

TEDDY BEAR'S BUGGY

Taking Teddy for a picnic? This buggy could be a youngster's transport of delight.

WHEN I was a child there was a limited number of soft toys that one could buy and so I naturally became very attached to my teddy bear – in fact I've still got him! Today there is a great variety of soft cuddly toys available in a range of beautiful colours, so to make sure that they all get an outing I have built this sturdy buggy.

Again this is a good project for a beginner, and the finished item will last many years.

Power tools

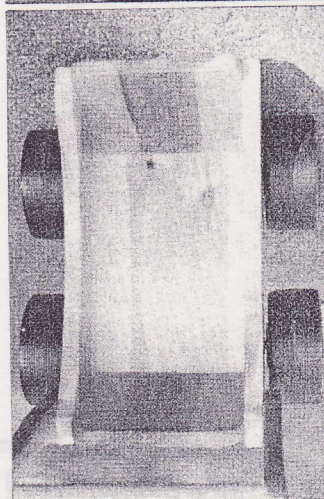
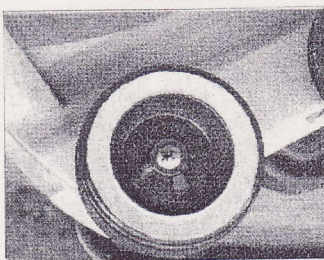
The Makita jigsaw will speed up all the curved cuts that are necessary, and the router fitted with a suitable moulding cutter will round over all the sharp edges very efficiently, leaving a perfect finish.

To start

Make a start by cutting the sides, ends and base to length. Before any shaping is started, pencil in on the inside edges of the sides the position of the base and the ends.

As the ends are at an angle to the base, carefully mark onto the bottoms of each end the necessary angle. The angle is then planed. It is best to do this working from both sides, otherwise if you just plane straight across it will split the end grain and completely spoil the wood. This is the only tricky job to be achieved in making the buggy. Now the ends are ready for assembly.

Tape the two sides together and drill the axle holes. Now the sides have to be cut to shape – if you don't have a jigsaw, a coping saw will do this job but obviously it will take a little



longer. Once the cutting out has been done, the saw blade marks can be removed with a spokeshave. You will find that candle wax rubbed on the sole of the spokeshave will make the job much easier.

Such is the strength of modern glues that no traditional joints are necessary – the base ends and sides are simply glued together. However, before putting any glue onto the wood, assemble the job dry, following the pencil lines made and check that everything lines up. It is also useful to slip the axles into the holes as this is an added guide.

Where wood actually meets

wood, I always 'key' the surface with my Stanley knife. Keying is simply cutting into the wood with a criss-cross pattern. This allows the wood glue to get a better hold on the wood fibres and makes an even stronger joint. Obviously the keying needs to be made inside the pencil lines otherwise you will have some very ugly knifemarks in just the wrong places.

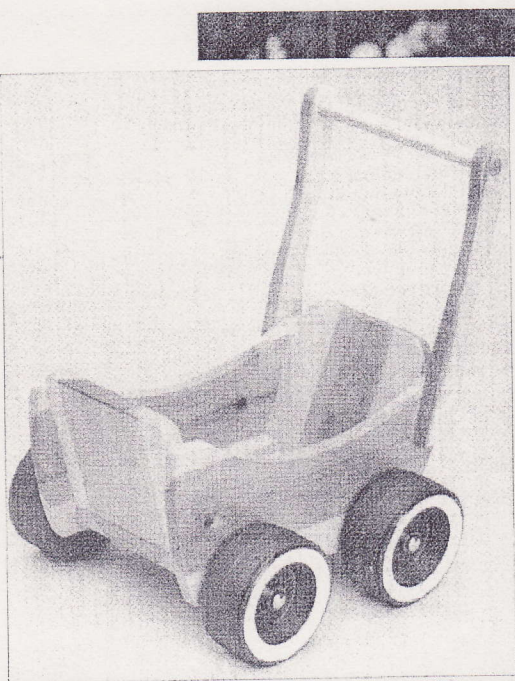
Gluing up

When you are sure everything lines up, glue the 'body' together. A weight placed on the sides will be sufficient to help the glue bond to the wood. As the glue is liquid there will

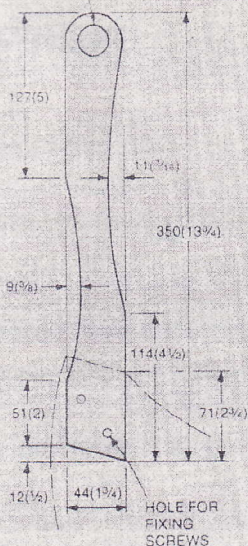
be a tendency for the parts to move slightly for the first five minutes, so keep an eye on the job to make sure that the pieces stay in place.

Now find two suitable lengths of timber for the handles and, taping them together, drill the hole at the top for the handle (it's probably best to have the dowel rod first) and the holes for the screws that attach the handles to the sides. Once the holes have been drilled, then take off the tape and remove the sawcuts with a spokeshave or a palm sander.

The screwholes for holding the handles to the sides are counterbored which enables the



22(7/8) DIAM HOLE FOR
273(10 3/4) LONG
DOWEL HANDLE

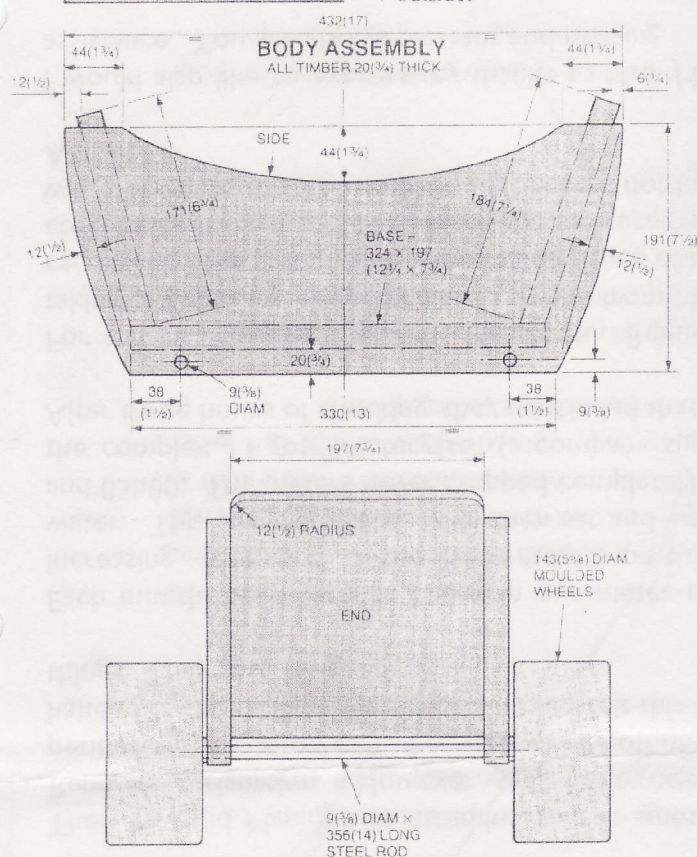


HANDLE SUPPORT
MAKE TWO

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Now glue the dowel rod (or piece of broom handle) into the handles and attach to the side of the buggy.

The axle rods are steel and need a chamfer filed on their ends to allow the spring caps to fit. Thread the axles through the holes and fit the wheels on. On my prototype I felt a touch of colour would improve the job so I painted the wheel rims yellow with a band of red on the outside.



Sides	2 off	432 by 191 by 20mm (17 by 7½ by ¾in.)	
Head	1 off	197 by 184 by 20mm (7¾ by 7¼ by ¾in.)	
Foot	1 off	197 by 171 by 20mm (7¾ by 6¾ by ¾in.)	
Base	1 off	324 by 197 by 20mm (12¾ by 7¾ by ¾in.)	
Handle support	2 off	350 by 44 by 20mm (13¾ by 1¾ by ¾in.)	
Handle	1 off	273mm (10¾in.) by 22mm (¾in.) dia.	dowel
Ancillaries:			
Wheels	4 off	143mm (5½in.) dia.	
Axles	2 off	356mm (14in.) by 9mm (¾in.) dia.	steel
Spring dome caps	4 off	9mm (¾in.)	