

# A New Home for Old Hardware

In 1975, while studying with a Spanish carver, Tomas Braverman went to a flea market in Madrid and found a beautiful set of hand-forged iron hardware for a *vargueño*, the traditional Spanish portable chest for valuables. Such ornate hardware, Braverman says, brings a *vargueño* to life “like the ruffles on a Spanish shirt.” He vowed to build himself

such a chest when time and skill permitted. But some cabinets take longer than others to build. A busy career making traditional Hispanic furniture for Hollywood clients intervened, and it wasn’t until last year that Braverman, with planks of claro walnut and help from his wife, Kiyo, an expert in antique finishes, built a fitting home for the hardware.

—Jonathan Binzen



Photo: Todd O. Fuente

**How They Did It** Turn to p. 90 to see how Braverman designed this piece to complement the traditional hardware.

**Audio Slide Show** To see more of Braverman’s work and hear him discuss it, go to [FineWoodworking.com/extras](http://FineWoodworking.com/extras).

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