

Do you have a drawer or box full of Pinewood Derby cars? Did your Scout build the cars and forget about them? The 5 shelf Pinewood Derby display may be your answer. Put those works of art on display and not tucked away. Designed to accommodate 1 car for each year of Cub Scouts this cabinet offers removable shelves allowing a variety of configurations.

As a father with two sons in Scouts our collection of Pinewood Derby cars had grown to more than a small drawer. As a Webelos den leader I knew many Scout families had the same dilemma. As a parent I wanted to preserve the cars for my children. The solution was the 5 shelf Pinewood Derby display.

I have always enjoyed projects which allow me to enjoy the fruits of my labor (gardening, painting, etc.). Recently I had received some hand-me-down power tools which included a small router table and table saw. Wood working seemed like it would be a natural fit for me. Armed with desire and (very) little wood working skills I started by drafting a design and luckily found many flaws before I started building. This led to a revised sketch and this process was repeated, many times.

Using a blind rabbit joint I was able to eliminate the need for nails and screws on the cabinet but I needed to make sure that I could accurately cut them. After all, it had been over 35 years since my junior high wood working class. As they say, measure twice and cut once – things were a success. The rabbit joint fit tightly and it was time cut wood for the project.

Once I had the cabinet built and my fear of wood working failure behind me, I realized the cabinet needed a door to keep the dust of those works of art. Back to the sketches and again after a few revisions I had a workable design. In an effort to keep the cabinet door low profile I decided on a lap joint for the door frame supported by glue and a screw to hold it together. A few more practice cuts and I was ready to build a cabinet door.

I ended up making many of these as unassembled kits. It didn't take much effort to make several of these rather than just 1. They were given to my children and Webelos den to sand, assemble and finish. These kits could be built by adults and Boy Scouts (with some parental assistance) and given to Cub Scouts to assemble. Remember to be safe around power tools and good luck on your project.