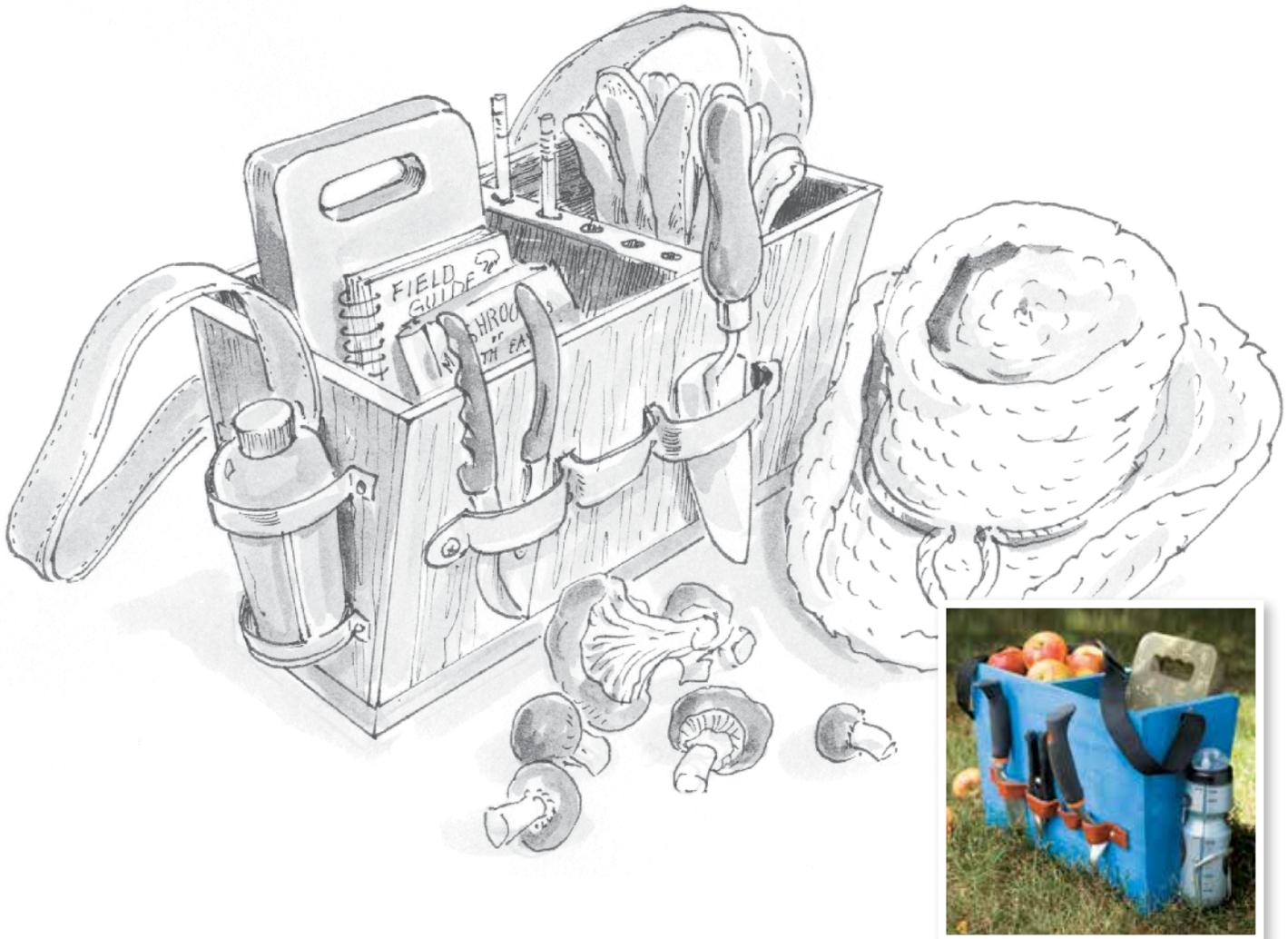


Harvesting Tote

A carryall for hand tools and edible treasures

You can use this multipurpose tote for ferrying tools into the garden or woods and for carrying berries, vegetables, and mushrooms back out. It's lightweight and easy to sling over one shoulder so

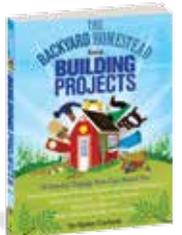
that both hands are free for carrying or picking. And it's large enough to hold a wide array of hand tools, kneeling pads, gloves, and foods you've plucked along the way.



Accessorizing Your Tote

You can accessorize your tote according to how you intend to use it. A few options:

- Add a bicycle water bottle in its cage to one end so you can quench your thirst during long forays into the garden, fields, or woods.
- Install additional dividers for more sorting options, or, if you need one big compartment, eliminate the center divider completely; just be sure to replace it with a small cross-brace to help support the sides.
- Drill holes in the bottom to allow air to circulate and moisture to drain if you're using the tote for picking berries or mushrooms.



Materials

- One 40" pine 1×8
- One 18" pine 1×6
- One piece $\frac{3}{8}$ " plywood, 25" × 18" minimum
- Exterior glue
- 6d galvanized box nails
- 3d galvanized box nails
- Two leather or nylon straps or belts (see steps 3 and 4)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ " screws
- Four 1" machine bolts with washers (two for each bolt) and cap nuts

1. Cut the ends (A) and divider (A) to the angles and dimensions shown, using 1×8 pine, and cut the 18" long bottom (B) from 1×6 material. Secure the bottom to the ends and divider, using glue and 6d box nails. The bottom will extend $\frac{3}{8}$ " beyond the side edges of the ends and divider.
2. Cut the two plywood sides (C) to size at $12\frac{1}{4}$ " × 18". Secure the plywood sides to the frame and divider using exterior glue and 3d nails. Make certain the divider is square to the bottom before nailing the sides to it.
3. Install the tool strap onto one of the plywood sides, as desired. I positioned the tools on the side of my tote, so I laid an old leather belt over the handles to determine the size of the loops, and used screws to secure the loops to the sides.
4. Install the shoulder strap: Experiment with the length and position before cutting the strap material to length; an across-the-body strap may need to be 6 feet or longer. You can use a leather or nylon strap, a thick rope, or a strap from a duffle bag. Once you've found a comfortable length, secure the strap to the tote ends with screws or machine bolts, washers, and nuts.

Cutting and assembling tote

