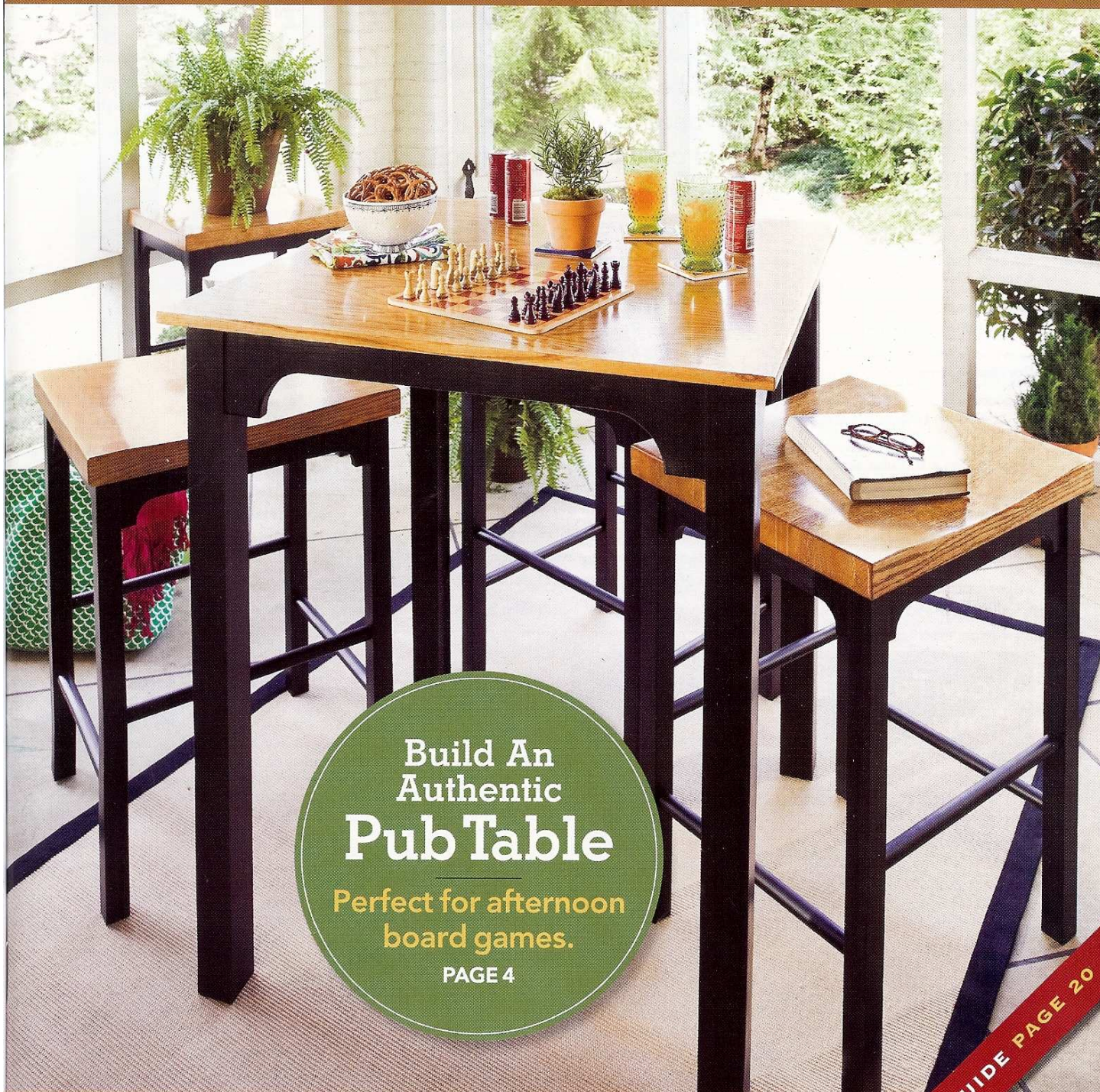


**LOWE'S**  
creative  
ideas

# for Woodworkers



Build An  
Authentic  
**Pub Table**  
Perfect for afternoon  
board games.  
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**10** Cheese Slicer **14** Breadboard **16** Cornhole Game

WORKSHOP

# Finishing Finesse

Follow a few simple tips to complete the final touches to your project.

**A**fter you've completed the prep work of sanding, scraping, and cleaning the project surfaces, the next steps in finishing require a **dust mask, sandpaper or steel wool, a drop cloth, solvents, your desired finish, and applicators such as brushes and pads.**

Start by thoroughly cleaning the shop the day before finishing to remove any debris, large shavings, and coarse sawdust. Then use a shop vacuum and/or compressed air to remove sanding dust and other fine residue from the project



surfaces, and place the project in a clean space. Consider using scrap wood and clear plastic sheeting to build a temporary small enclosure.

Open doors and windows, and set one or more exhaust fans near them. Use a leaf blower or similar air source to stir up the fine dust that has settled in all the nooks and crevices in your shop, and continue exhausting the air until there are no more visible dust clouds.

Make sure that the temperature and humidity levels in your finishing space are within the range recommended for the finish you are applying. Keep a fire extinguisher on hand, and invest in a metal waste can with a lid to dispose of soiled rags.

To take care of grain raising or dust settling in the first coat of finish, wet-sand the cured coat, wipe it down, and then apply additional coats as needed.

MEMBER PROFILE | BROOKE COE

## A Style All Her Own

**C**olorful and crazy and wild—that's how Brooke Coe of Los Angeles describes her signature style. "I like to get people talking," she says. "You don't just say, 'Oh, a cabinet.' You say, 'Oh, wow!'"

Brooke's talents for design and woodworking come naturally. As a child, she helped her father renovate his 1800s-era home. "Whether we were tearing off shingles or building a barn, he never differentiated between his son and his

daughters," Brooke, 38, recalls. She credits her mother for her flair for design. "My mom will take disparate objects," she says, "and put them together in a way you just can't imagine."



When Brooke and her husband, Dave, designed and built a two-level deck as newlyweds, her passion for woodworking ignited. Always choosy about décor, she began building her own furniture. "It's the best way to get exactly what I want," she says.

As the couple's friends started contracting Brooke to design and build pieces, she decided to take the plunge: In 2003, she started

her interior design and furniture business, Huh? Designs. Why the name? One of her two sons, then 3, saw her making a table shaped like a bug and responded, "Huh?"

Brooke says woodworking is a form of relaxation. "I'll have my dust mask, goggles, and earphones on and the sander in my hands, and it just puts me in my own world," she says. "It's so calming and serene."

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRIAN FRANCIS (TOP); COURTESY OF BROOKE COE (BOTTOM)