

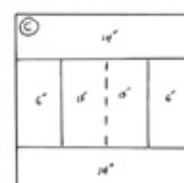
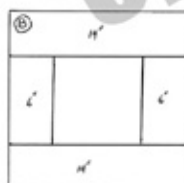
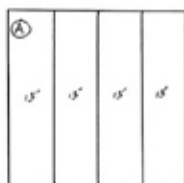
Here is a neat way to store your lp's and to be able to easily transport your collection. I designed this crate years ago to form the basis of a modular lp storage system that was fairly easy to build, durable, and most of all economical. The illustrations here are based on the use of only one board size, so the material list only has two items!

Materials: 1 x 4" lumber and 4d 1 1/2" bright finish nails. I use the lowest cost pine boards, but select each for quality by examining each for knots and warps. Some irregularity is acceptable as this design is meant to look rough and simple. I have even used scrap wood from crates as the sections are cut into small pieces and the whole box is then stained so it will even hide most markings.

If you purchase five 12' sections of 1x4 board, you can make two crates from it. A pound of nails will make perhaps a dozen crates. First, you need to cut the boards to length. Here is a list of the quantities and sizes to make each crate:

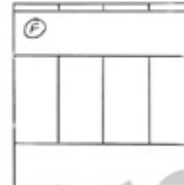
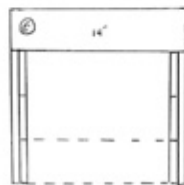
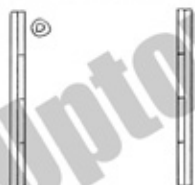
- 8) 13" sections
- 16) 14" sections
- 4) 6" sections

Once you have cut these pieces, all you do is hammer them together using the following photos as a guide. You can use some glue sparingly if you like, but I have never used any. If it gets outside of the area to be joined, it will not take the stain later and so will leave unfinished spots.



The first step in assembly is to lay-out four 13" boards as in figure A. Then you place two 14" boards and two 6" boards on top of these, arranged as in figure B. The finished side will look like figure C and I use about 4 to 5 nails in a dice pattern for each joint, perhaps less for the 6" boards as they are really just for trim and to keep it square. Be certain the side is square before nailing!

After you have finished two sides in this manner, you will have left just the 14" boards, which will form the other three sides of the cube. Set-up the two sides as shown in figure D and hammer the 14" boards in, four per side as started in figure E.



The finished crate will look like figure F from the side. You will need to space the boards a bit to achieve a flush edge at the front. As the cube is actually 1/2" taller than it is wide or deep, the back stop pieces will have to be spaced a bit more. When you are done, you can either stain or paint the whole thing so they will match even years later when you build more as your collection grows. No need to match lumber. You may want to substitute a solid board for the base to make a smoother surface to slide lp's on. I never found this a problem as I instinctively lift each a tiny bit when I slide them out, but it will also make getting the crate square easier during assembly. Rather than use a carpenters square, you can use the 14 x 14" base as a template and as the first step to assembling the last few sides. You can then eliminate a number of 14" boards from the formula as required. Board is generally cheaper than sheet however.