

## *Pod ... A Table Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright*



▲ Frank Lloyd Wright designed the furnishings for the Spring House, which was built in 1954 ... including the “Pod” living room table, but it was not built until June 2022 when it finally emerged based on the three little spartan sketches Mr. Wright had drafted 2-ys before the builders below were even born.

▼ The Builders: hobby woodworkers, Mike & Louise Dawson of Grand Blanc, Michigan, who were given creative licence to envisage what was desired ... and produce what was feasible.



*Crafted exclusively  
for Spring House  
Tallahassee, Florida*



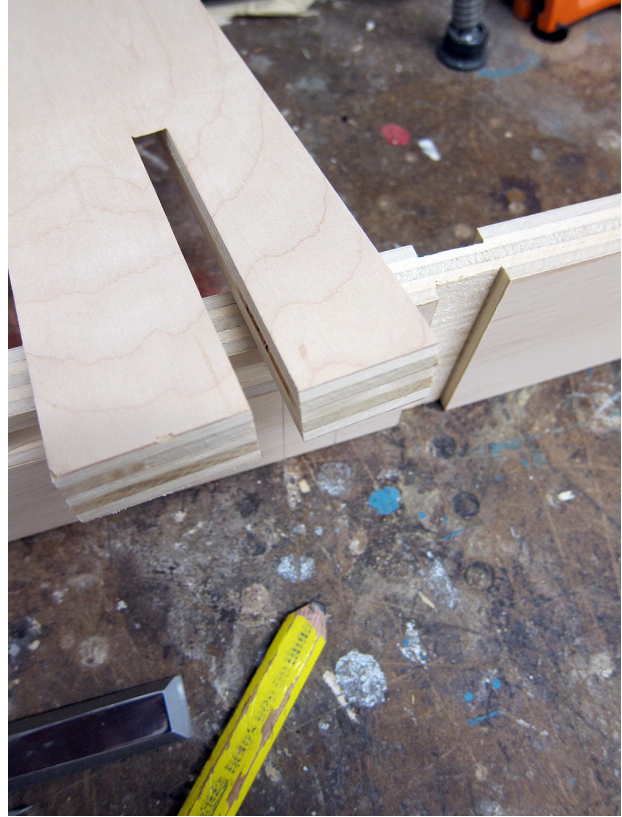
crafted in the Good🌍Planet workshop • Grand Blanc, Michigan



## Building Frank Lloyd Wright's Pod



▲ Material List:  $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick maple veneer plywood with solid cypress edge-banding. Cut plywood into 4 pieces: top, shelf, and 2-piece "strut" to support the table.



▲ Success! Created test concept for attaching and supporting shelf by cutting  $\frac{3}{8}$ " slot in shelf to slip over dual dados in center strut.



▲ Mike created an actual-size pattern to accurately produce Frank Lloyd Wright's Pod top & shelf templates out of Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF).



▲ The rough-cut curved Pod top & shelf were made using a band-saw; and then fine-tuned FLW's distinctive curved shape using router with straight flush trim bit. The trimmed top became the "template" to cut Wright's "facia" support shown on pg.3 ...



## Building Frank Lloyd Wright's Pod



▲ cut “facia” support using same flush trim router bit used on the top ... Attached support piece to underside of Pod top, and ...

► ... cut dados on the *bottom of the top* to secure it to strut.

▼ Mike shows off top view of Pod before attaching cypress banding strips.



▼ Presto! Head-on view of the bow of a rough-cut plywood Pod with shelf and supporting “strut”..

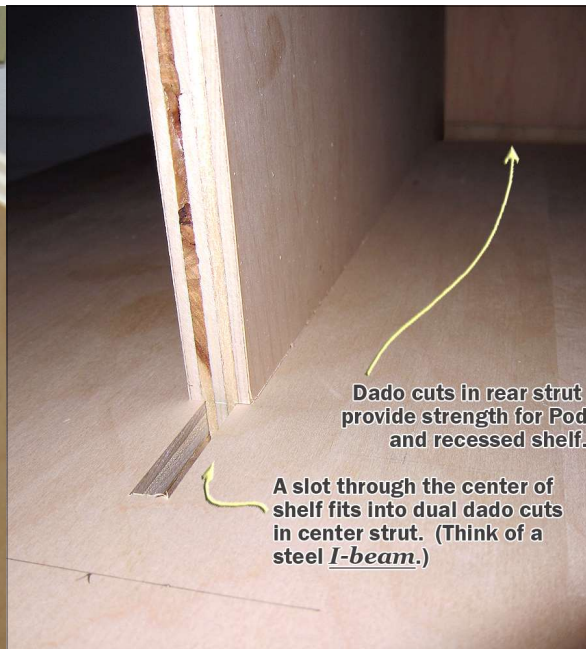




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▲ Wright's "facia" design called for a piece of cypress measured  $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 1-5/8" to be attached to the curved Pod top. But this builder lacks the ability to curve such a thick piece of wood, so an alternative approach was used: four strips of cypress, each about  $\frac{3}{16}$ " thick, were cut and bent to conform to the  $\frac{3}{4}$ " maple veneer plywood. Lots of glue & clamps were summoned ... even clear packing tape was used to help secure the cypress strips around curve of Pod.



▲ Dado cuts in rear strut provide strength for Pod and recessed shelf (shown above and above right). A slot through the center of shelf fits into dual dado cuts in the center strut. (Think "I-beam".)

► Just before the finishing process this naked, completed Pod, strikes a pose. One wood screw was used to affix top to center strut; a 2nd screw through the back into shelf, which also draws center strut into a dado cut in the back.





## Finishing Frank Lloyd Wright's Pod



▲ Spring House requested the Pod be stained a shade of red often found on Wright's residential projects ... some refer to the color as "*Cherokee Red*". On this project the General Finishes stain ("*cabernet*") and urethane FLAT topcoat were used (shown below). Three topcoats were applied; both the stain and topcoat products were engineered by General Finishes for interior use.



## Spring House Pod Finish

1. Byrd's color sample
2. General Finishes stain sample
3. General Finishes **Flat** Topcoat



3.

