Floating Night Table

Router Bits and Accessories Used:
- Pins and Tails Through Dovetail Templates (#6414/8714)
- 36” x 3/4” x 3/8 ” Slick Bar (#9492)
- Glue Joint Bit (#5553/7853)
- ¾ ” Straight Bit (#5479/7779)
- 25/32 ” Straight Bit (#7782)
- Plywood Straight Set (#6076/8376)
- 45º Chamfer Bit (#5376/7676)
- 3/8” Cove Bit (#6342/8642)
- Countersink Drill Bit Set (#9365)

Other Tools and Material Used:
- Table Saw
- Belt Sander
- Random Orbit Sander
- Planer
- Glue
- Scraper
- #6 x 3/4” Screws
1. Cut the outside box parts oversized at first. Cut the top and bottom walnut pieces to 22” length x 7” width and cut the cherry side pieces to 10” length x 7” width (making these oversized will help avoid snipe). Then cut the front and back walnut drawer pieces to a size of 20” length x 7” width and the side pieces of cherry 11” length x 7” width. Plane all of the boards to 7/8” finished thickness.

2. Use the Glue Joint Bit (#7853/5553) to create the tongue and groove joint on the mating edges to create wider stock and glue up and clamp these assemblies.

3. After the glue has dried, remove the blanks from the clamps and scrape any excess glue off the surface. Finish plane the boards to final thickness. Then cut to final length and width. Outside box pieces will be finished at a thickness of 3/4” and the drawer pieces will be finished at a thickness of 1/2”.

4. Cut the pins and tails using the Pins and Tails Through Dovetail Templates (#6414/8714). Use the large template (#9082) for the outside box joints.
5. Using the Plywood Straight Bit set (#8376/6076), make a 31/64” dado, 1/4” deep on the inside back of the nightstand box for the plywood back. Make this dado 3/4” from the back edge of the nightstand box.

6. Cut a 3/4” wide and 1/8 deep stopped dado in the center of the inside of the cherry sides, going from front to back, using the 3/4” straight bit (#7779/5479). Start the dado at the back where the plywood dado was cut in the previous step and stop the dado 2-1/2” from the front of the side piece.

7. Measure and cut the Nylon Slick Strip (#9492) to fit into the dado slot. This will act as the drawer slide. Countersink the mounting hole in the runner using the #6 sized countersink bit (from item #9365) and screw the nylon runner to the sides using a #6 x 3/4” wood screw.
8. Chamfer the center 4” of the nightstand box bottom with 45° Chamfer Bit (#7676/5376) along the inside front edge of the box. This will work as an access area for the drawer pull. Use some scrap stock and make a test cut first to ensure bit is set at the correct height.

9. Pre-finish the inside of the nightstand box and glue the dovetail joints together. Double check for square when clamping.

10. Cut the pins and tails on drawer box using the Small Pins and Tails Through Template (#8712).
11. Using a 3/8” cove bit (#8642/6342), cut a cove profile in the center 4” to create a finger pull to open the drawer with. Use some scrap stock and make a test cut first to ensure bit is set at the correct height.

12. Create a dado in the bottom of the drawer pieces to accept the 1/4” plywood bottom panel. Use the 13/64” bit from the Plywood Straight Bit (#8376/6076). The dado should be 3/8” from the bottom edge.

13. Use a 25/32” straight bit (#7782/5482) to create a dado on the outside drawer sides 25/32” wide and 1/8 deep, in the center of the drawer box side to receive the runner.
14. After making the dadoes, the center pin of the dovetail joint, in the back of the drawer protrudes into the dado, which would prevent the runner from sliding in the dado. It is necessary to trim them flush to the depth of the dado with either a bandsaw or handsaw.

14. Next, sand and pre-finish the inside pieces of the drawer box. Allow the finish to dry before gluing the drawer box together and check it for square when gluing and clamping up the assembly.

15. After the glue has dried, remove the clamps and sand the pins and tails flush with a belt sander. Continue sanding with a random orbital sander to 220 grit finish.

16. Then apply desired finish.
17. To form the mounting cleats, use the table saw to rip two pieces at a 45° angle to make the cleats. Make one piece 2-1/2” wide and the second piece 3-1/2” wide. Make both cleats are 17-1/4” long.

18. Attach the smaller cleat to the back of the box, again using the #6 sized countersink bit (#9365) and screw the cleat to the back panel of the drawer box using a #6 x 3/4” wood screw.

19. Mount the other cleat to the wall. Use a level to make sure the cleat is level and make sure to secure at least one mounting screw into the wall studs when fastening the cleat to the wall. The drawer box will slide over the taper of the cleat that is mounted on the wall. This is how the floating drawer box will be supported. Insert the drawer and your floating nightstand is ready to use.