

HOGNOSE PSALTERY BLUEPRINT GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Hognose Psaltery is quite an easy project to scratch-build using your own lumber and plywood, but you need a table saw to cut the frame parts and a band saw to cut the shape of the plywood front. You may also want a drill press and large Forstner bit (or hole saw) for drilling the sound hole. You can use any hardwood for the frame parts, but the front panel must be made from 1/4" (6mm) Baltic Birch. Other plywoods with soft cores are simply not rigid enough to prevent caving in under the string tension. Notice that the front panel overhangs the back of the instrument, so you could alter the shape of the front if you like, as long as you keep the tuning pins and string holes in the same relationship and orient the frame properly under the soundboard. We have made colorful animal figures out of this instrument by cutting different shapes for the soundboard and painting in the details.

BILL OF MATERIALS (WOOD)

QTY	PART	TYPE OF WOOD	ROUGH SIZE	NOTES
1	Long Side	Good Hardwood or Baltic Birch ply	1/4 X 1-1/2" X 27"	
1	Short Side	Good Hardwood or Baltic Birch ply	1/4 X 1-1/2" X 10"	
2	Pinblocks	Good Hardwood	7/8" X 1-1/2" X 13"	
1	Bridge	Good Hardwood	7/16" X 1/2" X 11"	
1	Soundboard (top)	Baltic Birch	1/4" X 10" X 28"	
1	Back Panel	Any Plywood	1/8" X 8-1/2" X 27"	