



# Shop Built Down Draft Table

---

Reprinted by permission of Terry Hatfield.

## **My shop built down draft table:**

I've been wanting to build a downdraft box for a while now, so I decided that I would take a break from "real" work and get one together this morning. Here it is!! The box is 36" X 48". The sides of the box are cut from a pine 1X12. The sides are 5-1/2" tall. The interior is a 14" wide piece of 3/4" ply screwed to the bottom center with 1/4" ply angled sides supported by 1X pine blocks. The 1/4" ply is just stapled in place and everything is sealed up with some bathroom caulk. I used a 4X10X6 HVAC register boot mounted in a hole on one end for a connection to a 6" flex hose. The boot is held in place with some screws and sealed with more bathroom caulk. The pegboard top was a bit too flimsy in the middle for my liking, so I used a piece of 1/4"X1" aluminum on edge to support the center. Worked great. It is held in with a few more pine blocks.



Here is the bottom view. I did not have a wide enough piece of 3/4" ply to make the bottom, so I attached these two pieces together with biscuits. Scrap is a wonderful thing.



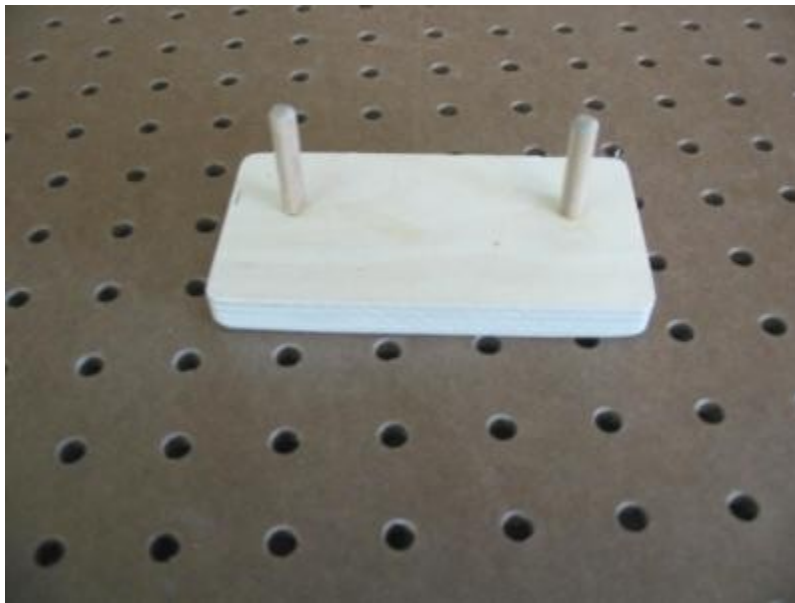
Here it is ready to go.  
I thought about drilling the 1/4" holes in the pegboard larger, but it seems to work fine as is.



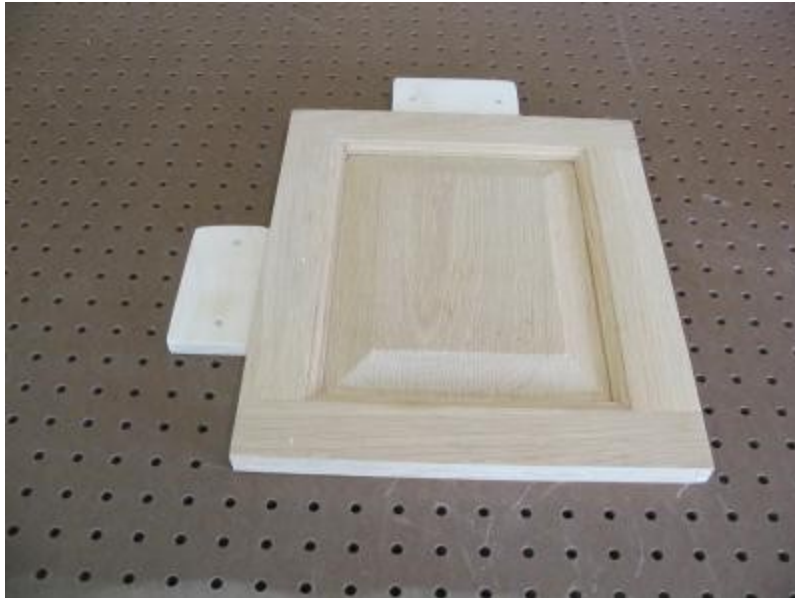
The downdraft box shares a DC gate with my Performax. I have the hoses rigged so I can just plug in which ever one I need at the time. The downdraft box flex is connected to a piece of 6" snap lock pipe that will just slip over the crimped end of the starter flange on the gate.



I made these little blocks out of some 1/2" baltic birch and 1/4" dowels to hold the piece being sanded in place.



...and here are the blocks in action.



Once I finish using the box, I can just unplug the hose, store the box, and plug the Performax back into the gate using a 6X4 HVAC reducer on the flex.



This was a very easy and quick project that I believe will help me greatly in the shop. Collection from sanding and routing operations are always a pain. Hopefully this downdraft box will help!

**NOTE:** When I was routing a blower housing this weekend I had a good portion of the holes covered by the piece of mdf. The noise was deafening!!!! It worked great but WOW was it ever loud.

I laid out a grid in-between the peg board holes and drilled 165 1/2" holes with a forstner bit. It is lots quieter now.

Here is the pic.



I hope you have enjoyed viewing my latest updates to my shop. Don't hesitate to contact me if you need any help or have any questions.