

*Marlene Gregg copyright 2013*

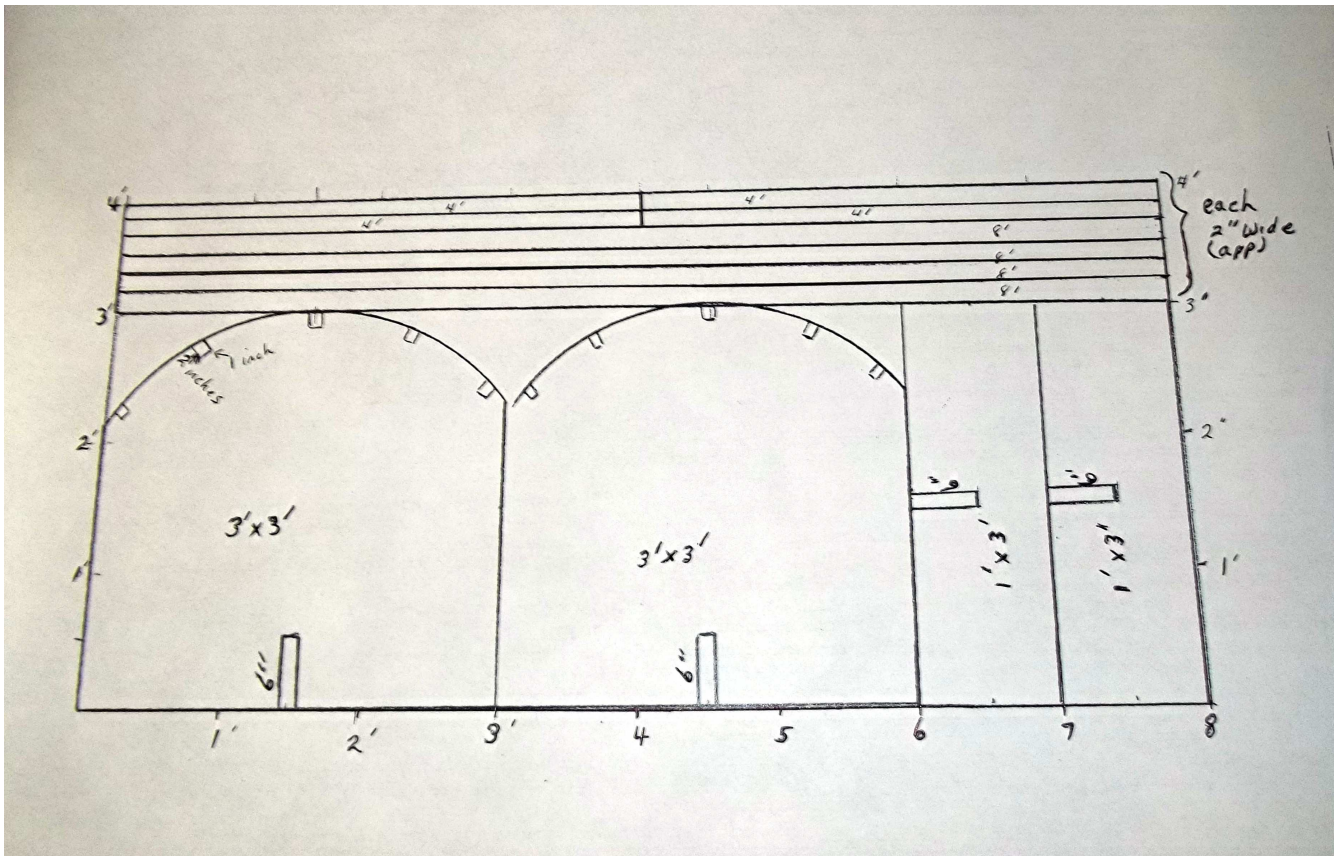
## **QUILTING BUDDY**

QUILTING BUDDY can be completely dismantled and stored against the wall when not in use. The design pattern includes 4 short rails (4 feet long) for small jobs and 4 longer rails (8 feet long) for larger jobs. If you have a quilt that requires longer rails you can easily make them by purchasing 12 foot 1 by 2 lumber at your local building center. One nice thing about QUILTING BUDDY is that if you want you can have two projects on it at the same time, one on each side.

When we built the working prototype we used 1 inch thick MDF (medium density fiberboard). This product is primarily used in indoor furnishings. Like chipboard it does not tolerate damp conditions. We found 2 drawbacks (aside from the damp issue) to this product. 1. When installing the castors on the bottom edges we found the little crowns on the castors don't hang on well to this product and we had to use carpenter glue to make them stay in. 2. We also found that the 8-foot rails tend to sag slightly when a large quilt is on it. For these two reasons we recommend using a hardwood type of 1-inch thick plywood finished on both sides.

The pictures of the prototype with the quilt on it that are showing on the Quilting Bee page of Facebook show the slots for the rails cut so that the rails lie flat. This works ok for the middle 3 slots but we found that the lowest slot on each side will not hold the rail in place securely, therefore the direction of the cuts for the rails to fit into the end pieces has been changed so that the rails will be placed into deep narrow slots instead. This will prevent the lower rails from coming out of place when in use. (We did not change the slots on the prototype as they were already cut. We simply drilled a hole at each end of the rails and put a wood screw in to hold the rail in place).

Materials needed: One 4 by 8 foot sheet of 1 inch thick plywood, 8 castors, 10 rounded 1 inch brackets 20 1/2 inch wood screws and roughly 20 feet of nylon rope. After running the length of rope through the brackets we simply inserted the ends of the rope through empty thread spools and tied a knot to keep the rope from pulling back through the brackets.



This is the layout to use on a 4 by 8 foot sheet of plywood to cut out all the parts needed to make the Quilting Buddy frame.

The rounded ends of the frame each have five slots cut two inches deep and 1 inch across to hold the ends of the rails.

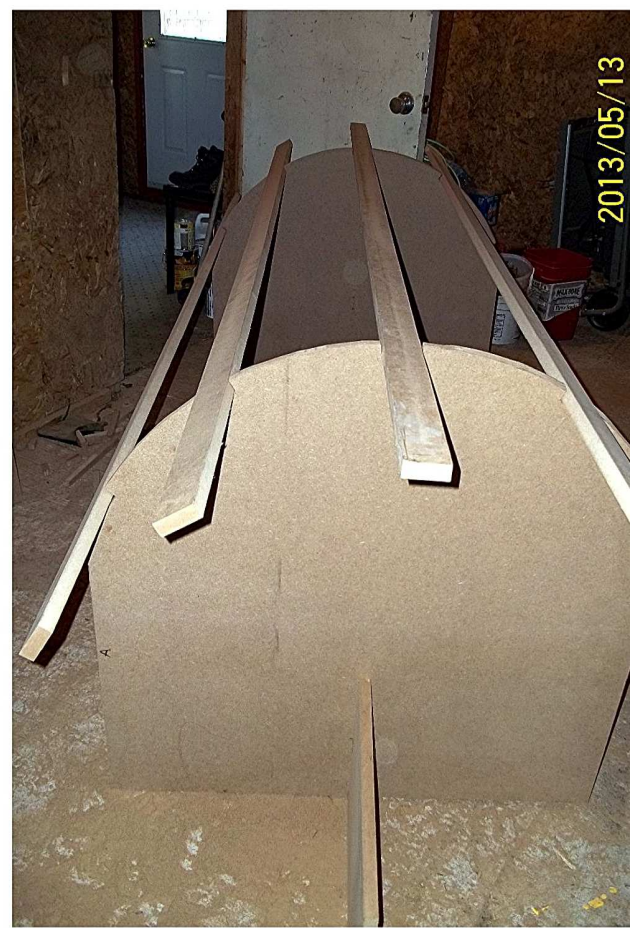
At the bottom centre of each of the rounded ends a slot 1 inch wide by 6 inches deep is cut. A matching cut is made at the bottom centre of each of the two pieces measuring 1 foot by 3 feet. When you slide the slot on one of the rounded ends down over the slot in one of the rectangular pieces it will hold your end upright. You will need to insert two castors in each of the rounded end pieces and two more in each of the rectangular pieces to make your frame mobile. This comes in really handy if you only have one window in your quilting room and the sun is shifting the angle on your quilt or if you don't have a lot of room and want to just push one side of your frame close to a wall.

After you have cut your pieces out, take your rounded ends and measure 1 inch below the bottom edge of each of your five rail slots. This is where the top of your rounded brackets should be placed to hold your rope. Cut four pieces of heavy scrap fabric, fold them over the sections of rope between the brackets and pin them in place. These are to hold the edges of your project taut.





Disassembled for easy storage.



Placement of brackets.

Large project rolled to one side to allow second project to be loaded on frame.

