

MILK CRATE STORAGE OTTOMAN

Upcycle a milk crate to create a handy ottoman with storage that kids will love (and adults too!). For the Tar Heel in you, feel free to search your local fabric store to add some Carolina flair to this seat.

SUPPLIES

- ❑ Milk crate(s) – Note, you'll want to use crates that have an inner-ridge at the top so that the cushion fits into the crate properly. The size used in the picture example is 15 5/8 x 13 3/4 inches. *No old milk crate laying around? We found this one at Target.
- ❑ 2-3 inch foam (measure the size needed based on the size of the top of your crate). *Note - We found our foam at JOANN Fabric and Crafts
- ❑ Plywood, cut to fit into the top of the crate (the plywood used in this example was cut to 14 5/8 x 12 3/4 inches) – *Note – for ease, feel free to take your crate to Lowes or Home Depot and have them size and cut the board for you.
- ❑ Sharpie/marker
- ❑ Fabric (for the average crate you'll need at least 1 1/2 yard) – *Note, steer clear of silk/satin fabric
- ❑ Fabric scissors
- ❑ Spray glue, plus a plastic tablecloth or trash bag to cover your work surface while spraying
- ❑ Upholstery stapler/staples
- ❑ **Optional** – needle and thread or sewing machine to stitch a pull tab for the cushion



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place your plywood on top of the foam. Using a sharpie, trace around the plywood, making an outline on the foam. Cut off any foam outside of the traced area.



2. **Create the cushion:** Spray the top of the plywood with glue and adhere the foam to it. Allow to dry, at least 15 minutes.



3. Lay your fabric out on your work surface, print side down. Center the cushion onto the fabric, foam side down. Starting on one side of the cushion, fold the fabric over the board at least 5 inches. Use the upholstery stapler to secure that side of the fabric to the board, using as many staples as needed. Continue this process on each side of the board until all of the fabric has been secured. ***Note** – if you find that you have too much fabric on any side of the board after securing it, use your fabric scissors to trim off the excess.



4. **Optional step, create a pull tab:** As an optional step to finish the cushion and create an easy way to take it off of the crate as needed, use any remaining fabric to cut out a 10 x 3 inch strip for a pull tab. Fold the fabric over on the long side, and use a sewing machine or a needle and thread sew a finished seam along the edge of the fabric. Fold the finished strip in half and use the upholstery stapler to secure it to the board side of one side of the cushion.



5. **Final step:** Place the finished cushion onto the top of the milk crate.