Building More Classic Garden Furniture
Transform your garden or patio into a cozier, more inviting place to relax with family and friends by making these classic outdoor furniture projects. Whether you're building a planter, bench or table you'll find designs that are practical, attractive and a pleasure to make. Even better, these 15 exciting new projects from author and master woodworker Danny Proulx are broken down into easy-to-follow instructions with step-by-step color photos and schematic drawings. Proulx designs each project to highlight one joint, construction technique or assembly process, enabling you to build upon skills you already have and learn new ones that will take your woodworking to the next level. Proulx also gives you creative freedom by showing a basic technique, and then suggesting interesting alternative methods for achieving the same end result. He'll encourage you to have fun, experiment and turn your garden, patio or yard into your favorite "room" of the house. Projects range from easy to intermediate, including: Beautiful Planters, Benches and Screens, Elegant Tables, and other garden classics!
My husband is building the garden bench on this book’s cover because we like Mission/Arts and Crafts style. Some of the designs look a little "homemade" but I think the chaise lounge, hammock stand, planter bench, planters, and the two picnic tables are worthwhile. It’s a thoughtful touch that the chaise lounge has a shelf you can pull out to put your drink and other items on. This book must be written by a pro because my husband wants to use it. He has high standards, has been in the woodworking business for years and wouldn’t consider the other books I brought home. Looking forward to seeing the bench after it’s done. Also, for people not in the business, you may be as well off to buy outdoor furniture on sale from a chain if you have to buy your materials. But if you’re doing this for a hobby, price may not matter. We have plenty of wood around so it’s cost effective to build our own furniture. I gave it four stars instead of five because of a handful of projects that I would not use. Will be looking at his first book to see what it has. As for the book not being for beginners, anyone attempting outdoor furniture of any kind should have some experience under their belt. Beginners should start with planters and small side tables. This book doesn’t have a lot of that.

The instructions are good and the pictures are okay. Definitely not instructions for a beginning builder!

Good projects, simple execution. First, it is a project book. Like most project books - it assumes that you will know how to use your tools and source materials. Although these are covered, if you are beginning woodworking - you will want a general book to cover those topics. Second is knowing the author. Some woodworkers embrace new techniques and tools, while others prefer block planes and hand saws. Danny Proulx is definitely not a traditional woodworker - but comes from the glue and screw generation. While these produce perfectly serviceable projects, if you are looking for tenons and housing joints - you may be disappointed. As with other books from this publisher though, they are well put together and tested. Formatting and editing is well done. The projects themselves can actually be completed as written - or for those who prefer, they can be used as inspiration for their own works.

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