

# Stackable Coffee Table

by Phoebe Martin

## Items used:

- #46103 12 Manila File Folders
- #46102 12 "Spectrum" File Folders
- #78035 2-Pc. Colorful Desk Set
- #56121 3-Pc. School Supplies Set
- #37108 3-Pc. Coloring Set
- #55098 4-Pc. Housecleaning Supplies Set
- #70493 8-Pc. Colored Pencil Set
- #40560 5-Pc. Black Bath Accessory Set
- #76213 Black Handbag
- #36191 Easy Bake Oven and Clay-Doh Box Set
- #77388 Modern Laptop Computer
- #65347 Desktop Pencil Cup
- #21805 Desktop Tape Dispenser
- #56102 Legal Pad and Pencil
- #7509 Large Lawn Sign Kit
- #65686 Disinfectant Wipes
- #46104 Kit for Nine Assorted Cardboard Boxes
- #10593 Tall White Stool
- #76393 Stackable Coffee Table
- #77613 Shopping Trolley
- #77587 Utility Cart
- #65295 White Laundry Basket



*Other items in the scene were crafted and/or purchased from craft stores and other retailers*

---

For this scene, Staff Miniaturist Phoebe Martin celebrates teachers setting up their classrooms. She stacked three tables to make a standing desk. Shortening the legs by  $\frac{3}{8}$ " brought the height down to scale and cutting out a semicircle on the lower two shelves made for leg room. Sanding the edges with an emery board added some years of service.

A standing desk in real life scale is generally around 42 inches high. Our coffee table (#76393) measures  $15\frac{5}{8}$ " high so three of them would be much too tall. Bring it down to size by trimming off the bottom portion of all the legs. Saw blade (#55670) rests nicely inside the lowest groove of the table leg. The bottom foot to be removed is  $\frac{3}{8}$ " long.

A desk allows for leg room, so we need to do the same here. Leg room is roughly the distance from belly to knees. One foot of leg room in real life scale converts to 6" in the  $\frac{1}{12}$ th miniature scale. So, the radius of our semicircle will be 6" and is still small enough to miss the table legs at the outer edges. Other shapes are possible too, but the semicircle reduces the chances of having

bruised knees. Draw the semicircle onto the underside of two tabletops using a pencil compass or tracing around an object of the right size and shape. Then cut out both semicircles using a power or hand saw. Note that the top table surface stays intact. Sand away any stray wood fibers.

Stack the tables. The two with the cut outs go on the bottom and in the middle. The one without the cut out goes on top. Glue them in place.

Now the assembled desk can be finished. The cutout leaves an unfinished edge. Stain the edge with red mahogany stain. The side and blunt ends of the wood fibers absorb stain differently (more on the blunt ends and less along the fiber). This difference can add character - use fine sandpaper to emphasize where the teacher's feet have worn away color and wood. Use the same sandpaper to show wear in additional areas. Of course, painting the whole desk for a fresh look is possible too.