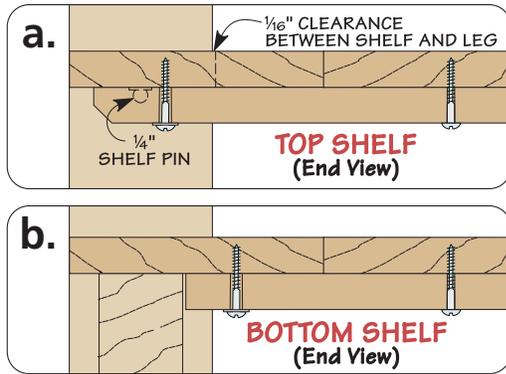
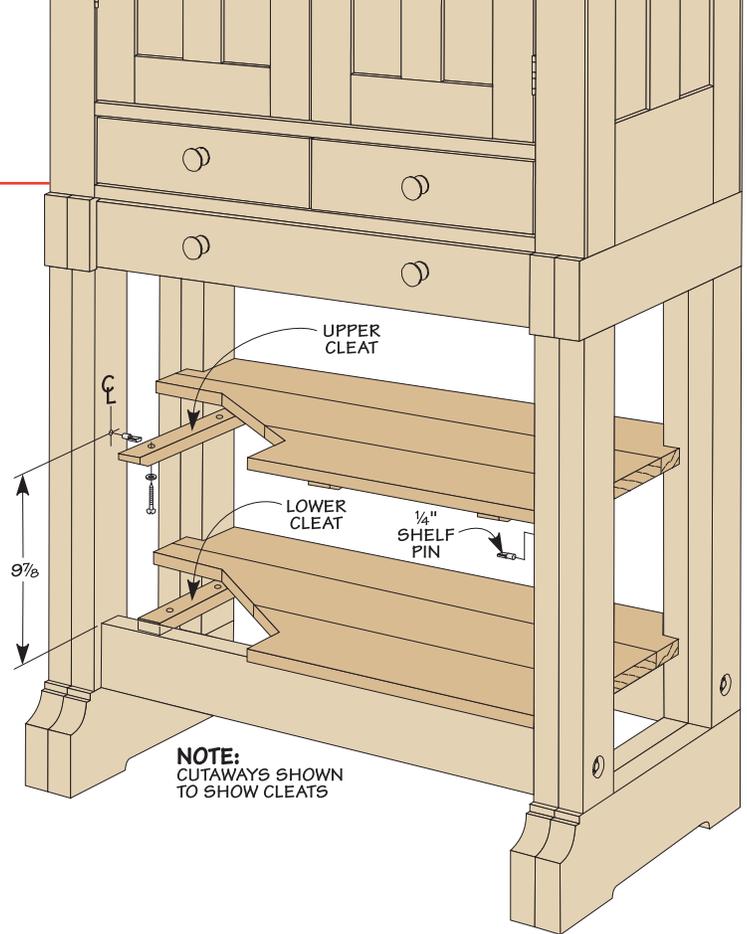


Online Extras



cabinet base Shelves



■ If you want to add even more storage to the heirloom tool cabinet, then these shelves are just the thing for you. Best of all, they put the open space in the base to good use, as in the drawing above.

Simple Construction. You'll find that building the shelves won't take a lot of work. If you take a look at the drawing below, you

can see how they're put together. Each shelf starts out as a $\frac{3}{4}$ "-thick panel glued up from three boards. Next, I cut notches in each corner to allow the shelves to wrap around the legs. Each notch is $\frac{1}{16}$ " wider than the leg. This allows the shelf to expand with seasonal humidity changes without binding against the legs.

Reinforcing the Shelves. Shelves like these are likely to get loaded up with some heavy tools, so I added some reinforcement to keep them from sagging. To do this, I screwed three cleats to the underside of each shelf, as shown in details 'a' and 'b' above.

There's just one thing to note about the cleats. Since the lower shelf is designed to sit on the stretchers, I shortened the cleats to fit the space, as in detail 'b' above.

When it comes to attaching the cleats, you'll need to take wood movement into account. To allow the shelves to expand and contract, the outer screws (with washers) are inserted through oversized shank holes in the cleat. This keeps the cleat firmly attached, and still allows the shelf to move freely.

Mounting the Shelves. Like I mentioned above, the lower shelf simply rests on the stretchers without any additional hardware. To mount the upper shelf, I needed to take an extra step. Here, I drilled $\frac{1}{4}$ "-dia. holes in the legs to hold a set of shelf pins, as illustrated in the drawing above. 🛠️

Making a Shelf

