

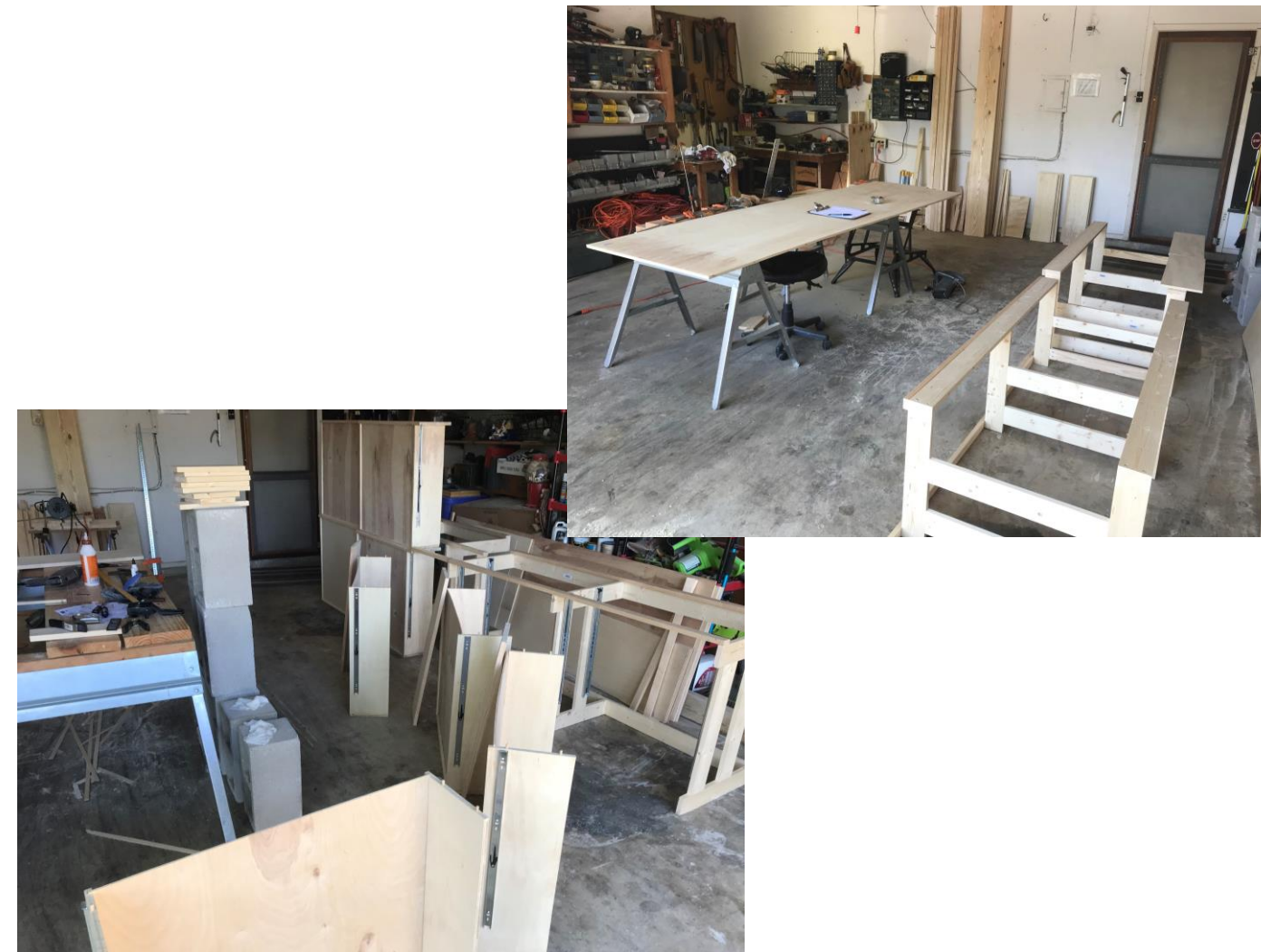


Woodworking Michael Gardner, Physics, 2020

Skill
Development

SUMMARY

I set out to develop my woodworking skills by using the tools passed down to me by my grandfather to design and construct an entire room of furniture. I accomplished this in my garage work area over 2 months in the summer. Construction required doing 8-10 hour days of hard labor in the summer heat. First, I had draw detailed mathematical plans. Second, when I did not know the technique for doing something I wanted I had to learn from Youtube. Third, I had to spend the sweat doing the measuring, cutting, joining, sanding, and finishing. My technique drastically improved from my first pieces to the final piece that I used almost no screws on as a proper woodworking product should be.



SPICES

Woodworking is a **Skill Development** achievement. The quality of my furniture pieces improved as I learned better construction techniques and learned to take more care with certain steps.

HERBS

This achievement was **Honorable** and required **Resilience**. I wanted to learn a physical craft and it took dedication to see it completed as each day was a physical challenge.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By designing this experience myself I was engaged to see it to completion. I had the creative courage to design every aspect of my furniture to suit my needs and exact dimensions of my room. I had to be adaptable to situational needs as they arose and resilient to learning mistakes. I gained an immense sense of pride by managing this project to completion by myself so that now I can say I designed and built every piece of furniture in my room.



IMPACT

In a world where not many people know how to build actual products, I wanted to know how to create something useful. I gained confidence in my own physical skills which I have rarely tested, and I gained the respect of family and peers who were impressed with the quality and scope of my work. I now have the knowledge to use a wide array of woodworking tools to create a final product that is not just fully customized and functional, but professionally finished with style and quality.

ADVICE

Be prepared to spend twice the time than you think it will take to complete. Make every drawing and measurement at least twice to prevent mistakes, but in woodworking almost every mistake can be fixed!