

MOUNTAIN BANJO BLUEPRINT GENERAL OVERVIEW

Building the Mountain Banjo from scratch using our blueprint will be a healthy woodworking project. You will need a shop full of power tools, including table saw, planer, drill press, jointer, router, belt sander and band saw in addition to normal hand tools. The project involves cutting the large round wooden rings for the body, which we suggest doing with a router for accuracy and symmetry (a lathe would also work), and this requires making a circle-cutting jig and using a plunge router for plowing through the hardwood blanks without burning. You'll make multiple shallow cuts to get through 3/4" thickness of wood for each of three rings. The neck and peghead will require using a table saw, band saw, router, drill press, and power sanders.

BILL OF MATERIALS (WOOD)

QTY	PART	TYPE OF WOOD	ROUGH SIZE	NOTES
3	Neck Strips	Good Hardwood	5/8" X 3/4" X 25"	We like to use one strip of contrasting wood down the centerline
2	Peghead Wideners	Good Hardwood	5/8" X 3/4" X 5-1/2"	
1	Tang	Good Hardwood	1" X 2" X 5-1/2"	Can be made by stacking & gluing 3/4" stock
3	Body Rings (rims)	Good Hardwood	3/4" X 12" X 12"	Can be made by edge-gluing narrower pieces
1	Fretboard	Dense Hardwood	3/8" X 2-1/4" X 18-1/2"	Rosewood, Padauk, Ebony, or hard Maple work well