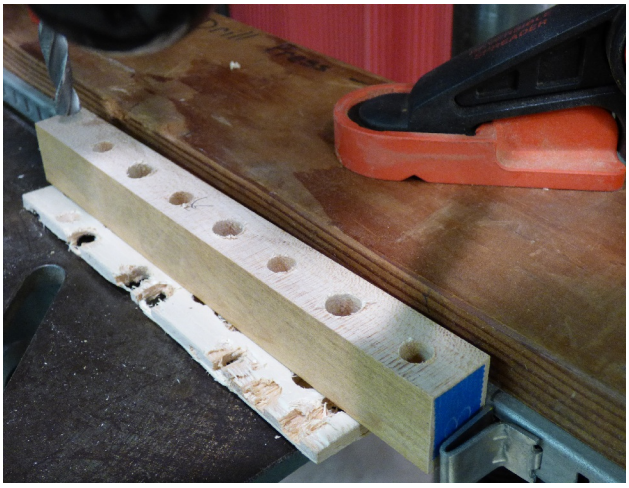
Step 7. Leaving the drilling jig in place and change to a 13/32" size bit. The depth will change as you will now drill through each rail. Use a backing board to help reduce tear out. Using the pattern of 1.5", 3.5", 5.5" and 7.5" drill these holes on the right side of rail B and the left side of rail C. (See Diag 11)



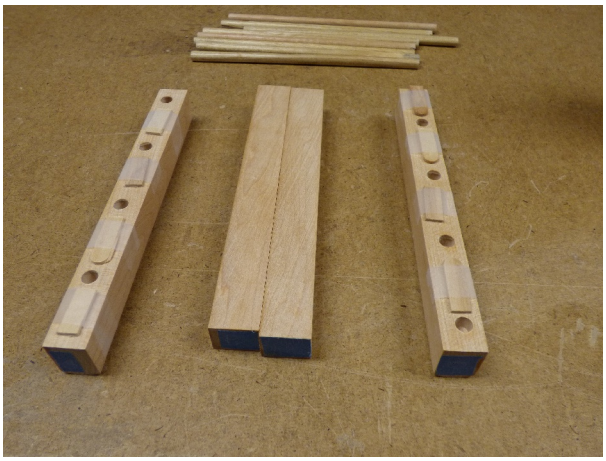
Diag 11 - Drilling larger holes in rails B and C

Step 8. Cut eight 3/8" dowels equal lengths of 7.5".

Step 9. Sand the entire project. If there are sharp edges you may want to soften then when sanding. Finish can be applied now or after it is assembled. The ends of the dowels and 3/8" deep holes cannot have wax or anything that hinders a good glue bond which is the next step.

Step 10. Dry assemble to see how things fit.

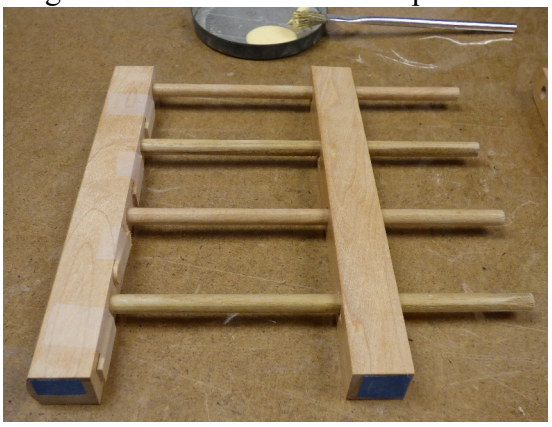
Step 11. Cut short pieces of craft sticks (about 1" long) and tape them between the holes on rail A and D. (See Diag 12)



Diag 12 - Small craft sticks for spacers

Step 12. Glue one set of dowels into rail A. (See Diag 13) Slide rail B over the dowels you just glued into A and glue a set of dowels into rail B which rail C will slide on. (See Diag 14)

Now glue the opposite end of the first set of dowels that are in rail A into rail C. The dowels passing through rail C that are glued into rail B are now glued into rail D.



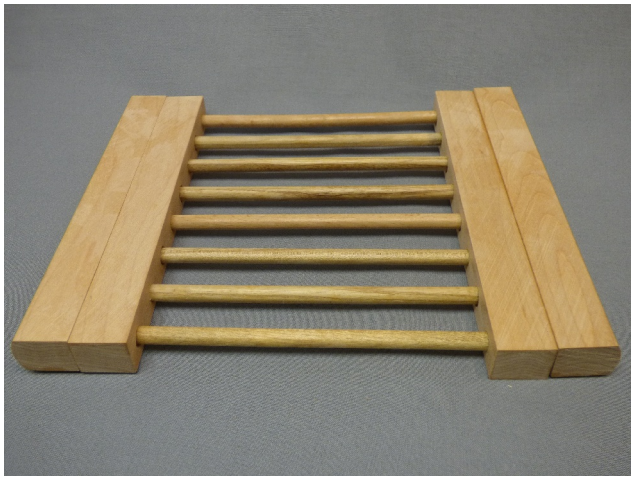
Diag 13 - glueing the first set of dowels

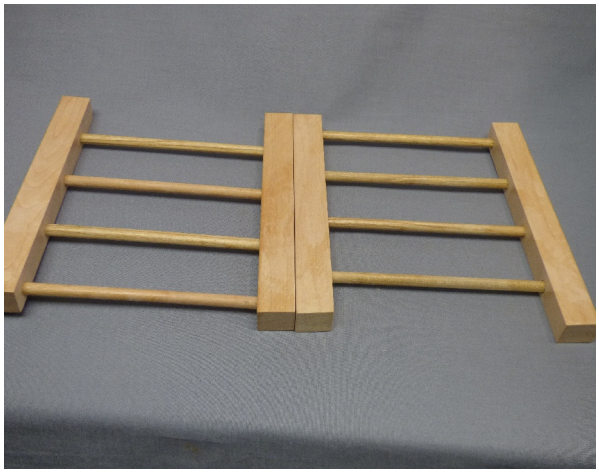
Diag 14 - Glueing the second set of dowels

Step 13. The short craft sticks taped between dowels should allow you to press the rails tightly together without glueing the rails together. (See Diag 15) Clamp and wipe off an excess glue. Be sure trivet remains square during the glueing process.

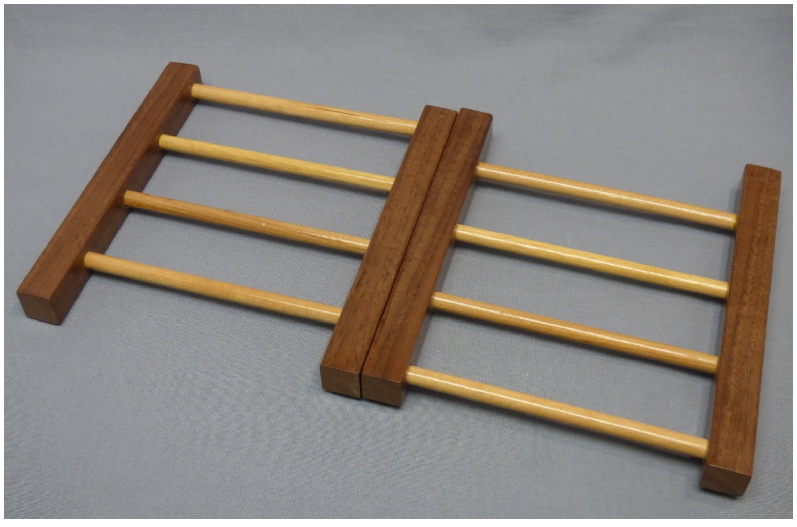
Diag 15 - Clamp project and let it dry

Step 14. After the glue dries remove the craft sticks. If you did not finish at step 9 do so now. Your trivet will provide a versatile usable protection for your table from hot dishes. Collapsed it is about 8x10 (Diag 16) and expanded it to about 8x16 (Diag 17). These are easy to store and handy to use.


Diag 16 - Collapsed trivet


Diag 17 - Expanded trivet

Alternate enhancement:
The trivet can be enhanced by using contrasting woods in the project. Diag 18 used Walnut for the rails which contrasted with the hardwood dowels. Other embellishments could also be added to the rails if desired.


Diag 18 - Enhanced trivet