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SHERATON-STYLE TABLE

Walnut, White Pine

MAKING THE SHERATON-STYLE TABLE

Begin construction with the legs. The exact shapes of their various *sections can* be determined by the individual woodworker; however, the section that will be joined to the apron, that section above the upper bead, must be carefully formed so that it maintains a consistent diameter from top to bottom as any variation in diameter will show itself here as a gap.

Once a leg has been formed but before it's taken from the lathe, mark the centerlines for the mortises that will receive the apron tenons. Do this using the lathe's indexing head.

The indexing head is a disk centered on the lathe's axis with holes drilled near its perimeter. Each of these holes marks 10° of the disk's 360° circumference and, by extension, 10° of the 360° circumference of any work centered on the lathe's axis. After selecting the faces of the leg that will be visible from the table's side and end, the tool rest is brought into contact with that section of the leg that will be joined to the apron. The indexing head is then locked at this position (on my lathe that's simply a matter of releasing a spring-loaded peg into one of the holes drilled near the head's circumference) and a line is drawn along the tool rest on the leg. Then, using the spring-loaded peg to count holes, the work is turned nine stops on the indexing head which is then locked at this point and a second line drawn. These lines are 90° apart and mark the centerlines of the mortises that will house the apron tenons.

After the apron parts and drawer rails have been dimensioned, cut their tenons. You can start this on the table saw, but it must be completed by hand or on the band saw as the shoulders of the apron parts must be undercut so that the shoulders come to a sharp point. This is necessary if the shoulders are to make tight contact with the round surface of the leg.

The table frame—consisting of the four legs, the three sections of the apron, and the two drawer rails—is then glued-up.

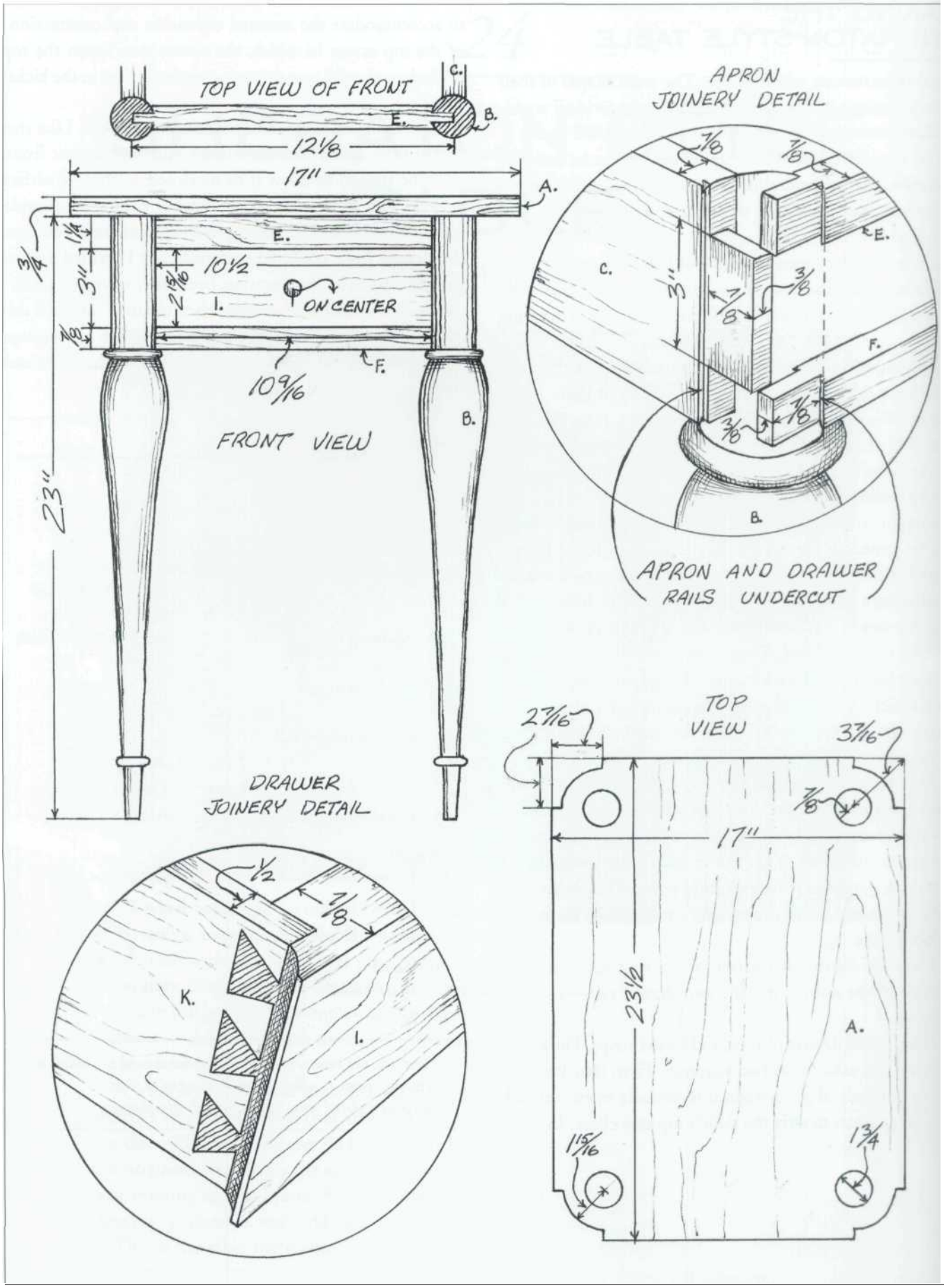
Next, install drawer runners and kicker strips. The kicker strips on this table serve two purposes. First, they keep the drawer properly aligned when it is partially open. Second, they act as cleats to affix the table's top to its base. In order to accommodate the seasonal expansion and contraction of the top across its width, the screws that fasten the top to the base should pass through oversized holes in the kicker strips.

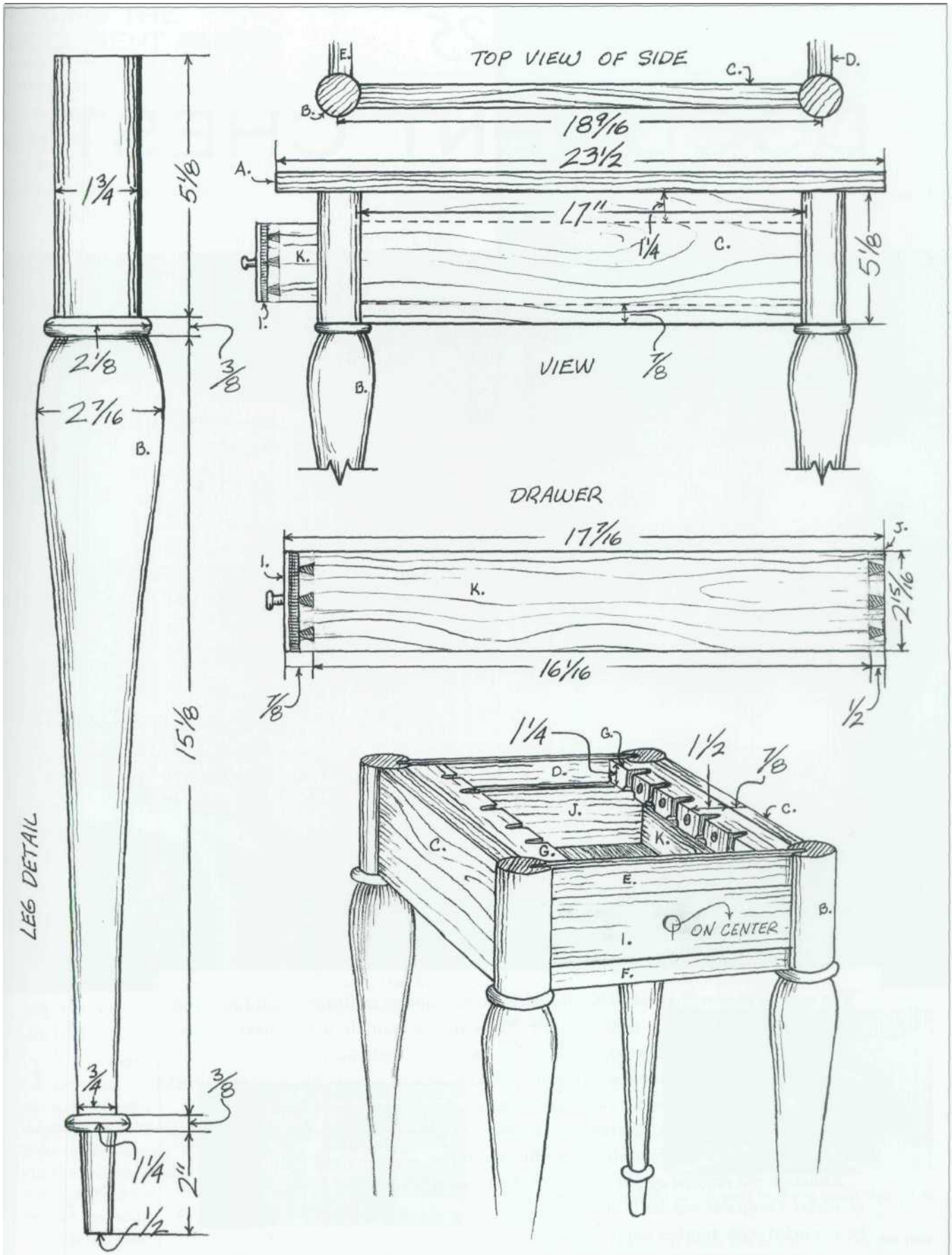
Drawer construction *is tricky* in one respect. *Like the* parts of the apron and the drawer rails, the drawer front must be shaped to allow it to be closed so that its surface is flush with the surface of the drawer rails without wide gaps at either side. Like the apron and drawer rail shoulders, the drawer front could be undercut, but I wanted a more graceful shape in this location because it is visible when the drawer is opened. I decided then to curve the back side of the drawer front, matching it to the curve on the legs. After fitting the drawer, sand and finish the table and drawer.

MATERIALS LIST

Table			
A	Top	1 pc.	¾ × 17 × 23½
B	Leg	4 pcs.	2 7/16 × 2 7/16 × 23
C	Apron side	2 pcs.	⅞ × 5⅛ × 18¾ (includes ⅞ tenon on each end)
D	Apron end	1 pc.	⅞ × 5 ⅛ × 12¼ (with tenons)
E	Top drawer rail	1 pc.	⅞ × 1¼ × 12¼ (with tenons)
F	Bottom drawer rail	1 pc.	⅞ × ⅞ × 12¼ (with tenons)
G	Kicker strip	2 pcs.	1¼ × 1½ × 17⅞
H	Drawer runner	2 pcs.	⅞ × ⅞ × 17⅞
Drawer			
I	Drawer front	1 pc.	⅞ × 2 15/16 × 10½
J	Drawer back	1 pc.	½ × 2 15/16 × 10
K	Drawer side	2 pcs.	½ × 2 15/16 × 17
Hardware			
L	*Brass knob*	*1 pc.*	*½ × ½*
M	Screws	various	

**These are net measurements. A surplus should be added to dovetailed parts to allow them to be sanded flush.*
**Pull was ordered from Constantine's Hardware.*


TOP VIEW OF FRONT
C.
E.
B.
12⅛
17"
A.
1¼
¾
3"
E.
10½
2 15/16
I.
ON CENTER
⅛
10 9/16
F.
B.
FRONT VIEW
23"
APRON
JOINERY DETAIL
⅞
⅞
E.
C.
3"
⅞
3/8
F.
⅛
3/8
B.
APRON AND DRAWER
RAILS UNDERCUT
DRAWER
JOINERY DETAIL
½
⅞
K.
I.
TOP
VIEW
2 7/16
3 7/16
⅞
17"
23½
A.
1 15/16
1¾


LEG DETAIL
1¾
5⅛
2⅛
3/8
2 7/16
B.
15⅛
¾
3/8
1¼
2"
½
TOP VIEW OF SIDE
E.
D.
C.
B.
18 9/16
23½
A.
17"
1¼
C.
K.
5⅛
VIEW
⅞
B.
DRAWER
17 7/16
J.
I.
K.
2 15/16
16 1/16
⅞
½
1¼
G.
1½
⅞
D.
J.
C.
K.
G.
E.
B.
ON CENTER
I.
F.