



The CRAFTSMAN

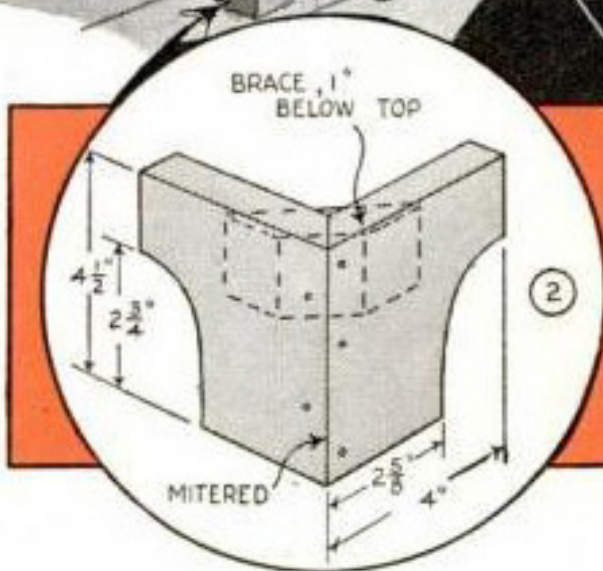
Early-American STORAGE CHEST *in white pine*

By Harold T. Bodkin

COPIED from an original piece in an Eastern museum, this attractive chest, Fig. 1, is especially suitable for use with other Early American and Colonial furnishings. Construction begins with the box, or upper part, Fig. 5. The end boards are set in $1\frac{3}{16}$ in. from the ends of the front and back boards, which just come flush with the inner surfaces of the end boards of the base. The sides do not extend down to cover the edges of the bottom boards. The latter are left exposed for later attachment of the base.

Using boards of varying widths for the ends, front and back gives an appearance of true pioneer craftsmanship. Number 10, $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in. wood screws will handle most of the fastening. The screw holes are counterbored and plugged to simulate old-fashioned doweled construction, Figs. 3 and 4. Quarter-round moldings are fitted around the four sides of the box ends and mitered at the corners. A square filler piece at the top extends this flush with the projecting front, back and bottom boards. The moldings complete the attractive paneled ends.

Detailed drawing of the chest base, Fig. 5, gives the dimensions. Plugged wood screws are again used for this construction.



TYPICAL EARLY-AMERICAN
DRAWER PULL

The base ends are rabbeted along the top edge to accommodate the bottom boards of the box. Filler pieces that frame the drawer opening at the front may be attached with glue and small wood screws, driven diagonally through their ends and into adjoining base members. As an additional detail for strength, small squares of $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. plywood may be nailed and glued over all

