

# HOW TO BUILD TIMBER SHELVING

STEP  
BY STEP  
GUIDE  
No. **10**

# HOW TO BUILD TIMBER SHELVING

**10**

EASY  
TO FOLLOW  
STEP BY STEP  
GUIDE

COMPLETE  
MATERIALS  
CHECK  
LIST

LIST  
OF ALL  
TOOLS  
REQUIRED



REFER TO COUPON  
ON BACK PAGE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION  
REGARDING THIS  
AND OTHER  
BOWENS PROJECTS

## MATERIALS CHECK LIST

- UPRIGHTS 240 (or 290) x 19 mm Dressed Radiata Pine
- SHELVES 240 (or 290) x 19 mm Dressed Radiata Pine
- BASE 70 x 19 mm Dressed Radiata Pine
- CLEATS 19 x 19 mm Dressed Radiata Pine
- CAPPING Period Style Cabinet Capping Finger-Jointed Pine
- SKIRTING Period Style Finger-Jointed Pine
- NAILS 50 x 2.80 mm and 65 x 2.80 mm Bullet Head Nails
- SCREWS 35 mm x 8 gauge Long Thread Screws
- GLUE P.V.A. Glue
- BACK PANEL 1200 x 1200 x 3 mm Pine Plywood

SIZES  
QUOTED  
TO BE USED  
AS A GUIDE  
ONLY

### FOR TIMBER STORAGE CUPBOARD

- UPRIGHTS (A) 70 x 45 mm F5 Radiata Pine
- CLEATS (B) 42 x 35 mm F5 Radiata Pine
- DOOR STYLES (C) 42 x 35 mm F5 Radiata Pine
- SHELVES (D) 190 x 19 mm Dressed Radiata Pine
- CUPBOARD SIDES (E) 3 mm Pine Plywood
- BACK PANEL (F) 3 mm Pine Plywood
- DOORS (G) 600 x 532 x 19 mm Laminated Radiata Pine
- GLUE P.V.A. Glue
- NAILS 65 x 2.80 mm Bullet Head Nails
- BOLTS 9 x 5 mm Coach Bolts, Nuts and Washers

## TOOLS REQUIRED

- Handsaw
- Circular Saw
- Power Drill and Bits
- Tape Measure
- Carpenters Pencil
- Nail Punch
- Hammer
- Carpenters Square
- Wood Chisel
- Router
- Paintbrush
- Sandpaper

FOR SAFETY USE GOGGLES,  
GLOVES AND DUST MASK.



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- |  |  |   |   |  |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Croydon</b><br>352 Dorset Rd<br>Ph 9723 0394      | <b>Hastings</b><br>Graydens Rd<br>Ph 5979 1267     | <b>North Melbourne</b><br>135-173 Macaulay Rd<br>Ph 9328 1041 | <b>Rowville</b><br>963 Stud Rd<br>Ph 9763 7522        | <b>Prefabrication Plants</b>                       |
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|  |  |   |   | <b>Morwell</b><br>8 Jones Road<br>Ph 5135 6781     |

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CALL TOLL FREE  
**1 800 333 162**  
OR RETURN THIS COUPON TO:  
**BOWENS TIMBER AND  
BUILDING SUPPLIES**  
P.O. BOX 1377, VESPER DRIVE,  
NARRE WARREN 3805

**10** NAME: .....  
ADDRESS: .....  
POSTCODE: ..... PHONE: .....

PLEASE SEND ME THE INFORMATION I HAVE MARKED HERE

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Timber Deck	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Work Bench
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Pergola	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Timber Steps
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Timber Fence	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Timber Shelving
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Feature Wall	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Timber Gates
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Carport	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Handrail
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Gazebo	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Privacy Fence
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Cubby House	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Retaining Wall

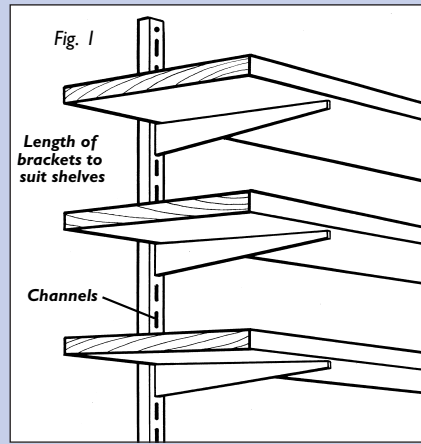
**Bowens**  
THE BUILDERS CHOICE

HELPING YOU BUILD IT BETTER!

HELPING YOU BUILD IT BETTER!

IMPORTANT: This project sheet has been produced to give basic information and our helpful staff are available to answer any questions you may have. However, the use of this information is on the understanding that Bowens (including its author, servants and owners) disclaim all and any liability for any damages or other amounts found to be recoverable in relation to such information, even when given negligently or attributable directly or consequentially upon any act or omission by or on behalf of Bowens. The user is advised to contact a qualified tradesman, when expert information or services are required.  
WARNING: Always check with your council authority regarding by-laws or regulations which may be applicable to this project.

# STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO BUILDING YOUR OWN TIMBER SHELVING

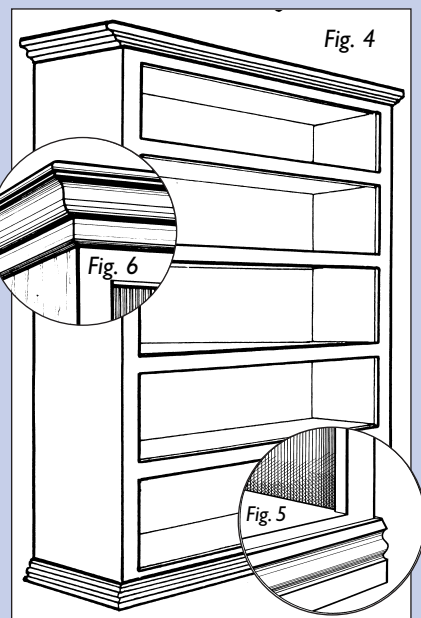
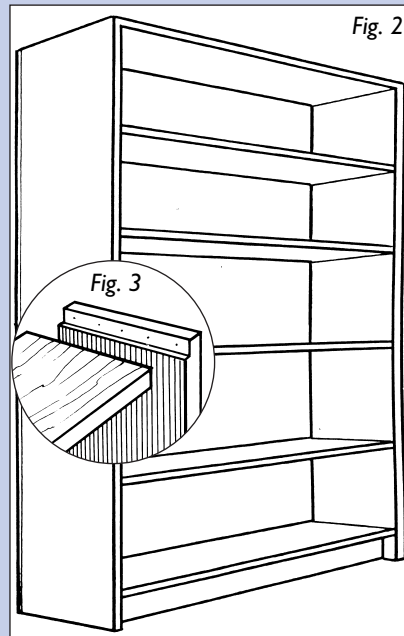


## ADJUSTABLE HEIGHT OPEN SHELVES

Can be attached to any area in your house using the wall as a backing. (Fig. 1). NOTE: Uprights/channels need to be fixed to studs and spaced at approx. 900 mm centres. For wide shelves fix extra channels.

## MODULAR SHELVING UNIT

Sturdy free standing shelving unit with plywood back for extra bracing strength and convenience (Fig. 2). This model with a built in base can be used singly anywhere in the house. Use a number of modular units to create a warm, dramatic effect and stagger the shelving to different depths (Fig. 10).



## VICTORIAN DESIGN

Designed basically the same as the modular unit this extra sturdy shelving and storage unit can be a feature piece in your living area (Fig. 4). It has an attractive 'Victorian' period style skirting board around the base (Fig. 5) as well as an enhancing capping mould attached to the top (Fig. 6). Extra strength is provided by attaching 25 x 19 mm edging to the uprights and shelves (Fig. 13).

Everybody need shelves around their home. You can adapt the designs shown here to any height, depth and width you like.

You can even make them deep enough to take your television or sound system. From a small set of open shelving to covering a whole wall, we are confident that the information in this brochure will help you build your own timber shelves.

## CHOOSING YOUR TIMBER

For best results we recommend you use dressed hardwood or radiata pine. To capture the rich texture and warmth of timber make sure you use some of the specially designed finishes mentioned on the next page. Check back page for complete materials check list.

## DESIGN AND TYPE

When selecting the type of shelves you will first need to determine the size of your storage needs.

For your convenience we have illustrated a number of styles on these pages.

Once you have determined type, size and design, calculate the sizes and lengths of timber and other materials needed and place your order with your nearest Bowens store.

## CUT AND PREPARE COMPONENTS

For a 1200 mm wide x 1200 mm high x 235 mm deep shelving unit, cut components as follows:

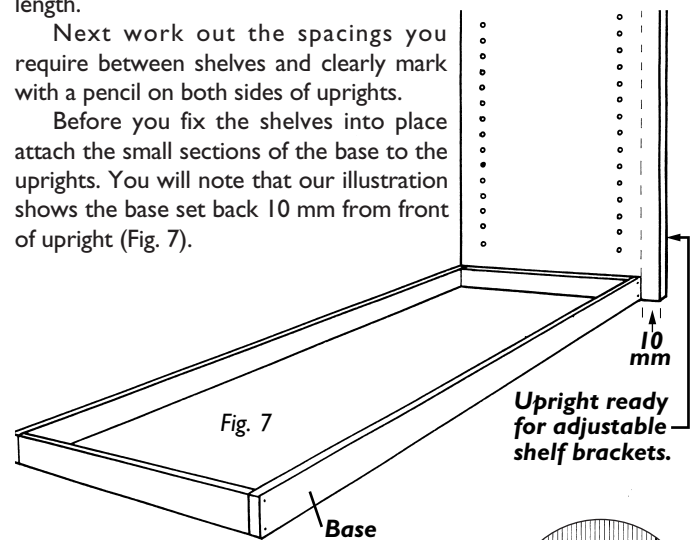
- UPRIGHTS 2 - 1200 x 240 x 19 mm
- SHELVES 4 - 1162 x 240 x 19 mm (fixed to cleats)
- or 4 - 1168 mm for grooved uprights (Fig. 9)
- TOP SHELF 1 - 1168 x 240 x 19 mm
- BASE 2 - 1162 x 70 x 19 mm
- 2 - 187 x 70 x 19 mm
- CLEATS (optional) 10 - lengths - 230 x 19 x 19 mm
- SKIRTING (Victorian) Mitre cut to suit from 1800 mm length (Fig. 5)
- CAPPING (Victorian) Mitre cut to suit from 1800 mm length (Fig. 6)

## ASSEMBLY

Using your fine tooth saw, trim the uprights down to the correct length.

Next work out the spacings you require between shelves and clearly mark with a pencil on both sides of uprights.

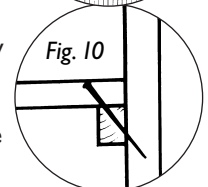
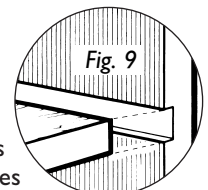
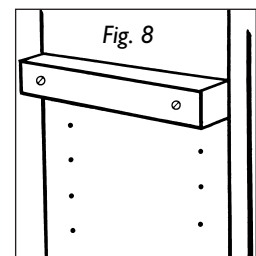
Before you fix the shelves into place attach the small sections of the base to the uprights. You will note that our illustration shows the base set back 10 mm from front of upright (Fig. 7).



## SHELVES TO UPRIGHTS

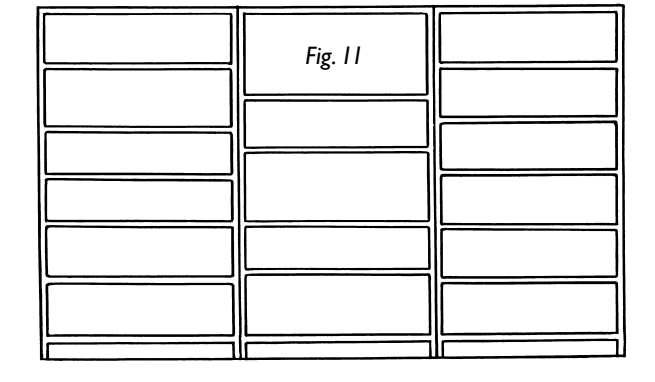
To securely lock shelves into position you can router or chisel a 3 mm deep groove as a slot for your shelves (Fig. 9).

Alternately screw a cleat into place on uprights (Fig. 8) to which shelves can be nailed (Fig. 10).



## COMBINED MODULAR SHELVING UNITS

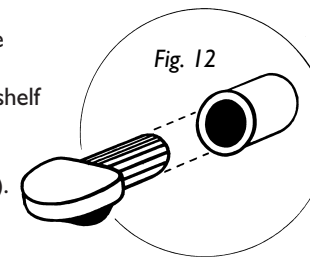
Put a number of modular units together as one cupboard and create a dramatic effect by staggering the shelf heights to store books, ornaments etc, perhaps even a television or sound system. Laminated wide pine boards are available in 450 mm or 600 mm widths for very deep shelves.



For flexible shelf heights drill correct depth size holes into inside of uprights, put in special reinforcing inserts which hold the shelf brackets (Fig. 12).

Avoid drilling through uprights (follow manufacturers instructions).

Finally check out 19 x 3 mm groove for housing top shelf (Fig. 3).



## SHELVES

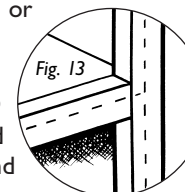
Once you have determined how you will fix the shelves measure and cut shelves to correct length.

First glue and nail the front and back of the base into place (Fig. 6) then nail and glue the lower shelf into position onto base.

Next nail and glue the top shelf into checked out uprights (Fig. 3). Pre-drill to avoid splitting then position other shelves in place, glue and nail through uprights carefully (Fig. 9) or skew nail through cleats into uprights (Fig. 10) or set onto brackets (Fig. 12).

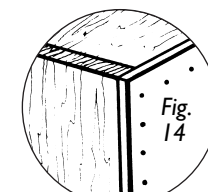
## DRESSED FRONTS

For extra strength and sturdiness fix 25 x 19 mm edge stripping to front of shelves and uprights. Fix edge flush with top of shelf and outside of uprights (Fig. 12).



## ATTACH BACK

Position the backing flush with the top and sides then glue and secure into place with brads. Nail and glue to both the uprights and backs of the shelves (Fig. 14). When attaching the backing sheet it is a good idea to first measure and mark the position of the shelves to that you know where to place the nails.



## CAPPING AND SKIRTING

For period style designs attach an attractive capping mould to the top of the unit (Fig. 6) and fix period style skirting to bottom base. Front of base should be flush with front of uprights in this design.

## FINISHING

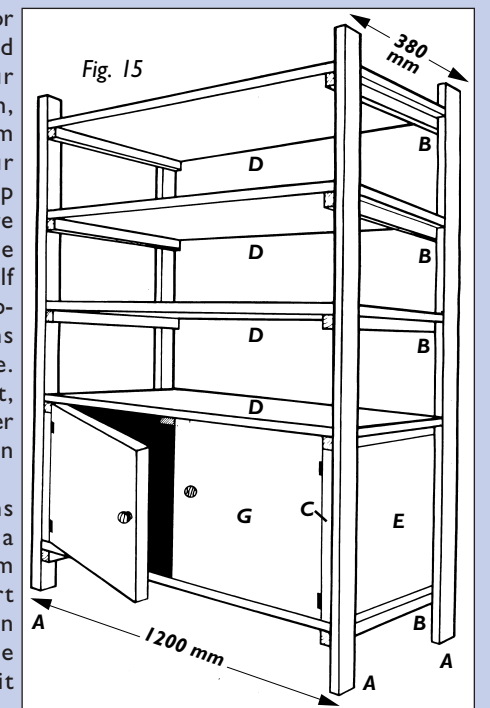
With the exception of the nails in the shelf back, punch all nails and fill with colour matching putty. Sand and dust all areas. We recommend you stain and varnish to bring out the richness of the natural grain and texture. Baltic pine finish looks great on radiata pine. Bowens has a good range to select from. Just ask your friendly assistant at

**TO AVOID SPLITTING PRE-DRILL ALL HOLES AT TIMBER ENDS**

## EASY TO BUILD TIMBER STORAGE CUPBOARD

Have a place for everything and enhance your rumpus room, childrens room or even your workshop (Fig. 15). There is no limit to the amount of shelf spacing and cupboard sections you can make. Build one unit, put two together or cover an entire wall.

Dimensions given here are a good base from which to start but you can easily change them to suit your needs.

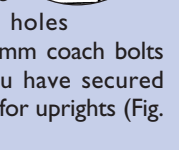
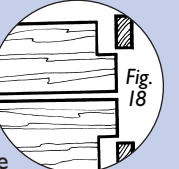
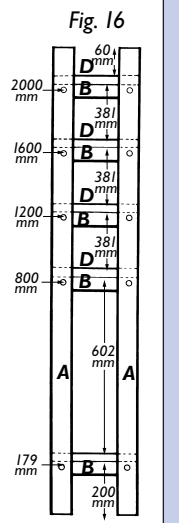


## CUT COMPONENTS

- UPRIGHTS (A) 4 - 2100 x 70 x 45 mm F5 Pine
- CLEATS (B) 10 - 360 x 42 x 35 mm F5 Pine
- DOOR STYLES (C) 2 - 559 x 42 x 35 mm F5 Pine
- SHELVES (D) 10 - 1200 x 190 x 19 mm Dressed Pine
- CUPBOARD SIDES (E) 2 - 600 x 338 x 3 mm Plywood
- BACK PANEL (F) 1 - 1200 mm x 637 x 3 mm Plywood
- DOORS (G) 2 - 600 x 520 x 19 mm Pine veneered M.P.F. board.

## ASSEMBLY

Starting from the bottom of uprights 'A', mark points at 179 mm and 800 mm. with the first two cleats centred at these points the distance will accommodate two cupboard doors of 600 x 516 mm. Continue to mark at 100 mm intervals thereafter for adjustable shelf heights. We recommend fixing three more cleats at 400 mm centres (Fig. 16). Match the holes perfectly on both pairs of uprights and drill 5 mm holes in the centreline to all marked positions on uprights. Drill holes through cleats and attach to uprights with 5 mm coach bolts (cuphead on outer side) (Fig. 17). Once you have secured cleats to uprights first cut the shelves to allow for uprights (Fig. 18) then nail shelves to cleats.



## DOORS AND BACK

Check that distance between first two shelves is 602 mm to accommodate the cupboard door. Next screw door styles to front uprights between lower shelf and 2nd cleat to which doors will be hinged (see Fig. 15). Fit side panel into place. The back panel can now be nailed and glued into position. Now fit the doors into position. Bowens has a good range of hinges and handles to choose from. Fix a door stop to 2nd shelf (see Fig. 15) and attach cupboard latch. Punch all nail heads slightly below surface then fill with colour matched putty and apply a coat of stain and varnish to complete your timber storage cupboard.

In this brochure we have suggested measurements but you can easily change them to suit your particular needs.

Before you commence your shelving project we recommend you read this step by step guide fully so that you have a good understanding about how you can best tackle your project.