This PHOTO FRAME KITSET has been a very successful project for kids (9~13) to complete at the Mens Shed.

It takes the kids approx 2.5 hours to finish and take home with them – proud as punch.



Make the components;

Get hold of some cheap clear timber and machine to 46mm x 21mm, Machine a groove 10mm deep x 4mm wide in one edge, Cut this material either using a compound saw or tenon handsaw & mitre box to 45 degree angles and to these lengths 2 @ 225mm long, and 1 @ 270mm long. Machine some more timber to 46mm x 13mm and cut to 45 degree angles, to 270mm long.

Make up a jig to assist assembly of the frame, either nail or screw by hand, or use a pneumatic staple gun.

Make another jig for the drill press to accurately drill a 10mm diameter hole centred across and along the thin strip to a depth of 9mm.

Sand all edges and corners with fine sandpaper (120 ~ 180 grit).

At this point you can either leave the wood natural, or wipe boiled linseed oil over it (set aside to soak in).

Cut a piece of 10mm diameter dowel to 70mm long, clean up the ends with fine sandpaper.

Cut a piece of 3mm MDF board 190mm x 155mm, using sandpaper feather three edges.

Using the finished MDF board as a pattern cut a piece of Acetate sheet (150~200 micron thick) we use OHP sheets, or CV cover material.

Now cut out a print or colour in a picture, again the same size as the MDF board.

We use a computer image created especially for this item which is printed on computer paper. (as shown in the photo) Kids can swap this out later and put in there own photos or pictures.

Assemble;

Put the MDF board (feathered long edge to top) with your picture and Acetate sheet, into the slot in frame.

Insert the dowel, which hold the inserts in place and will also be the leg to stand the frame up.

Award the prize;

We have a couple of Shed members judge the quality of workmanship and award a prize, just one winner. And the prize is a hammer (something that fits in with the programme – making stuff at the Mens Shed).

You could vary the dimensions, but this is what we have done and the size seems to work well.

See the plans over the page for details:



