

**ARTISAN'S NAME:** Mundane: Nicholas Hunter, SCA: Simont Merrick

*Include both your SCA name and mundane name.*

**TITLE OF PROJECT:** 15th Century French Slab-Endsd Bench

*What is this item? Is it related to a particular time period, culture, or geographical area?*

**HISTORICAL BASIS:** Metropolitan Museum of Art, Cloisters Collection , Eames, 63b

*What is this based on, or inspired by? (Give the name of or information about the an artifact, illustration or painting, or historical document.)*

## TOOLS & MATERIALS:

*What did you use to make this item? If it's different from what would have been used to produce this sort of item in the Middle Ages or Renaissance, explain why you've chosen to use the tools materials you've used.*

The bench is made entirely from Douglas Fir Pine. Pine would have been historically available for use, though not necessarily of this variety. The reference piece in the Met is made from Oak.

Boards were cut to length with a table saw, done in place of historically accurate handsaw for ease and to avoid chip out. A router was used to router edges. Sanding was done by electric sander and refined by hand.

Hand chisels were utilized to carve the mortises to shape.

A hole saw was used to cut the quatrefoil shape in the legs for ease and aesthetic.

## PROCEDURE:

*As you describe how you made this item, consider answering some of these additional questions. How did you come up with the techniques you used to make it? Why did you use this particular procedure? Are there any particular steps you would change if you were to do this project again?*

The bench is made from a single 10 foot length of 12"x1.5" douglas fir pine board, cut into two legs, two support braces, and bench seat. Dimensions as follows:

Each leg 12" wide by 20" in height  
Each Support Brace 23" wide by 4.5" in height  
Bench Seat 12" wide by 24" in length

Each leg has notches cut into their top to accommodate both support braces, as well as two produce 2 tenon "posts" designed to fit into and hold the bench seat.

A corresponding notch is cut into both sides of both support braces, allowing legs and support braces to fit together. Careful consideration is places on size and fit to ensure easy but snug fit.

The completed piece is sanded, stained, sealed, poly coated, and polished with wax for safety and shine.

## SOURCES:

*Provide a bibliography or list of the books, websites, and other sources you have used for researching this project, getting guidance on how to make it, and so on.*

Initial inspiration came from seeing a similar piece from Don Carlos Andrade of Citadel of the Southern Keep.

Additional picture and historical reference were found on:  
<https://www.greydragon.org/library/gothicbench.html>

Met reference piece is credited as Metropolitan Museum of Art, Cloisters Collection, Eames, plate 63b, and cab be viewed via  
<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/471300>

The actual plans/measurements were original, including the quatrefoil design in the legs.

*Feel free to attach additional information, including printouts or photocopies of images, articles or other resources that you have found useful in researching and creating your work!*