

# the cone cajon



**The Cone Cajon Kit by**  
Musicmakers  
PO Box 2117 • Stillwater MN 55043  
651-439-9120  
email: [info@harpkit.com](mailto:info@harpkit.com)  
web: [www.harpkit.com](http://www.harpkit.com)

***Please take your time. Like almost everything in life you will enjoy this project more and it will turn out better if you slow down and take your time.***

Begin by reading through the entire assembly instructions. You might also like to watch the assembly videos online at [www.harokit.com/cajon](http://www.harokit.com/cajon)

Check the parts in your kit and make sure they are all there. Call if anything looks like it is defective or missing so we can take care of this right away. Gather all of the tools and supplies you will need for this project so you aren't scrambling to find tape before the glue dries!

### Parts List:

- 1 Top Piece - square
- 4 Side Pieces - not square (2 of these have a dado cut on the long sides)

### Tools and supplies you will need:

- Yellow woodworking glue (Elmer's or Titebond)
- Tape - strapping tape is best but masking tape works fine
- Sandpaper - 100, 180, and 320 grits
- Sanding block (piece of 1 by 4 lumber with 100 grit sandpaper glued on)
- 10 pound weight
- Finish (paint, varnish, lacquer, polyurethane, etc.)

### Optional Tools that will speed things along but aren't necessary

- Hand Plane
- Random Orbital Sander (Electric Hand Sander)

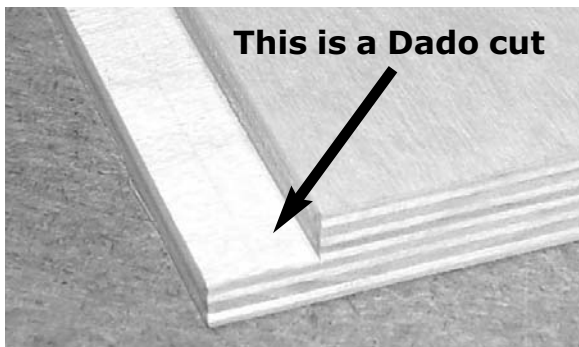
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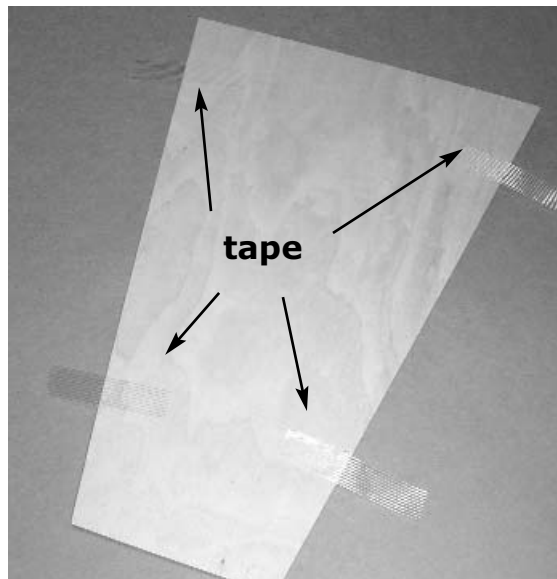
### Assemble the Four Sides

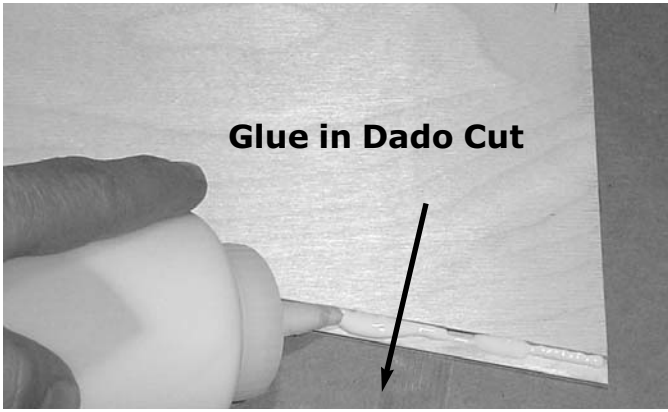
\_\_\_\_1. Gather the four sides that aren't square, some woodworking glue, a wet rag, some tape, and a couple of pieces of scrap lumber roughly 6" by 6"

\_\_\_\_2. Find the two sides with Dado cuts and set them with the Dado cuts facing down.



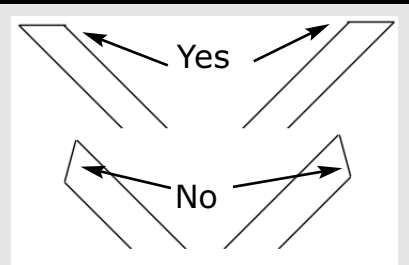
\_\_\_\_3. Place 4 pieces of tape as shown. Be sure to do this on both of the sides that have the Dado cuts.





\_\_\_\_\_4. Flip the sides over and lay a bead of glue in all four of the Dado cuts.

Before you glue the sides in place - make sure that the inside goes... inside. The inside of these pieces should have a visible punch mark. You should also carefully check the angles at the top. Arrange the pieces to fit together as shown in the illustration.



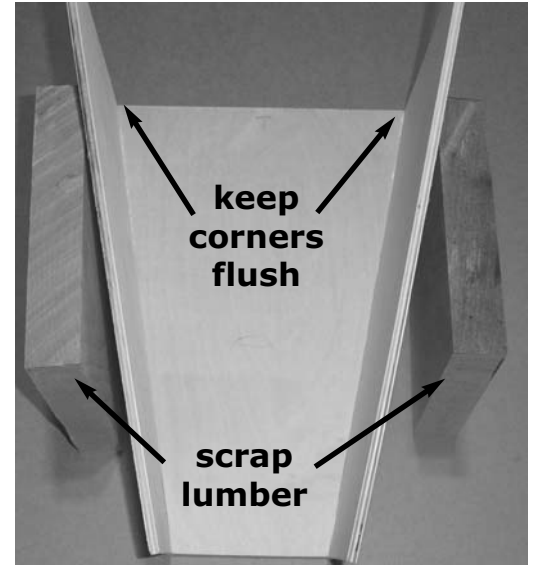
\_\_\_\_\_5. Set the 2 sides into the Dado cuts and attach the tape. Use your scrap pieces of lumber to hold these upright until you get the last piece in place.

*Be careful to keep the corners flush at the top. This will help ensure that the top of the cajon fits well.*

\_\_\_\_\_6. Set the last piece in place and affix the tape - again be careful to keep all the corners flush.

\_\_\_\_\_7. Add several more pieces of tape - a strip every 2 inches or so.

**Let this dry for 1 hour.**



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### Prepare the box to receive the top

You want to have a nice flat, level surface to ensure that you get a good glue joint all around the top piece. If you were able to keep the top corners flush while assembling the sides - then you won't have much to do here.

\_\_\_\_\_8. Use your sanding block to level the top. Make sure your sanding block is making contact with at least 2 sides as you do the sanding. This keeps everything flat and level.



#### **Note about the sanding block.**

You don't have to glue the sandpaper on the flat piece of wood but it helps. You can buy some spray adhesive at the hardware store for that works well for this.

## Glue the top in place

\_\_\_\_9. Once you have leveled the top of the sides you can now glue on the top of the cajon. Spread a bead of glue along the top edge of the sides and tape the top in place. Set the box upside down and place a scrap piece of wood on the bottom and set a weight on top of the scrap piece of wood.

Let this dry 1 hour.

\_\_\_\_10. Once this has dried it is time to do some sanding. Start out by sanding all the edges flush. An electric sander will make quick work of this. If you don't have an electric sander you can use your sanding block again.

\_\_\_\_11. When the edges are all flush you can round over all the corners nicely with your 100 grit paper.

\_\_\_\_12. Now sand the entire cajon with your 180 grit paper. Take your time here and make sure you sand off all the glue spots and any machine marks. Those glue spots can be hard to see now but they will stick out like a sore thumb when you put a finish on.

\_\_\_\_13. Finally - go over the entire cajon again with 320 grit paper. This will make your cajon smooth and a pleasure to play.



## Apply a finish

You can finish this instrument in a variety of ways. It is lots of fun to paint these drums... or you might like to apply a stain and bring out the wood grain. Some stains also serve as a sealer and no other finish is necessary. Or you can apply a clear varnish. Anything goes... just have fun!

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Visit our website for more resources including assembly videos as well as some playing instruction.

**[www.harokit.com/cajon](http://www.harokit.com/cajon)**

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Musicmakers, Kits, Inc.  
PO Box 2117  
Stillwater MN 55082  
1-800-432-5487 • [info@harokit.com](mailto:info@harokit.com)