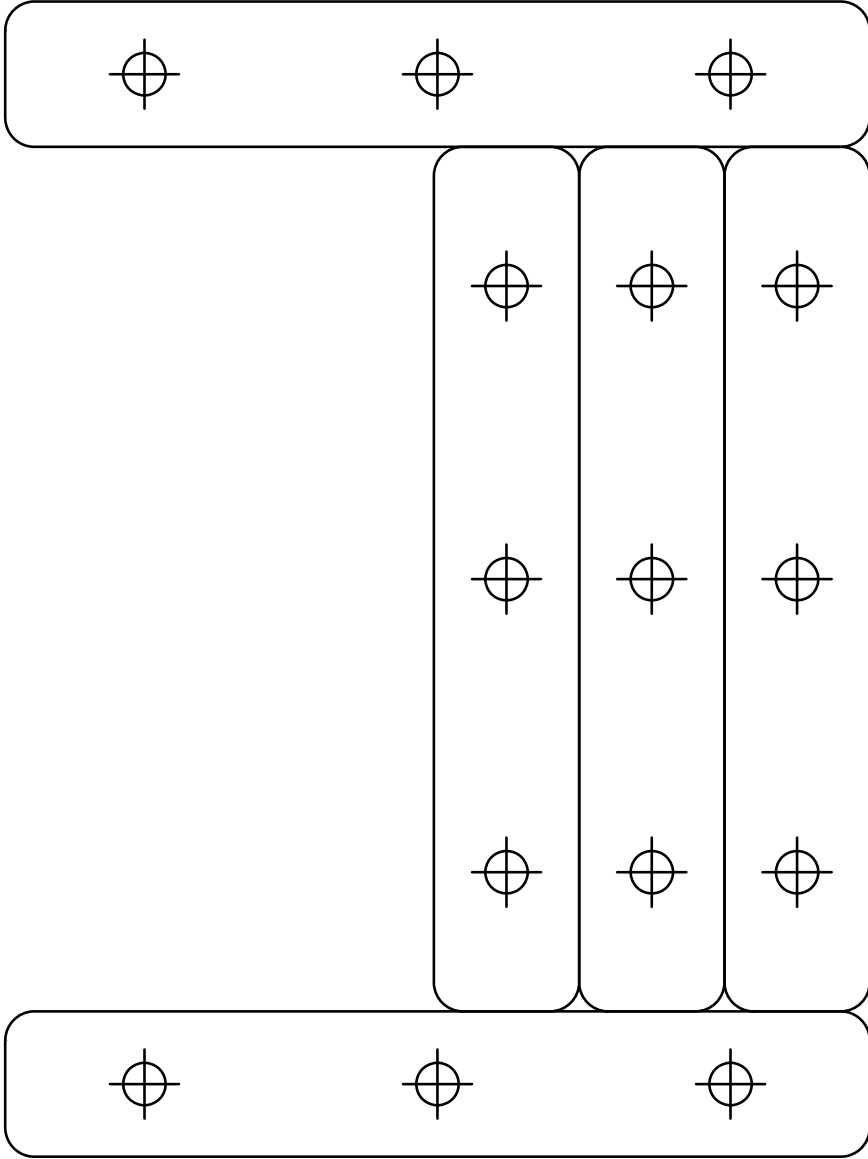
First edition, March 2024, printed in Ibiza (Spain).

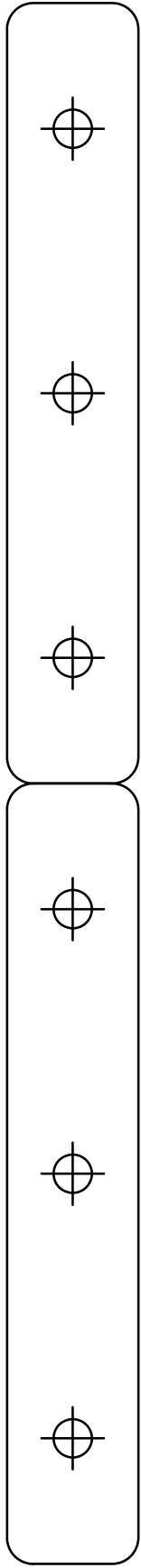


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1cm