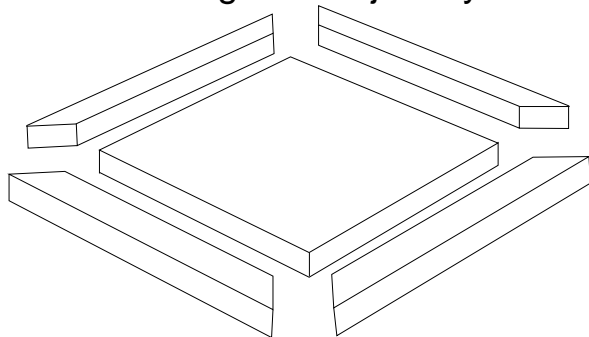
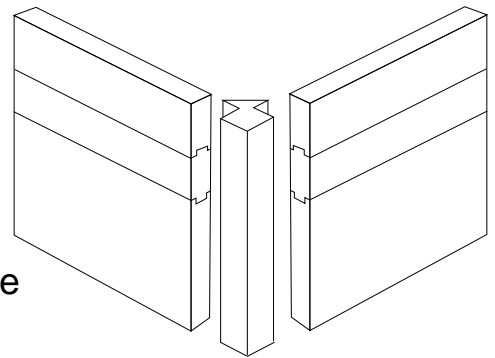


More Ideas for using Plywood and Solid Wood To Make a nice Lidded Box

Ordinarily, plywood isn't the first choice of material for boxes, but its inherent stability is a valuable asset for small boxes. I just had a good look at a box I built about 15 years ago using solid red oak. All joints were mitered so no end grain was visible from the outside. They were nice looking boxes, but after all this time there are some issues with wood movement.

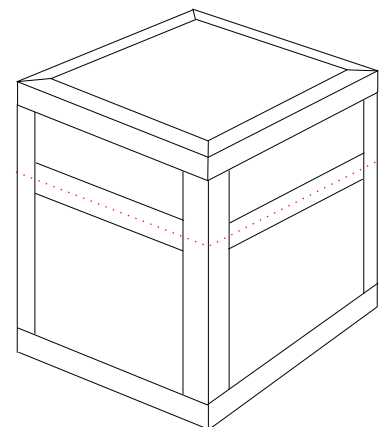
That won't happen with the method shown here. All joints are made in solid wood, all flat panels are good furniture grade plywood and no plywood edges are exposed anywhere. At right is an exploded view of the sides with their corners. Note how solid wood is banded through the panel where the top will be sawed off, leaving only solid wood edges. Those bands are joined to the panels by any compound jointing method that will prevent dislocation during glueup and increase the glueline. Note, too, how the corners fit so there is a mitered surface inside and also doing the same things to the joinery as the panel bands.



The top and bottom panels are simpler with just mitered corners on the edge banding as shown at left.

Glue the top and bottom to the assembled sides

The fully assembled box will look like the drawing at right. The dotted red line shows where the lid is sawn off through the panel bands. The lid will fit the box perfectly.



A band saw is the optimum method of parting the lid, but a table saw will do a good job, too. Just don't cut clear through the material, cutting all the way around the box and then finish with a hand saw and sand the edges smooth.

If you use a router and round over bit all the corners can be rounded for a nice touch.

There will never be any cracks in this box because of wood shrinkage no matter how old it gets. Obviously you can use any dimensions to suit your own design. Pick the solid wood bands to match the plywood panels or try a strong contrast for a unique appearance. Have fun. Happy woodworking.