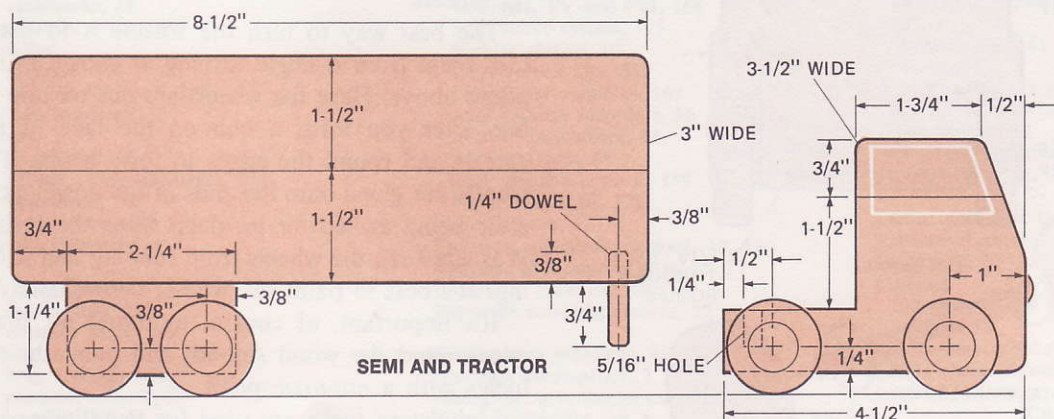
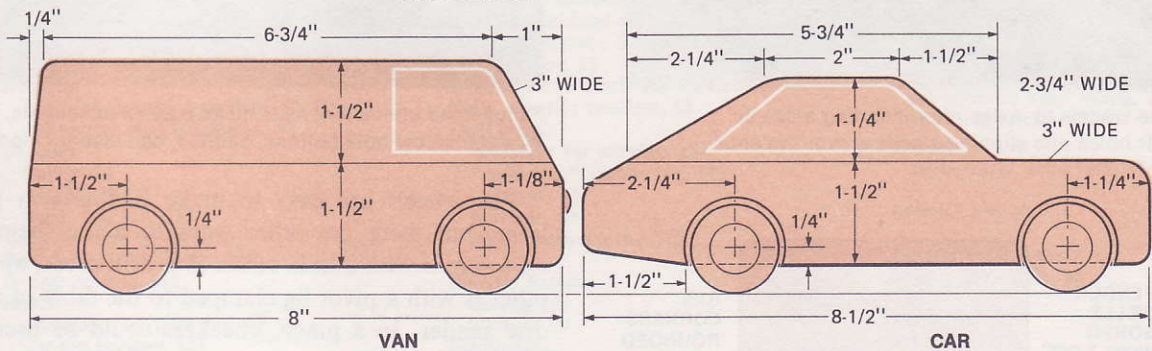
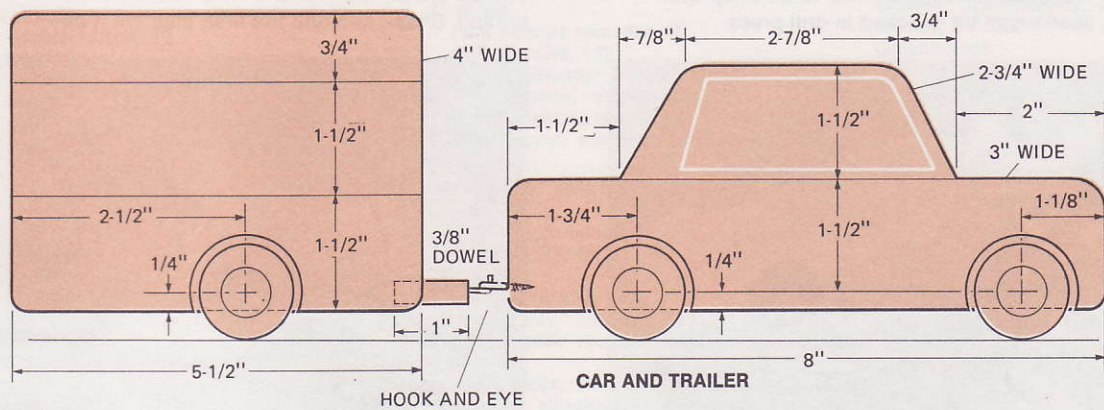
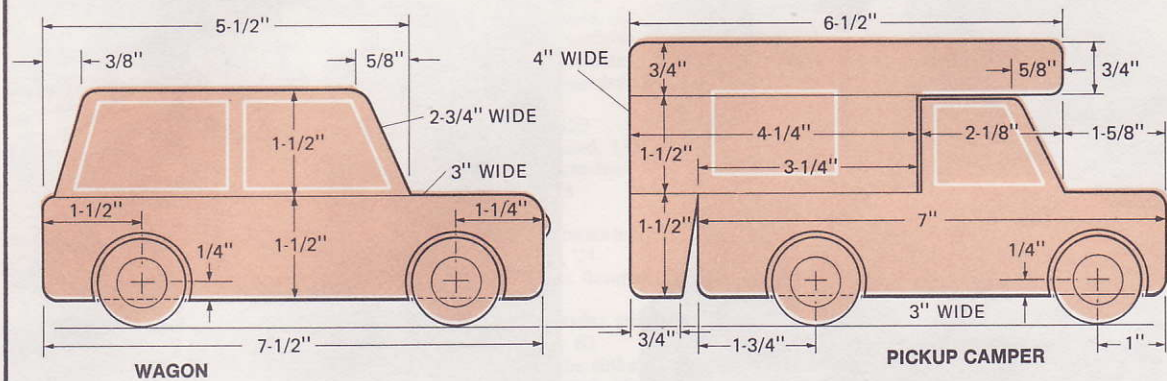


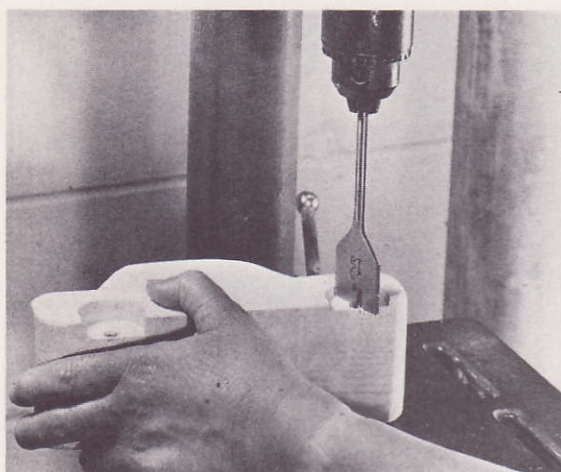
Build a fleet of blockmobiles

BY WILLARD WALTNER

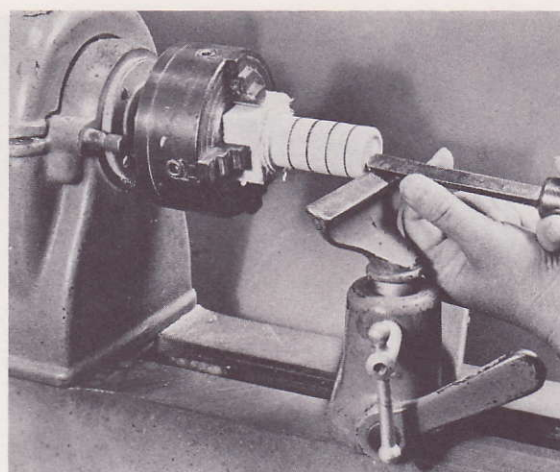
■ A FLEET of these classy blockmobiles will provide hours of fun for a 4-year-old, and they can be made for practically nothing from scraps of $\frac{3}{4}$ and $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in. pine found in your woodbox. They are also practically unbreakable.

All are made by first gluing up blocks of varying thicknesses after precutting them to shape. All fender "wells" are bored $\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep with a $1\frac{3}{8}$ -in. spade power bit. Then $\frac{5}{16}$ -in. holes are drilled from each side for free-turning axles of $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. dowel rod.

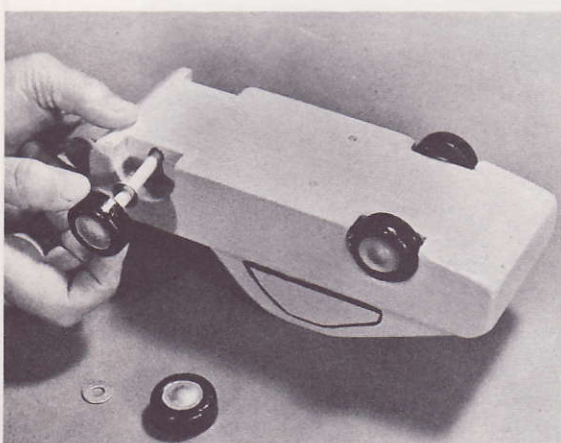




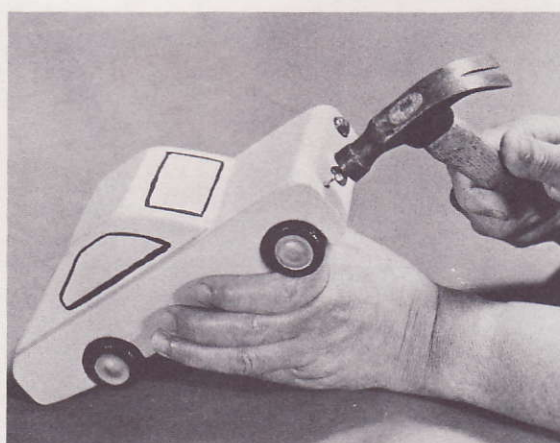
Fender wells for wheels are made $\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep with $1\frac{3}{8}$ -in. spade-type bit chucked in drill press



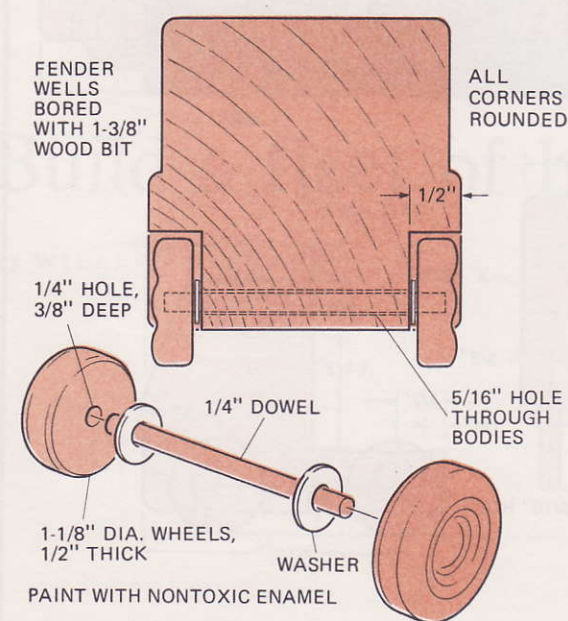
Wheels are turned one at a time from chucked turning. Shape hub and tire first, then cut it off



Glue wheels to axles after inserting axles in their holes and slipping washers over the ends



Fancy-head upholstery nails make perfect headlights. Wooden screw-hole buttons, painted, can also be used



The wheels are easy to make if you own a lathe, but there are other ways to make them. One way is with a hole cutter in a drill press; another is with a pivot jig clamped to the table of a disc sander. In a pinch, checkers could be used for wheels.

The best way to turn the wheels is to gang-turn them from a single turning as shown in the photo above. Here the wheels are cut off one by one after you form a hub on the face of the wheels and round the edges to form a tire. The wheels are glued onto the ends of the dowel axles after being drilled $\frac{3}{8}$ in. deep from the inside. Washers keep the wheels from rubbing and sticking. It's best to paint the wheels beforehand.

It's important, of course, to round all sharp edges, sand the wood smooth and paint the vehicles with a *nontoxic* paint.

Upholstery tacks are used for headlights, and a small L-hook and screw eye are used as a hitch for the car and trailer.