



Break-apart boat stows camp gear

BY ARTHUR MIXESELL
DESIGNED BY WILLIAM JACKSON

Designed with camping in mind,
this sturdy two-in-one

John boat is actually a small
fishing pram with a roomy
detachable camp chest
big enough for all of your supplies
bolted to the bow





■ **WHY THE SPLIT PERSONALITY?** Well, that bolt-on bow locker is actually a sturdy camp chest which can be packed at home, attached to the pram at the launch site, then removed again when you reach camp.

Double-galvanized, annular-ring boat nails are used throughout. These cost much less than comparable screws and also make the fabricating job easier without sacrificing strength. Assuming that you plan to fiberglass the boat, all joints are both glued and nailed. If not, use caulking compound at all through-hull fastenings and planking joints. In any case, be sure to use caulking when mounting the bottom battens since these would be attached after fiberglassing the hull.

Begin by assembling the transom. Cut and

The two-man pram is light and easy to car-top. You can carry the bow locker in the car's trunk.

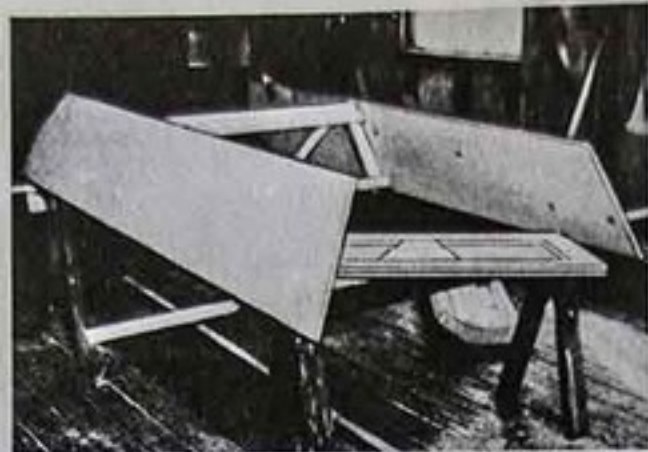
mount the inside framing on the plywood, glue-coating all contacting surfaces and spacing the 1½-in. nails 3 in. apart. (The 1 x 4 framing on the aft surface of the transom should be mounted after you have planked the bottom.) Once the glue has cured, bevel the bottom edge 15 deg.

Next, make up the temporary building frame and the bulkhead frame which forms the bow of the pram. Since the latter must mate snugly with the rear bulkhead of the bow locker, we recommend that you build the two together. When completed, clamp them together, check the fit and then drill holes through the side frames for the two connecting plates.

The fairing operation is a little unusual since this boat isn't framed in the normal way. To

Heavy bottom battens on the outside protect the plywood planking and act as exterior framing.



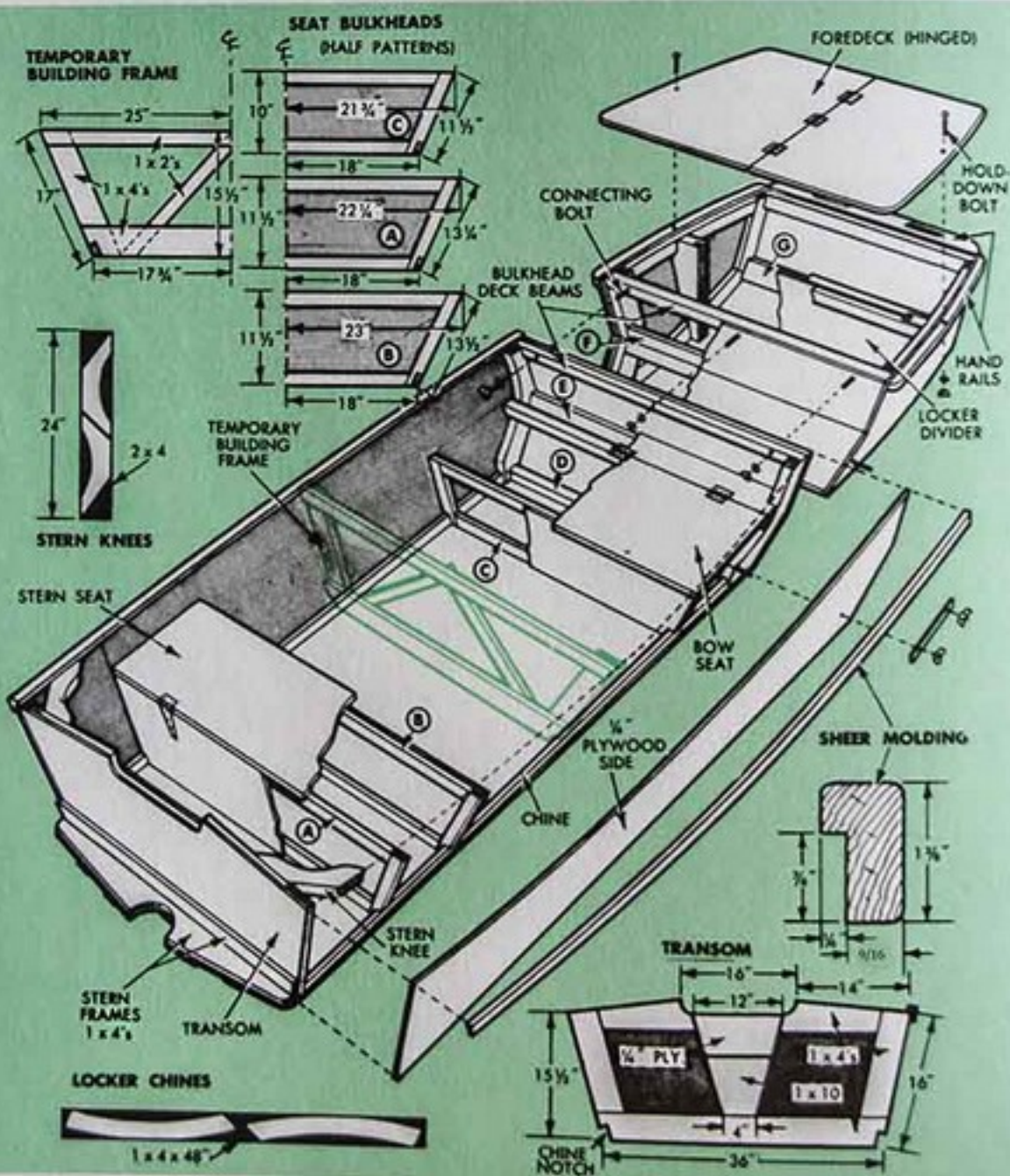


The building frame is a single mold temporarily mounted amidships. Support the hull at working height on saw horses topped with 2 x 4s

determine the proper bevels for the transom and forward bulkhead, you'll have to assemble the hull temporarily, then take it apart and cut these bevels so that frames fit flush against planking.

Tack the two pieces of side planking to the transom and secure the temporary building frame 50 in. forward of this with two screws through each side. (After the seats have been installed, this frame will be removed and the screw holes sealed with wood putty backed by 1-in.-sq. plywood plates glued to the inner surface.) Bend the two side panels around the building frame and tack them in place.

Once you have marked the transom bevels, remove the transom and cut them slightly over-



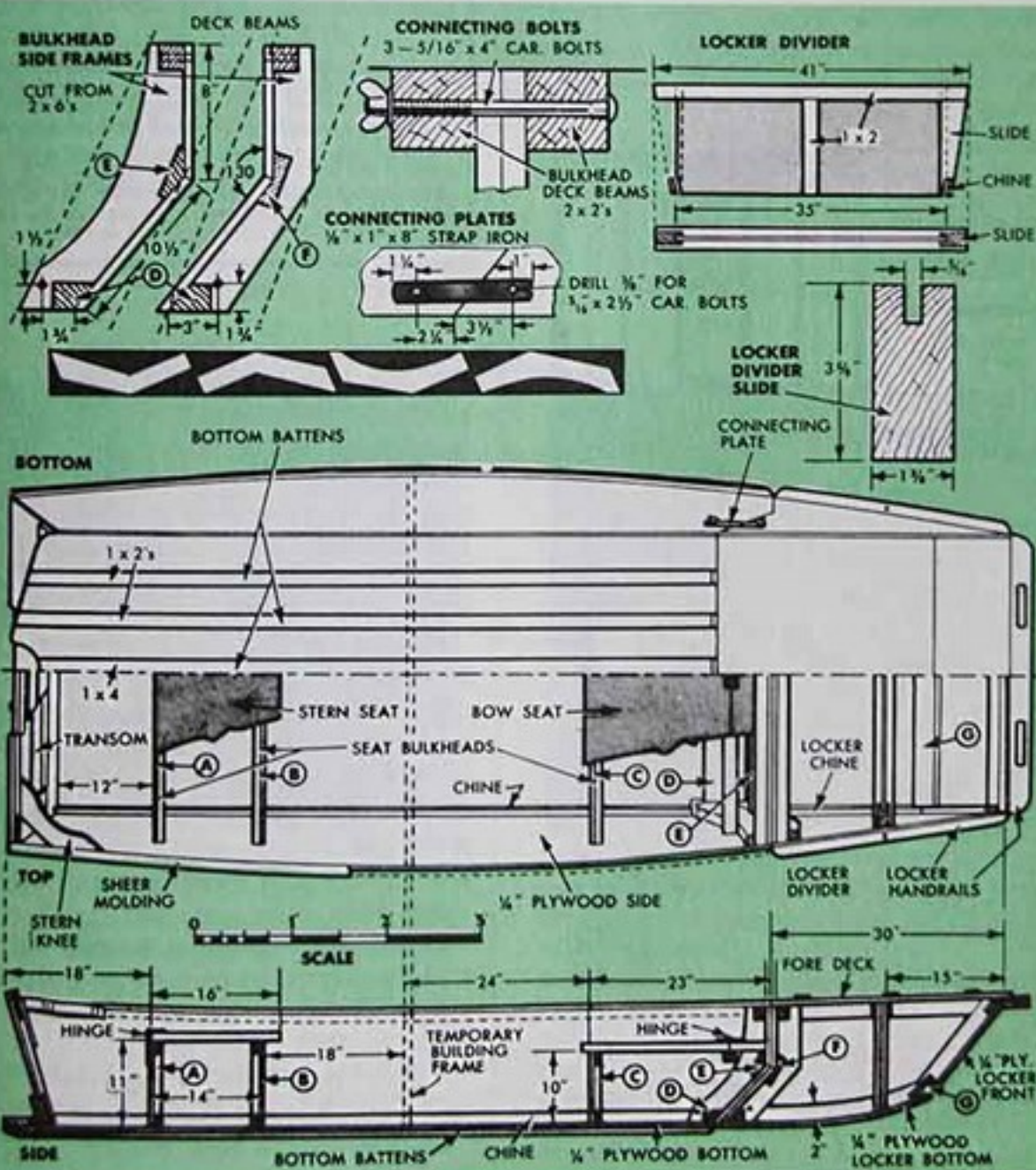
size. Then replace the transom, check the fit and sand the bevels until you have a perfect joint. Finally, coat all contacting surfaces with glue and attach the plywood with 1 3/4-in. nails.

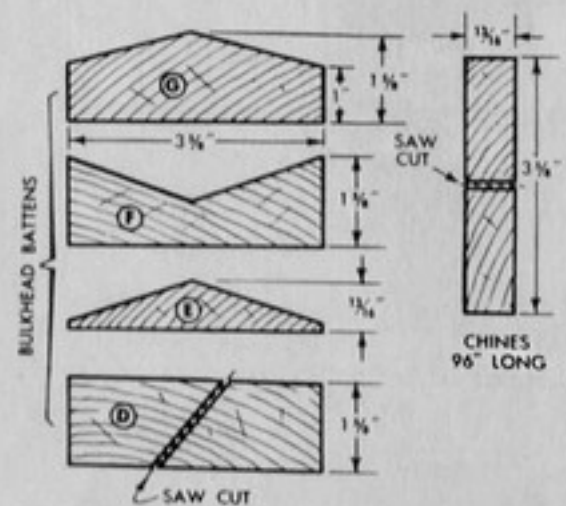
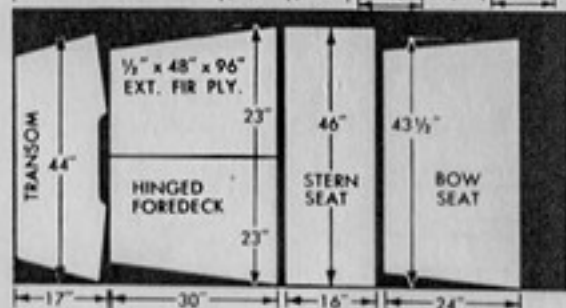
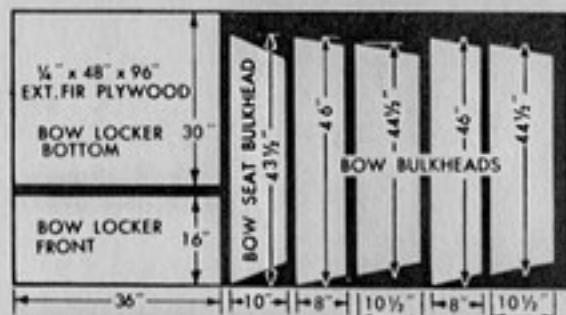
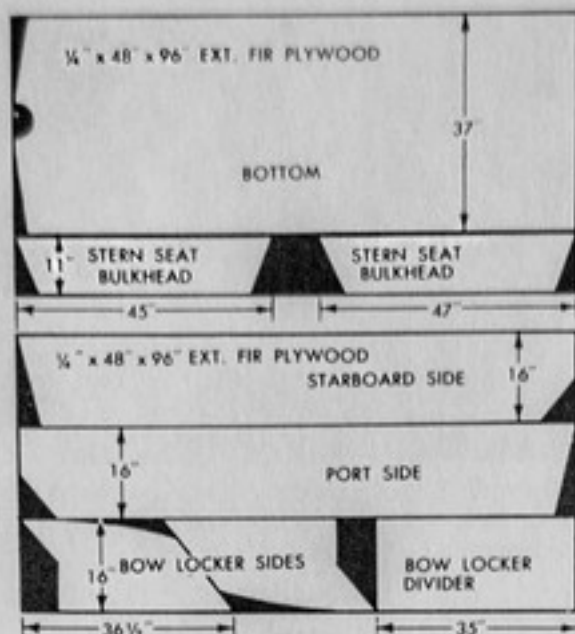
The chine and sheer curves should run smoothly from the transom to the fore end of the bow locker, so before you fair the pram's bow bulkhead you'll have to frame the locker and clamp this framing to the pram. When you have marked the proper bevels, remove the clamps and fair the bow bulkhead and locker frame. After fairing, secure the side planking.

Since the locker forms a separate part of the boat, you might take time out here to finish it up before going ahead with the rest of the hull. In spite of its odd shape, the locker is simply a



The critical joint between the bow bulkhead and the rear bulkhead of the locker must be a perfect fit. Fabricate both bulkheads in one operation





MATERIALS LIST

LUMBER (All clear fir)

1 pc. 1 x 10 x 1'	Transom framing
2 pcs. 1 x 4 x 8'	Transom framing
1 pc. 1 x 4 x 8'	Temporary building frame
1 pc. 1 x 4 x 8'	Chines (cut lengthwise)
2 pcs. 1 x 4 x 8'	Seat framing (cut lengthwise)
1 pc. 1 x 4 x 8'	Center bottom batten
2 pcs. 1 x 4 x 8'	Bottom battens (cut lengthwise)
1 pc. 1 x 4 x 8'	Sheer molding (cut lengthwise)
1 pc. 1 x 4 x 6'	Locker framing (cut lengthwise)
1 pc. 1 x 4 x 4'	Locker chines
1 pc. 1 x 4 x 4'	Bow framing (E)
1 pc. 2 x 4 x 8'	Locker framing (F & G)
1 pc. 2 x 4 x 6'	Locker handrails
1 pc. 2 x 4 x 6'	Transom knee, locker slides
1 pc. 2 x 6 x 6'	Bulkhead side frames

PLYWOOD (Fir, exterior, grade AB or better)

3 pcs. ½" x 4' x 8'	Hull planking, seat bulkheads
1 pc. ½" x 4' x 8'	Seats, foredeck & transom

FASTENINGS*

½ lb. 1 in. boat nails	Plywood to chines, sheer and molding (#S211A)
½ lb. 1¼ in. boat nails	Plywood to chines, seat, transom and bulkhead (#S212A)
¼ lb. 1¾ in. boat nails	Bottom battens to seat, transom and bulkhead (#S214A)
2 doz. 2½ in. boat nails	Transom knees, 2 x 2 bulkhead and locker framing (#S217A)
3 ¾" x 4" mach. bolts	Through bulkhead deck beams to attach locker
4 ¾" x 2½" Car. bolts	Through bulkhead framing and connecting plates

* If boat nails aren't available in your area, you may order them by mail from the W. H. Maze Co., Peru, Ill., using the catalogue numbers listed above. Cadmium-plated 2½" No. 8 flatheaded screws may be substituted for the large 2½" boat nails listed above.

box with a center-hinged lift-off top. Make the handrails by cutting a 2 x 4 lengthwise; mount them by driving nails from inside.

Next, mount the chine battens with their edges extending slightly below the bottom edge of the side planking so that they may be faired to fit flush against the bottom planking. After fairing these battens, mount the bottom planking.

To complete the hull, make up the three seat frames and install them by driving nails from the outside through the planking. Once the stern knees have been installed, the hull will be adequately braced and you can remove the building frame. Install the ½-in. plywood seat tops with galvanized hinges—piano hinges give the best appearance—then shape the sheer moldings and mount them, using 1-in. nails.

Before painting or fiberglassing the hull, extend the connecting-plate holes in the bulkhead side frame through the side planking and seal the bolts with epoxy.

Finally, mount the bottom battens by driving nails through the planking into the framing.

See also: pontoon boat; riverboat; sailboat; sports boat.