

# Laughing Horse Lodge Chair Port Aransas, Texas



The overall project is actually quite easy as we have designed a simple, comfortable and functional chair; one that everyone seems to want. Since we are not in the chair production business, it doesn't make sense for us to manufacture the chairs for sale. This document will allow our guests and fans to have their very own **Laughing Horse Lodge Chair**.



**Legs:** The first step is to cut out the boards using the dimensions on the Materials List at the end of this document. The legs have an angle so they sit flat on the ground and when assembled together with the seat braces, form an "A" frame for each side of the chair. Place the cut legs on a work surface so that the legs are in an "A" frame position. The top of each leg should be about 4 1/4" apart and about 18 3/4" apart at the bottom. Use the edge of the work surface to simulate the angle of the leg assembly.



**Seat Braces:** The seat braces hold up the seat slats and are attached to the legs at an angle so the seat itself will drop toward the rear of the chair. This makes the chair more comfortable to sit on. When you attach the seat braces to the legs, you will be creating a left set of legs and a right set of legs; so plan accordingly. The seat braces are attached to the inside, not the outside of the legs.

The front of the seat brace is 7" down the front leg and the rear of the seat brace is 9" down the rear leg. Make the measure down the inside of the leg. Mark on the leg where the seat braces go so you can re-position them if they move. This is probably the trickiest part of the assembly. One trick is to clamp the legs to a work surface and then position the seat braces. It is easier when fewer parts are sliding around the work surface. The seat brace is even with the front leg and slightly short of the rear leg.

Drill a 1/4" hole through both the seat brace and the leg as close to the center of the leg as possible. Place a carriage bolt through the leg and then through the seat brace. Secure with a washer and then a lock washer and nut. Tighten to lock the positioning of the seat brace and the legs. Tighten the nut until snug. Don't worry if the leg parts still wiggle a bit. We will lock them in later and the chair will be very stable.

**IMPORTANT!** Pre drill 1/8" holes before using screws on the 1 x 4 and 2 x 2 boards. If you don't, the deck screws will split the boards. You might consider counter sinking the screw heads on the arms, seats slats and back slats. If you don't countersink, get them as flush as you can.



**Front and Rear Leg Braces:** Tip the legs up on the work surface and attach the front leg brace to the front of the legs. Position the front leg brace so it is just at the top front edge of the seat brace, the front seat slat will ultimately rest on top of the seat braces and the front leg brace. Pre-drill the 1 x 4 front leg brace. Use two 2½" deck screws in each leg.

Position the rear leg brace even with the top edge of the seat brace. The rear seat slat will not rest on this brace, but it is positioned as though it will. This will help position the back slats so they rest better on the rear seat brace. After pre-drilling holes, attach the rear leg braces using two 2½" deck screws in each leg.



**Seat Slats:** Attach the seat slats to the seat braces. Position the first seat slat so that it is in line with the rear leg brace. Position the second seat slat so that it extends out to just past the front leg brace, no more than  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Space the rest of the seat slats out so there is equal spacing between seat slats leaving a small crack at each slat to allow for dust debris to fall through. Attach with the two  $1\frac{5}{8}$ " deck screws on each seat brace, four on each seat slat and twenty total. Remember to pre-drill the holes.



**Arms:** After attaching the front and rear leg braces, attach the arms. Use two  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " deck screws in each leg, eight total. You do not need to pre-drill holes for these screws. Position the arms so that 3" protrudes in the front of legs and about 7" in the back. The inside edge of the arms should be flush with the inside of the legs. When sitting down, you don't want to hit the arms, only the seat. Screw down the arms tight, so the screws don't stick up.





**Backrest Brace:** Attach the backrest brace to the bottom of the arms. It is used to hold the back slats in place. Position it at the end of the arms and attach using the  $1\frac{5}{8}$ ' deck screws. Drill  $\frac{3}{16}$ " pilot holes through the 2x2. Put two screws through the 2 x 2 up into the chair arm. Also place one screw down from the 2 x 4 into the 2 x 2.



**Back Slats:** The last piece in the construction is to install the back slats. The tall slat goes in the middle and the next shorter ones and then the shortest slats. The three middle slats do not rest on anything at the bottom. You may want to put a temporary block at the bottom to help guide their placement. Space them with the shortest back slats against the arms, the tallest in the middle and the others equally spread out. Attach them to the back rest brace and the rear seat slat using the  $1\frac{5}{8}$ " deck screws, pre-drilled. Use two screws for each slat to attach to the back rest brace. Attach the bottom of each back slat with one screw from the back of the back rest slat into the rear seat slat.

Once you have determined the platform is assembled the way it should be and the legs are firm and in place, you can add one  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " deck screw in each leg next to the carriage bolts to further secure the legs to the seat braces; four total.

**Painting:** Use wood putty to fill in the screw holes or other imperfections in the chair. Sand and prime the chair and then paint with the wildest color you can think of. It is the most fun part of a **Laughing Horse Lodge** chair. The screws and bolts will rust if they are not covered in paint, so make sure they get painted as well.



**Enjoy:** You are now the proud owner of an official **Laughing Horse Lodge Chair**. Every time you sit in one you will be able to hear the surf at the beach and smell the sea. Think of us often and visit Port Aransas when you are able.

A Laughing Horse Lodge  
Port Aransas, Texas  
[www.alaughinghorselodge.com](http://www.alaughinghorselodge.com).

## Materials List

Number	Material	Length	Description
4	$\frac{1}{4}$ "	$3\frac{1}{2}$ "	Carriage bolts
4	$\frac{1}{4}$ "		Washers
4	$\frac{1}{4}$ "		Lock washers
4	$\frac{1}{4}$ "		Nuts
4	2 x 4	21"	Legs cut at 18°
48 or so	#7	1 5/8"	Decking screws
18 or so	# 7	2 1/2"	Decking screws
2	2 x 4	24"	Arms
2	2 x 2	17"	Seat Braces
1	2 x 2	26"	Back rest brace
5	1 x 4	19"	Seat slats
2	1 x 4	22 1/2"	Leg braces
2	1 x 4	21"	Back slats (outside)
2	1 x 4	22 1/2"	Back slats (next to outside)
1	1 x 4	24"	Back slat (middle)

The 1 x 4 slats can be cut from two 8' boards. The 2 x 4 legs and arms can be cut from two 8' boards. You might consider using a pneumatic stapler or brad nail gun to hold the boards in place, while screwing them together. Sand the sharp edges off each board before assembly..

## Tools list

1	Saw to cut boards
1	Protractor or method to cut legs at 18°
	Power drill, plus 1/4", 3/16" and 1/8" drill bits
1	Power screwdriver for deck screws
1	Wrench to tighten carriage bolts
1	Primer and paint color of choice
Optional	1/8" countersink for screw heads
Optional	Pneumatic stapler or brad nail gun