

## Upgraded Practice Table Construction

Materials: Cost about \$100-\$150

- 1 - 3/4" 4'x8' Birch or Oak Plywood
- 6 - 1 1/4" # 10 flat head wood screws
- 1 - 1/2" 29 1/8" x57 3/4"
- 10 - 1 1/2" deck screws
- Wood glue
- Goop Household Adhesive (for rubber)
- 1 Yard 75% Wool 25% nylon billiard felt (Billiard supply)
- 48" x 9 1/2" Diamond dice rubber (Gamblers general store)

Tools:

- Circular Saw
- Jig (Saber) Saw
- Drill
- Radial Arm Saw (Optional but makes it easy)

The sides and base of the practice table are made from one sheet of 4'x8' 3/4" plywood. It can be any type of plywood but birch or oak will make a better looking table. The top rail of 1/2" plywood adds strength and helps maintain shape. It can be upholstered if desired.

By purchasing the plywood at a Home Depot or Lowe's they will make some of the cuts for you. Two cuts are free. Have the sheet split lengthwise with one side 24" wide. Split the 24" wide strip in two pieces giving 2 - 24"x47 7/8" pieces. The other piece would be ripped lengthwise twice to make a 9 1/2" x 96" piece and an 11" x 96" piece.

### Base.

Attach the two 24"x47 7/8" pieces together using 1 1/4" #10 flathead wood screws from the bottom side only. Be sure that the screw heads are flush to avoid marring any surface you set the table up on. Layout the 14 3/4" radius corners and cut with a hand held jig (saber) saw. A router can be used to smooth the curves and do a 1/4" round over on edges the top and bottom. The router is not essential but it makes the felting easier. Do not cover base with felt until the sides are constructed.

### Side Boards

The cutting of the kerfs which allow the side board to bend around the corner is accomplished by setting the saw to a depth of 1/16" less than the thickness of the plywood. Try a couple of test cuts on some scrap or the ends. If the depth becomes equal or greater than the thickness of the plywood it will ruin the project. Layout the kerf lines 1" apart (1/2" or 3/4" makes a smoother turn but is a lot more work). Use a straight edge guide to cut the kerfs with a hand circular saw. Using a radial arm saw to cut the kerfs makes the job easy. **Make sure** that there is a rigid board under the entire length of the side board when cutting as the side board will break at the kerfs if there is no support. The ends should not be cut to length until the board is wrapped on the base and marked and cut.

There are two side boards. The outside side board is wrapped around the base with the kerfs facing inward to the base with the edge of the base flush with the base. Placing waxed paper around the edge of the base will keep glue from getting on the base. Wetting the smooth surface of the plywood where the kerfs have been cut helps bending. Temporary nails hold the outside side board in place. Do not drive these nails all the way in as they will be removed when the inside side board is glued into position.

Carefully place the inside board in position, mark and cut to length.

Apply wood glue to inside surface of the outer side. Carefully place the inside side with the kerf of inside board facing the kerf of the outside board. Clamp, screw or nail the inside board to the outside board.

### Top Rail

Cut out the top rail from the 1/2" plywood using a jigsaw. Align on top of the sides and attach using the deck screws.

### Felt

Attach the felt to the base using a stapler. Start with the straight edge and stretch and staple.

## Diamond Rubber

Attach the rubber centered between the curved portions. Use Goop adhesive as it is a silicone flexible adhesive that will not become brittle.

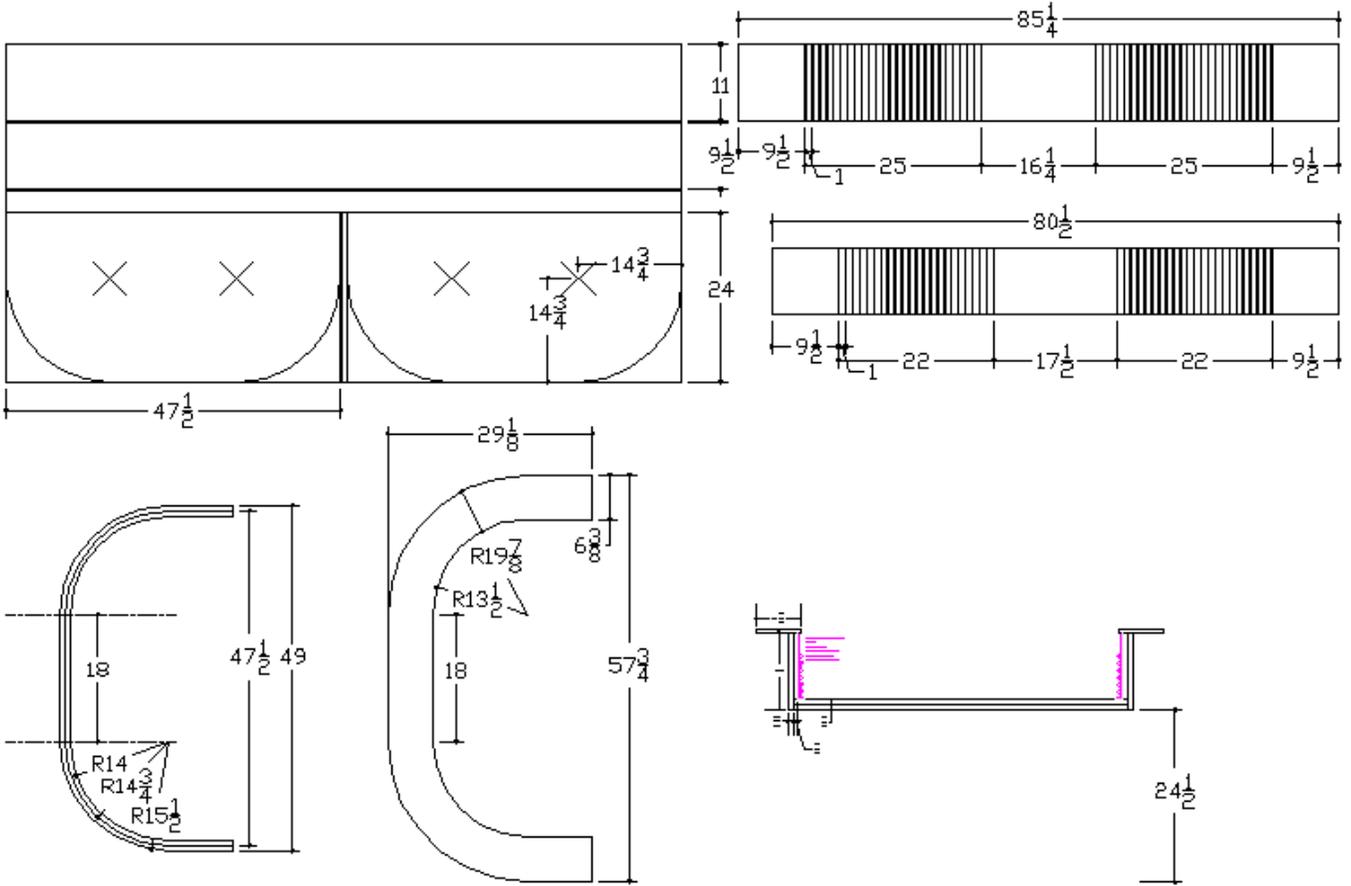
Happy Shooting.

Roadrunner

Finished table on top of Pool table



Kerf detail



Drawings  
 .dwg file available