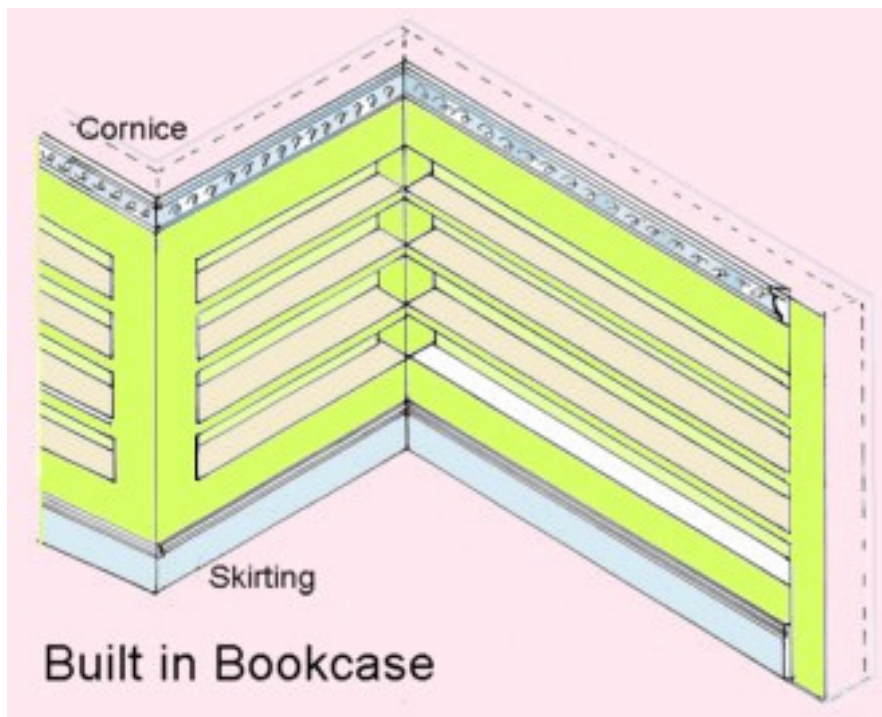


How To Build A

Solid Built-in Bookshelf



How To Build A Built-in Bookshelf

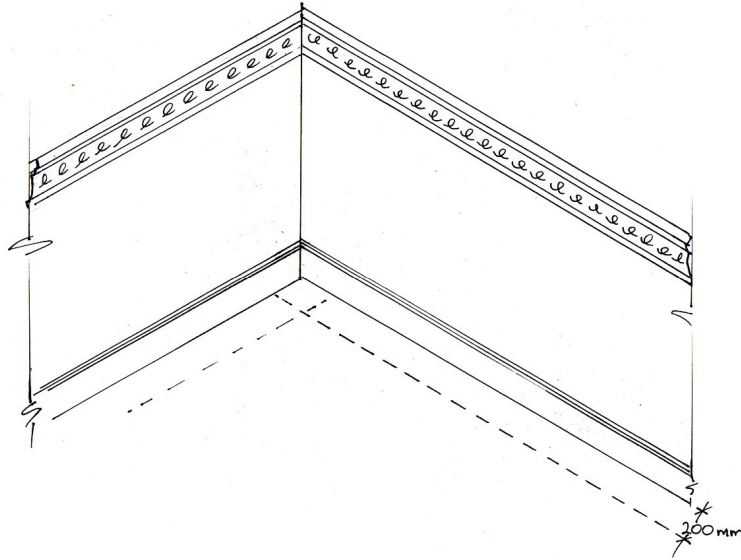
FOREWORD

Add extra space and storage with this built in bookshelf. A built in bookshelf has the capabilities of adding lighting, plus finishing it in the same skirting boards and cornices that the home presents. If your building a bookshelf that is intended to be permanent, consider building it into your walls and add value to your home while your at it! Lets get started...

ALL DAY FENCING – CONSTRUCTION GUIDE

Step 1

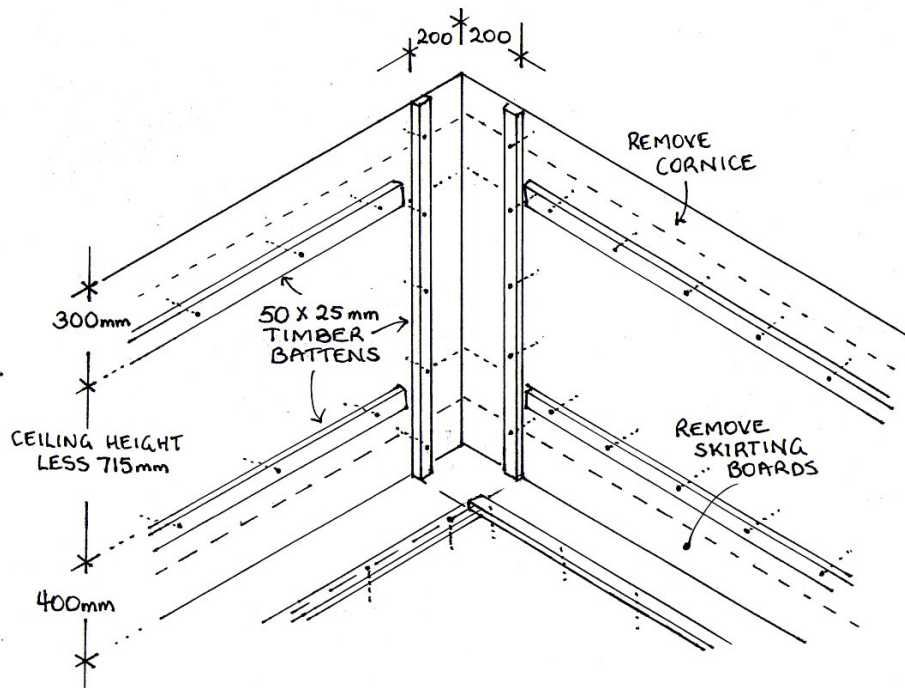
The first step is to cut out the existing skirting boards and cornices. Use a blunt handsaw to remove the cornice. If the cornice is a patterned style take a portion to a plaster supplier to have a new section of cornice made. Remove both the skirting and cornice back to the nearest corner or join past the work area.



Step 2

Once the walls are clear of any obtrusions, battens need to be fixed to support the intended shelves. The battens are 45mm x 20mm primed treated pine and can be fixed with wall plugs and glue. When gluing timber battens to a masonry wall (brick) the battens must be glued with 'liquid nails' or similar. The horizontal battens will be visible after completion so be neat and putty all holes.

Fix the battens to the walls as shown in the diagram below.



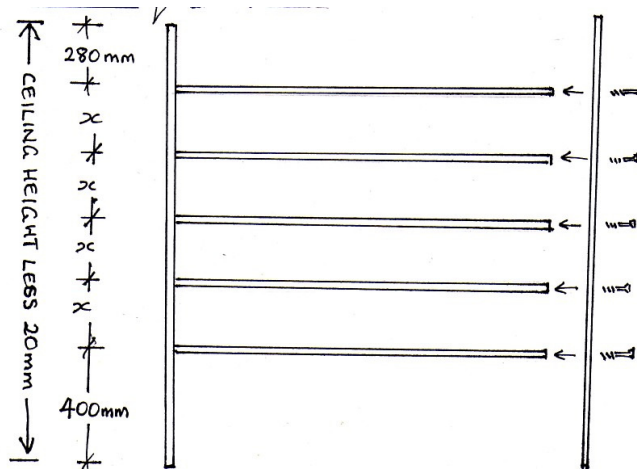
Suggested timber required for the bookshelf is:

- 18mm Customwood, or 18mm Veneered board
- 50 x 25mm battens
- Trim and mouldings as required

Step 2

Assemble the shell of the cabinet without the back. Cut the sides first and temporarily tack them into position against the side of the vertical battens. Measure the shelf lengths and cut the shelves required for each section.

The shelf spacings are variable however the bottom and top shelf heights are fixed. See illustration below.



Step 3

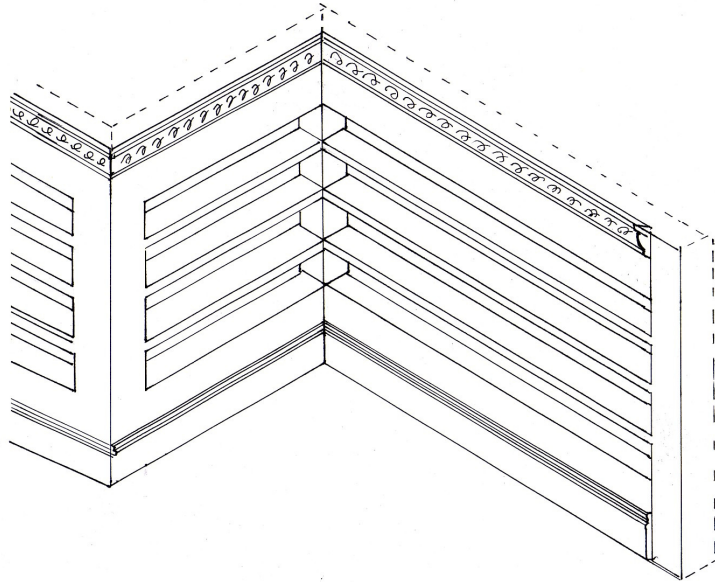
Assemble the shelf cabinets using 35mm chipboard screws and PVA woodworking glue. Once the shelves and sides are fixed together slide the cabinet against the wall and fix to the vertical battens. Repeat this process for each wall of cabinets, or for long wall sections.

The below illustration shows the end view of the bookshelf and the provision for lighting or extra storage in the base. Base storage areas are great for water and snow ski's or similar.

Be careful not to spill glue over veneer board if it is to be stained. Glue can be wiped with a damp rag before drying.

Step 3

Trim the front of the cabinet with 50mm x 25mm Tasmanian Oak or similar, to the front of the shelves and sides.



Skirting. Cut the skirting board around the front of the cabinet . Neatly mitre at 45 degrees at the corners and glue and nail to the cabinet.

Cornice

Cornice should be measured and cut on the ground. It should be held up the right way (not upside down) when being cut. A mitre box is preferable for the best joins. Cut the cornice with an old blunt handsaw. Careful, cornice is fragile when it is not on the wall, always lift in the middle of a length with your hands spread as far away as possible.

Cornice is fixed with cornice cement. Mix with water to a thick paste and apply as thick bead to the back of the top and bottom edges of the cornice. The cornice cement must be in one thick continuous bead to adhere correctly to the ceiling.

WARNING Cornice cement sets very quick (5 to 10 minutes) so be ready to go before mixing and clean quickly for best results

It is best to get a hand to help hold the cornice in position until the cement sets. Use a damp cloth to clean up excess cornice cement before it hardens. A second mix of cornice cement can be used to fill remaining holes and joins. When dry sand smooth and prepare for painting.

Step 5

Lightly sand with 100 grade sandpaper, putty all holes with matching woodfiller and prepare for staining or painting!

Happy Building!!!