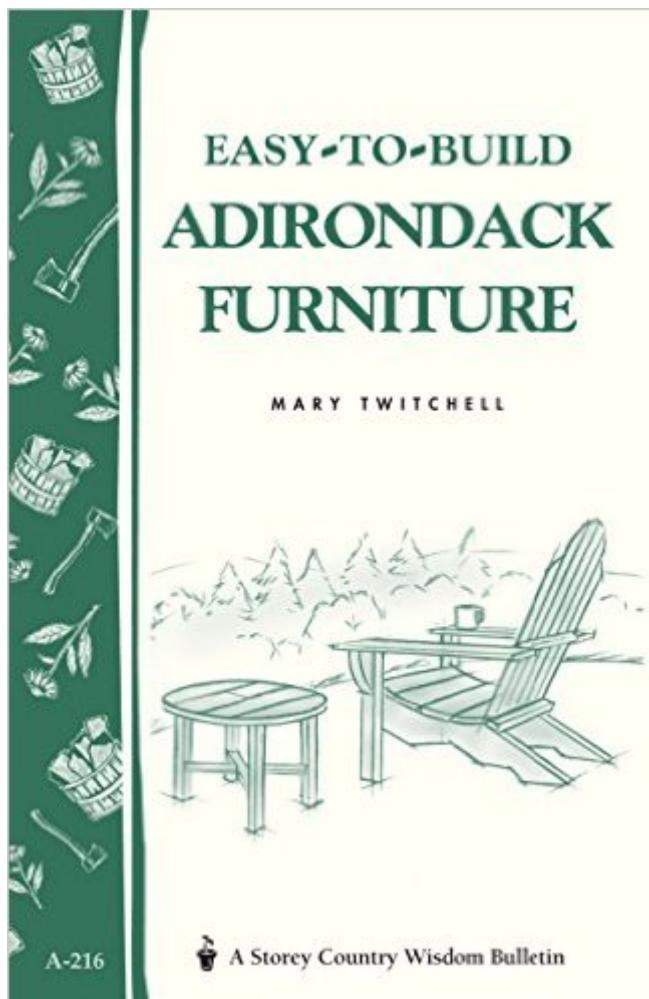


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Easy-to-Build Adirondack Furniture: Storey's Country Wisdom Bulletin A-216 (Storey Country Wisdom Bulletin)



Synopsis

Building Adirondack furniture is a time-honored craft. Sturdy and rustic, this furniture can be a beautiful addition to any indoor decor, although it's most often used to set the scene outdoors. There, the furniture is subjected to a lifetime of abuse. Yearly it moves from somewhere hidden away (probably dark and musty winter storage) to front-and-center on the summer stage. Now, hour after hour it is beaten on by intense UV light, drenched in driving rains, then fried again in the summer sun. Through it all, the furniture patiently endures--ever handsome, ever inviting, ever lasting. To survive summertime abuse and the semiannual ritual of being dragged into and out of storage, outdoor furniture must be sturdy, rugged, and well built--all qualities that epitomize Adirondack pieces. This bulletin contains instructions for building an Adirondack chair, matching footstool, companion side table, and Westport chair (an ancestor of the modern-day slatted Adirondack chair). Each project will take the moderately skilled carpenter less than a day to fabricate; for the beginner, maybe a weekend. Learn how to choose the right lumber and hardware, complete with instructions for table, footstool, and the Westport chair.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I've bought several expensive books on the subject ironically this is the only one I use. The instructions are concise and simple to follow. Very nice pieces... Buy this first and save yourself some money and aggravation!

I just finished my first two chairs based on plans from this book, and for the most part am pleased. I am somewhere between a novice and intermediate carpenter, and found the book reasonably easy to use. Two chairs took about 2 weeks to finish, with an hour or so spent most nights. The good points: There is a complete materials set. The instructions are straight-forward and logical (except as noted below). The end result is a fairly good looking chair. The bad points: The directions include an option for a slightly rounded chair, rather than just a flat back which I find uncomfortable. Instead of just making this a completely new set of directions, there was a whole set of modifications to the existing instructions. They were a little confusing, and required a lot of page flipping to integrate. How much more could it have cost to just add another page or two to the book? Also, there were an option for a profiled seat, but no specifics. While it is true that this is somewhat of a personal preference item, the book only offered an instruction to figure out what was comfortable to you. There should have been a general suggestion as to a profile. If you want a rounded seat, you are on your own. Summary: I found the shortcomings above to be problematic. I bought the book because I just wanted to cut and screw together wood without a whole lot of thinking. If I wanted to design a chair, I would have done that. I ended up doing a bit of work creating a seat profile. Other than that, it was ok. It was better than some of the other books I have seen for clarity and description, and it was obvious that the author had actually built a chair from the plans. I have seen plans that were more detailed and complete for the options listed above, but this is certainly a good jumping off point. And if you are comfortable in a flat-backed non-profiled seat chair, the instructions are perfect.

I got this for a few bucks and thought, "Meh, if I get some pointers out of it, it was worth it." What I got was more than just pointers. I got cutlists and instructions for chairs and tables and such, as well as instructions on what to modify should I want curved seats and rounded backs. This book doesn't bother with fluff about the history of the chair, and that is good. I can get that off wikipedia. No, it gets straight to the building and I appreciate that. And I was very surprised to see everything down with 1x wood, instead of the usual 2x4 based frames. Very sturdy, but lighter weight and better looking. Oh, and I did get some tips and techniques for designing my own two-seat Adirondack fanback "love seat".

Don't waste your money on this book. This book is as clear as mud. I have over a day trying to build a chair and am going to ignore the book and try to make something out of the pieces I already cut. If you are looking for a clear plan with easy to follow dimensions go somewhere else. I have been

woodworking for thirty years and have never seen supposed plans this bad.

This one is for the home handyman who wants to have Adirondack chairs, foot stools and tables. Well done directions for anyone who has and can use simple tools. She tells you what materials and tools are needed and there are detailed directions on how to make the furniture. Well done directions to making your own great Adirondack furniture. I really love Adirondack chairs as I am sure many others do who have ever used one.

This is a great book for the task it takes on: building Adirondack chairs, and a few related items, including a small table and a Westport chair. Having built both the Westport and Adirondack chairs, I found the book to do exactly what it says: a good step-by-step guide which offers all the information you need to build the furniture. I started with the Westport - which was the easier design, then made eight 'Dack chairs for around our place. I made a few minor changes to the plans to suit my own preferences, particularly the angle of the back and the width of the arms, but otherwise just followed the steps and ended up with strong, good-looking chairs which have now held up well for several years of heavy use.

I love this book. I'm a novice at woodworking and also a visual learner. This book was super easy for me to use. The instructions were very simple and it also gives a picture for each step. I just completed my first chair and do it stool in a day and a half.

Decent plans for cutting parts, but there were no other directions. I'm about half way through building one and I have to guess how this is to be assembled. Supposedly I was to receive directions, but didn't get any. Does anybody have any ideas?

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