

Materials & Building Procedure for the McIntosh Canvas Boat

Material for the jig

- 1 - 7/8" x 11-1/2" (nominal 1x12) x 12' pine, dry & un-warped for the backbone
- 1 - 2 x 6 x 10' construction grade spruce or equivalent for the legs
- 1 - 1 x 4 x 12' #2 pine for the cross spalls
- Scrap pine for the cleats

Material for the boat

- 1 - 3/4" x 7/8" x 12' for the keel
- 4 - 3/4" x 7/8" x 10' for the chines & sheer stringers
- 1 - 3/4" x 6" x 8' for the floors
- 1 - 3/4" x 4" x 10' for the side frames
- 1 - 5/8" x 9" x 8' for the bottom board (seat)
- 1 - 5/8" x 3/4" x 12' for the outer keel
- 4 - 5/8" x 3/4" x 10' for the outer chines and sheer guards
- 4 - 18" x 10' lengths of canvas for the skin
- 2 - oarlocks & sockets
- 1 pair of 6-1/2' oars

Procedure

- Make & assemble 3 frames (with extensions & cross-spalls on frame #2)
- Mark & saw out backbone, including end pieces & guide cleats
- Make support legs, including cross-spalls
- Set up backbone on its legs
- Install, square, and level the frames
- Mill out the keels, chines & stringers
- Bend keel over backbone, slitting and gluing its ends for the tight curves
- Fair the frame notches
- Install chine & sheer stringers, using steam or hot moisture where needed
- Install the breasthooks
- Staple the canvas skin in place, using 3M-5200 at the overlaps
- Install outer keel, chines, and sheer guards, slitting or steaming where necessary
- Remove hull from jig, turn it rightside up, trim the frame ends, etc.
- Paint the hull your chosen color(s) - (latex works fine)
- Install bottom board (seat) & oarlock sockets