



2609 CHEST DIY KIT INSTRUCTION MANUAL

PREP PARTS AND WORK AREA BEFORE STARTING

- Make sure you are working on a sturdy, flat work surface that will not scratch or damage the parts while handling.
- Lightly sand and deburr the part edges if needed.
- It is recommended to dry fit (construct without glue) the parts to familiarize yourself with the assembly process.

RECOMMENDED TOOLS FOR CHEST CONSTRUCTION

- Wood Glue
- 12" Bar Clamps (2-3)
- 36" Bar Clamps (4)
- #2 Philips Screw Driver
- Rubber Mallet or Hammer
- Electric Drill
- Router (Optional)
- 3/16" Roundover Bit
- 100 and 150 Grit Sandpaper
- Scale or Ruler
- 90 Degree Square
- Choice of Stain/Finish
- 3/32" and 3/16" Drill Bits
- Paraffin wax
- Drawer bead bit if desired

Please Note: If you are not going to start building the chest right away, you will need to weight down the parts. The parts are unfinished and can warp if left in the box for extended periods of time. Gerstner is not responsible for replacing warped parts 15 days after receipt.

CHEST SIDES

- 1 Install the Lid Slide Plate w/nails on each side.



DRAWER SLIDES

- 2 Install the drawer slides: Glue the maple drawer slides in the grooves on the side. The maple drawer slides are a snug fit in the groove and a little extra sanding/fitting may be needed. Use glue lightly and use a hammer/ rubber mallet to tap the slides into the grooves.



DRAWER PARTITIONS

- 3 Glue the Maple Drawer Slides in the grooves of the Birch Plywood Small Partitions with Cap. If the maple drawer slides are tight in the groove, use a rubber mallet to tap the slides into the grooves. Flip the partition over and repeat.



PARTITION ASSEMBLY

- 4 The top partition has a tongue along the front edge. Glue the small partitions with the solid wood cap facing the front edge of the top partition. It is shown upside down during assembly. The narrow plywood stinger is installed in the rear position. The oak hardwood stringer is installed in the front position and must set flush to the short partitions.



BOX ASSEMBLY

- 5 It is recommended that you pre-assemble the box **WITHOUT** glue to familiarize yourself with the process. Start with one of the sides laying down on the workbench and begin to assemble the chest. Make sure you match your pace with the curing time of the glue.



BOX ASSEMBLY (CONTINUED)

- 6** Continue to assemble the chest and check to make sure all the drawer slides line up with each other. If you install the short partitions incorrectly the drawers will not work.

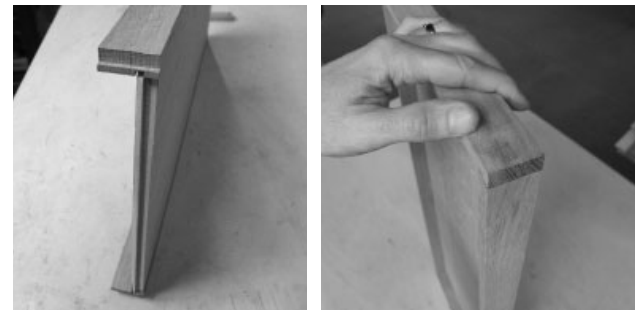


- 7** Use clamps to clamp the chest together while the glue dries. Check the cabinet for square before glue cures. Adjust if required.

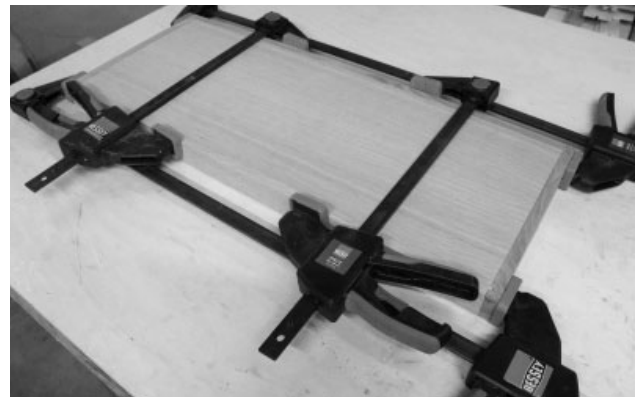


TOP ASSEMBLY

- 8** Locate the box top pieces and assemble as shown.



- 9** Use clamps to clamp the top together while the glue dries. Check the top for square before glue cures. Adjust if required.



FRONT LID ASSEMBLY

- 10** Align the outside edge of the end rail with the outside edge of the bottom rail of the front lid
- 11** Put the center panel of the front lid in the groove of the end rail and the bottom rail. The center panel floats in the grooves of the front lid, do not glue the panel into place. (The center panel is undersized to allow for expansion and contraction).
- 12** Align the outside edge of the other end rail with the outside edge of the bottom rail of the front lid
- 13** Align the top rail with the outside edges of both of the end rails.

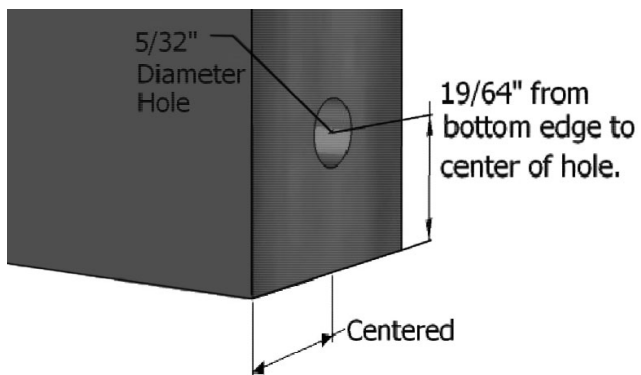
FRONT LID ASSEMBLY (CONTINUED)

- 14** Clamp the front lid at the top and bottom at each end rail.



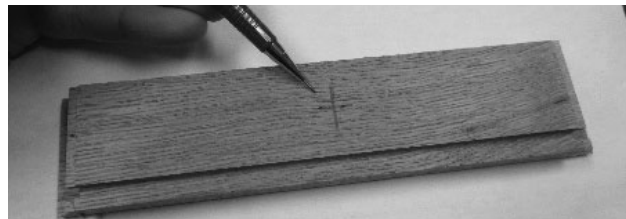
FRONT LID PINS

- 15** Once the front lid has been fit to the chest, you will need to drill for the Front Lid Pins with a $5/32$ " diameter drill bit. The locations for the holes are shown below.



DRAWER FRONTS: KNOB HOLE MACHINING

- 16** Mark the knob location on the inside of the drawer face.



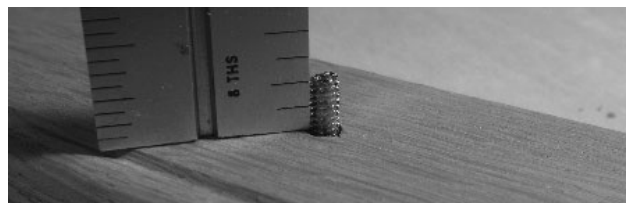
- 17** Drill a $3/16$ " hole at the desired location.



- 18** Using a $7/16$ drill, countersink or forstner bit, countersink for screw head.



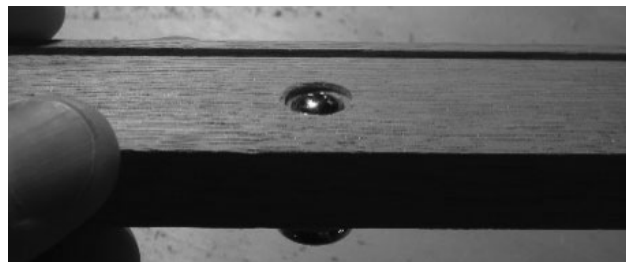
- 19** Set the countersink depth so the screw sticks out $1/4$ " from the face.



- 20** Sand location marks from wood.

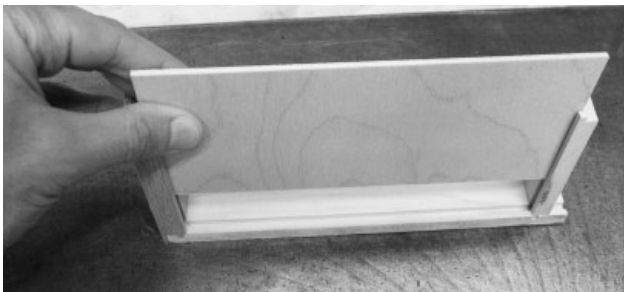


- 21** Knob hole machining is complete.



DRAWER ASSEMBLY

- 22 Align the top edge of the drawer front with the top edge of the drawer side. Glue the drawer front to the drawer side
- 23 Align the top edge of the drawer back with the top edge of the drawer side.
- 24 Slide the drawer bottom into the bottom groove of the drawer front, back and side.
- 25 Once you have all of the pieces lined up, add glue to the parts and then place the opposite drawer side on top and align each part with the grooves in the side. Use a rubber mallet to tap the side onto the other parts.
- 26 Clamp the drawer at the front and back of the sides and check to make sure that the drawer is square. Once the drawer is square, let the drawer sit until the glue dries.
- 27 Repeat for the remaining drawers.



SANDING AND FINISHING

- 28 Flush-up all joinery. This may be done with a flush cut router bit or by hand sanding. Take extra care in flushing-up the chest top and back.*
***CAUTION: We use veneer plywood on the Top and Back of this chest.** This plywood gives the box stability through ever changing conditions of humidity. Please note that you must exercise great care when sanding the back surface. The veneer is .010" thick and excessive sanding on these areas can cause a sand-through, to the plywood core below the veneer. We suggest you sand the solid wood just enough to meet the surface of the veneer.
- 29 Round over all edges of the chest as desired. The corner protectors have a 3/16" radius.



- 30 Fit the drawers to the box making sure that the gaps between the drawers are uniform. Because all wood swells under certain conditions, a drawer fit with minimal clearance is not recommended. (Gerstner recommends 1/32"-1/16" gap on all sides of the drawer.)



- 31 Final sand all parts of your chest to desired grit. (Gerstner recommends at least 150 grit).



STAINING & FINISHING

- 32** Stain and finish the parts as desired. Gerstner stains and then applies 1-2 coats of a lacquer sealer and then 1-2 top coats of lacquer. (Make sure to use a style finish that you are comfortable working with.)



Many options exist for adding a protective finish to your wood project. Select the finish of your choice and apply as desired. If using the recommended Gerstner Classic Wood Stains with lacquer top coat, please follow the directions listed below.

- 33** Prior to finishing, remove any hardware that was installed during drilling. Lightly re-sand the exterior surfaces to remove any scratches or contamination (oils from your skin). This will allow for a quality finish.

- 34** Apply stain to inside edges, and exterior surfaces as desired. Wipe excess stain from the surface and make sure the color has been evenly applied.



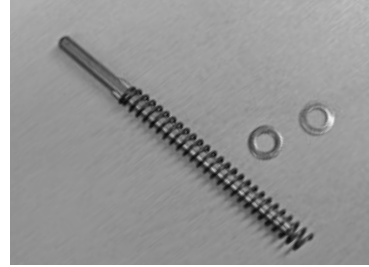
- 35** Apply a lacquer finish to the chest. Lightly sand the first coat, or seal coat, once dry with 320 grit sand paper.



- 36** Apply top coat to parts as desired and let finish fully cure before handling.

INSTALL PLUNGER PINS

- 37** Locate the plunger pin, spring and 2 stainless steel washers.



Scan to watch a brief video demonstration of inserting the plunger pin

- 38** Position chest upright and place one of the stainless steel washers over the bottom hole in the front rail.



- 39** Using a pair of needle nose pliers, push the end of the pin through the bottom washer and release it through the top hole. This can be a bit awkward and challenging so several attempts might be necessary. Scan the QR code above to see a video of this process.



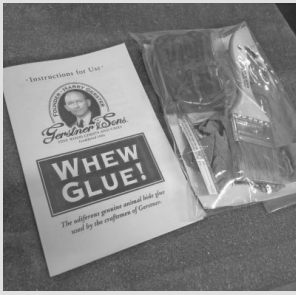
- 40** Close the top lid and carefully strike the plunger pin as to make a noticeable mark in the top. This will serve as the location for the steel tack.



- 41** Locate the tack mark made in the top and hammer tack into the rail. Make sure the top is being supported on the workbench as not to bend the hinges.

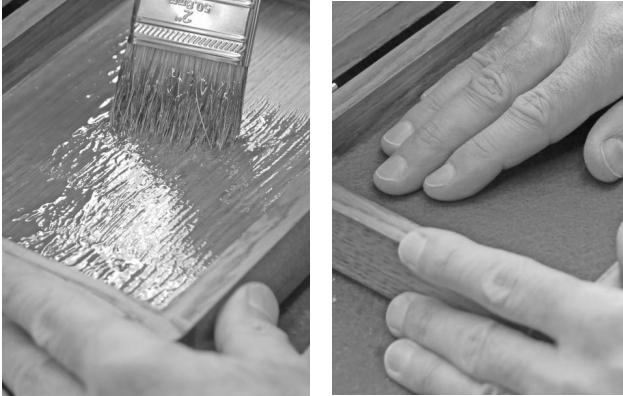


FELT INSTALLATION

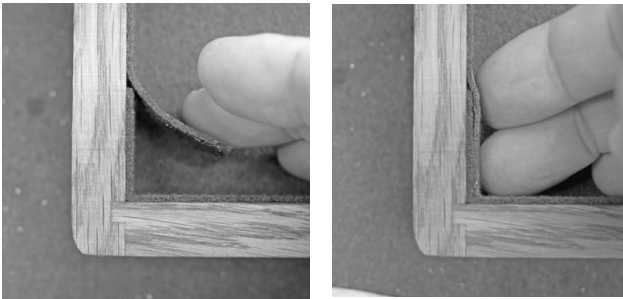


A 50/50 mix of white glue and water can be used for felt installation. We recommend Gerstner Whew Glue for all felt applications, as it holds reliably, yet easy to replace if you ever need to re-felt in the coming years. It is the only felt glue we use in our workshop.

42 Install large flat sections of felt first.

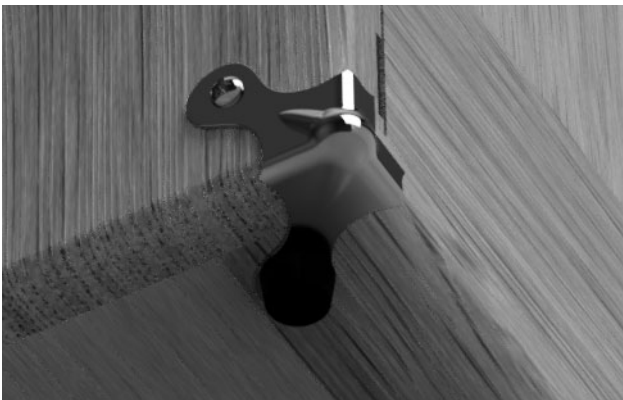


43 The surround strips are installed one at a time and will overlap in the corners.

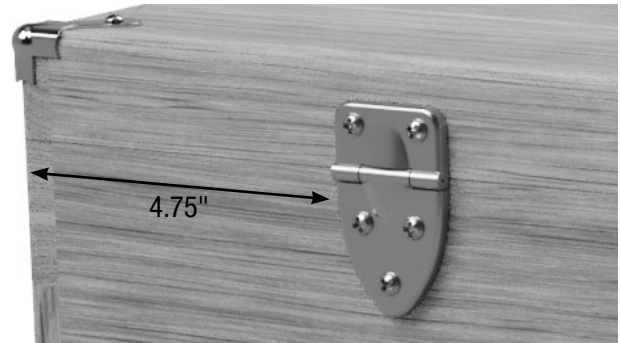
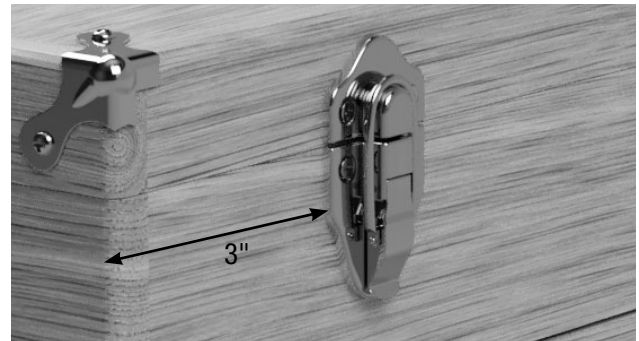
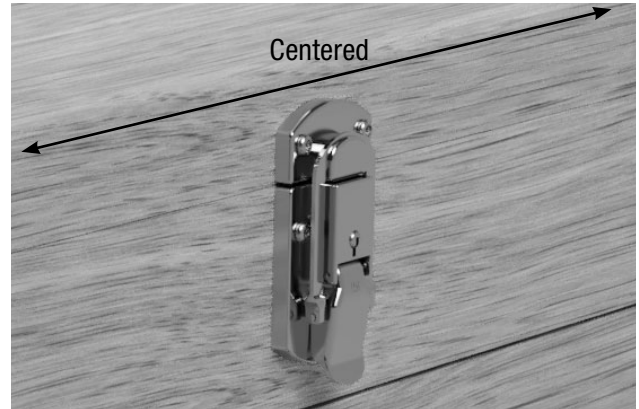


44 After all felt has been installed, let the chest sit open for a few hours to dry.

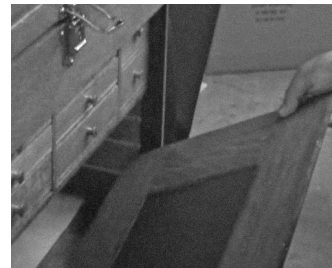
45 Install hardware on the chest as desired. The 4 rubber bumpers are mounted on the bottom of the chest, using the (4) 3/8" screws. The screw goes through the rubber bumper and through the hole in the leg of the bottom corner.



46 We recommend positioning the lock on center, catches 3" from the outside edge of the chest and hinges 4.75" from the outside edge of the chest.



47 Install both lid pins in the front lid. The pins should protrude about 1/8" from the edge of the front lid. The 2 felt dots will be put in the bottom of the chest, 3/4" from the front edge to keep the front lid from rubbing against the bottom of the chest.



Scan to watch a brief video on how to install your front lid in your chest

48 Rub paraffin wax onto the drawers and the inside of the chest to help the drawers glide smoothly.

Have Questions? Call us at (937) 228-1662, or email us at Gerstner@GerstnerUSA.com

PARTS LIST – DIY KIT STYLE #2609, MASTERCRAFTSMAN CHEST

CHEST PARTS LIST QUANTITY

• Right side panel	1
• Left side panel	1
• Chest back	1
• Chest bottom	1
• Plywood top partition	1
• Front rail	1
• Veneer plywood chest top panel	1
• Top right-side piece	1
• Top left-side piece	1
• Top front piece	1
• Top rear piece	1
• Right side short partition	1
• Left side short partition	1
• Hardwood stringer	1
• Plywood stringer	1
• Maple drawer slides	18
• Front lid long rails	2
• Front lid end rails	2
• Front lid raised panel	1

• 1 1/4 x 15 23/32	2 pcs
• 2 9/16 x 15 23/32	1 pc
• 1 11/16 x 25 1/32	1 pc
• 3 3/8 x 25 1/32	1 pc
• Poplar sides:	
• 1 3/16 x 8 27/32	8 pcs
• 1 5/8 x 8 27/32	2 pcs
• 2 1/2 x 8 27/32	4 pcs
• 3 5/16 x 8 27/32	4 pcs
• Poplar backs:	
• 1 3/16 x 3 3/4	2 pcs
• 2 1/2 x 3 3/4	1 pc
• 3 5/16 x 3 3/4	1 pc
• 1 3/16 x 15 17/32	2 pcs
• 2 1/2 x 15 7/32	1 pc
• 1 5/8 x 24 17/32	1 pc
• 3 5/16 x 24 17/32	1 pc

HARDWARE PARTS LIST QUANTITY

• Felt dots for under front lid	2
• Felt Green	2
• Lock	1
• Drawer knob	14
• Workshop drawer label	1
• Side handles	2
• Steel 18-8 M4 washer	4
• 3" plunger pin	2
• Mirror frame	1
• Mirror 3 3/8 x 3 3/8	1
• Top lid tacks	2
• Eyelets	2
• Lid pins for front lid	2
• Rubber bumpers 1/4"	4
• Nails for label	2
• Nails for mirror frame	4
• Nails for Front Lid Hinge plate	4
• Hinge plate	2
• Spring for 3" plunger pin	2
• Screws -	
#5 x 3/8 PH screws (corners)	16
#8 x 1/2 PH RH (side handles)	10
#5 x 5/8 FLT TYPE A/AB (hinges, lock, catch)	25
• Catch	2
• Stop hinge	2
• 2-leg corner	8
• Finger pull plate and cup	1
• Finger pull screws #2 x 3/8 PH	2

DRAWER PARTS LIST QUANTITY

• Small plywood drawer bottoms	4
• Medium plywood drawer bottoms	3
• Large plywood drawer bottoms	2
• Drawer fronts:	
• 1 1/4 x 4 1/4	2 pcs
• 2 9/16 x 4 1/4	1 pc
• 4 1/4 x 5 1/8	1 pc



To help organize drawer assembly we have wrapped drawer parts together and labeled them per the diagram.

We would love to see your Gerstner Workshop project pictures! Post and visit us at:

- Facebook.com/GerstnerUSA
- Instagram.com/GerstnerUSA

Find helpful Gerstner tips and tricks at:

- Youtube.com/Gerstner2010

For any questions or additional supplies, please contact customer service.

Email: GerstnerDIYsupport@GerstnerUSA.com
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20 Gerstner Way, Dayton, Ohio 45402

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