

Home Storage

made simple

Garage Storage System

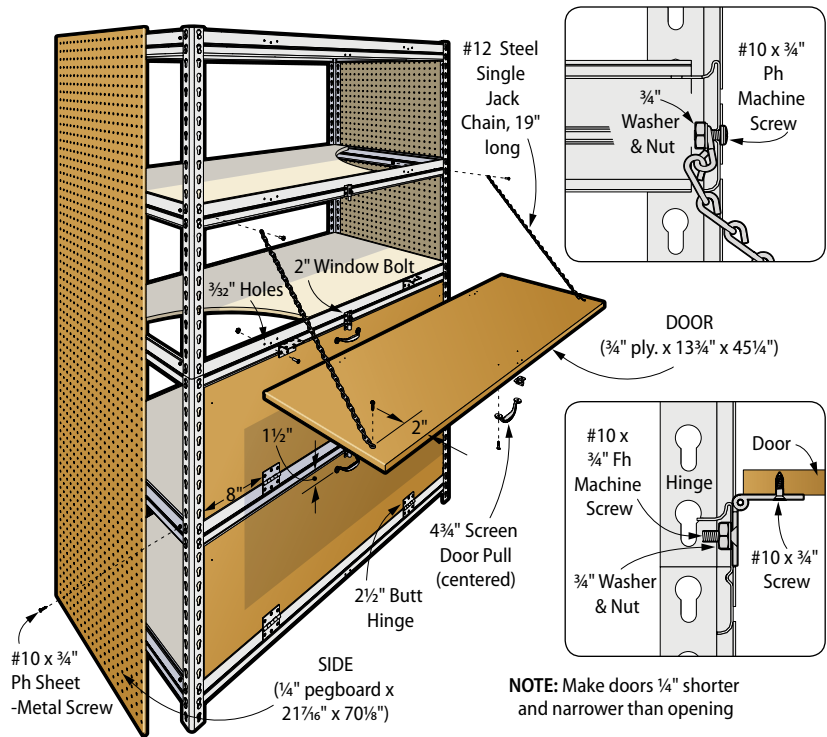


On the following pages you'll find step-by-step instructions, photos, and illustrations that you can use to create this garage storage system. For more information about this project, see *Home Storage Made Simple*.



build a storage unit

- Converting these steel racks into enclosed units is easy. You can see how everything goes together in the *illustration* at right.
- After assembling the rack, measure the openings, and then cut doors to size from plywood. Make them a little smaller than the openings for clearance.
- Attach the hinges to the doors, and then position the doors in the openings (*photo 1*). Now mark the holes for the hinges on the rack's rails. Remove the doors and paint them. Drill the holes in the rails, and secure the hinges (*detail illustration, lower right*).
- Next, screw a pull to each door panel near the top (*photo 2*). Then, add a barrel bolt to the rails and doors, so you can secure the doors when they're closed (*photo 3*).
- To make sure the doors rest flat when they are open, secure chains to both sides of each door. They get attached to the backside of the metal rail above each door at one end and to the door panels at the other end (*detail illustration at upper right and photo 4*).
- Now add the sides. They're made from pegboard that is cut to fit



and then painted. Position the sides on the case, drill holes through the metal legs of the rack (using the holes in the pegboard as guides), and attach the sides with screws (*see illustration above*).

- All that's left is to secure the unit to the wall. To do that, drive a couple of lag screws with washers through the slots in the back legs of the rack and into the wall studs or wall rail behind it (*see next page*).

how it's made



1



2



3



4

hang up a **wall rail**

- To add more storage to your garage, and to create a sturdy place to secure the storage unit, you can add a horizontal rail to the wall.
- Just cut 1x6 boards to the length you need, and then screw them to the wall studs.
- For a finished look, you can paint the rail to match the racks.
- Then, outfit the rail with hooks and accessories so that you can hang items easily.



add a **work surface**

- If you're going to work on projects in your garage, you need a work surface to do it on. This one is simple to put together.
- For this workstation, you're only going to assemble half of a steel rack to create a shorter structure. Then, slip in three of the shelves.
- Now you can create the work surface. Just cut a slightly oversize piece of medium density fiberboard (MDF) to size using a circular saw.
- At the back of the work surface, create a backboard. It gets screwed to the back edge of the work surface from underneath.
- With that done, you can attach the work surface to the top shelf by driving screws from underneath.
- You can add storage for tools by mounting a piece of pegboard to the wall above the work surface. Just screw it to the wall studs using spacers behind the screws.



Resources

All of these items are available in home centers and hardware stores

- 24" x 48" x 72" Muscle Rack Storage Shelf
- One 4x8 sheet of $\frac{3}{4}$ " Birch Plywood
- One 4x8 sheet of $\frac{1}{4}$ " Pegboard
- One 4x4 sheet of $\frac{3}{4}$ " MDF
- 1x6 pine or Poplar Boards (for wall rail and work surface backboard)

- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Zinc Hinges (2 per door)
- 2" Zinc Window Bolts (1 per door)
- 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " Zinc Screen Door Pulls (1 per door)
- #12 Steel Single-Jack Chain (2 @ 19"-long per door)
- #10 x $\frac{3}{4}$ " Panhead Sheet-Metal Screws (20 per side)
- #10 x $\frac{3}{4}$ " Flathead Machine Screws, Nuts, Washers (3 per door hinge)
- #10 x $\frac{1}{2}$ " Panhead Machine Screws Nuts, Washers (6 per barrel bolt)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 1" Lag Screws (2 per storage unit)