

how they did it

Fine fit for fine tools

BY TYLER CHARTIER

When I set out to make a tool carrying case, I knew the biggest challenge would be fitting my essential hand tools into such a small space. I limited my choices to tools I use every day, mostly edge and layout tools. Layout began with two 1/4-in.-thick plywood templates cut to the dimensions of the case, one for the top and one for the bottom. Then I arranged the tools on each template until I got a pleasing, efficient layout. I also used the templates to guide me as I created the interior partitions. To “French-fit” the layout tools in the central compartment lid, I used a router to rough out the spaces, then refined the fit with some chisel work. The snug fit of the tools and the various hold-down devices ensure that the sharp edges stay put even if the case is jostled.

