

## DIY Driftwood Frame: How-To

### MATERIAL + TOOLS:

- Wood
- Miter Saw/Hand Saw
- Table Saw
- Miter Clamp
- Wood Glue
- Nails
- Glass, cut to size at a frame store
- Photo/print/painting
- Foam Board, cut to size
- Frame Kit and Wire Hanging Kit

### PROCESS:

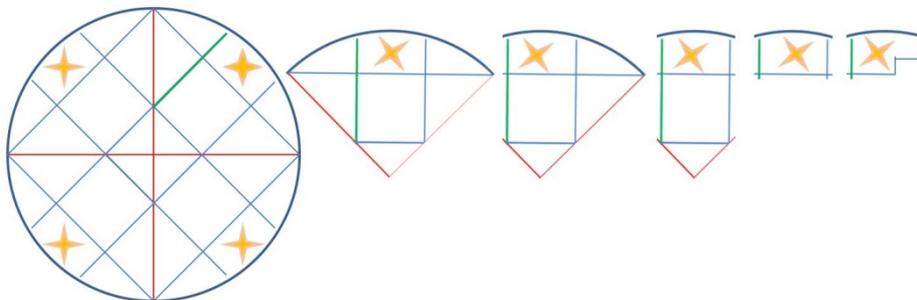
1. Select your frame material (found driftwood or purchased lumber).
2. Using a miter saw (chop saw) or a hand saw, like we did, cut the wood to your desired lengths, plus a few extra inches, for your soon-to-be-displayed photograph or painting. Take into account extra height and width for a mat if you want one.

Our photograph measures 16" x 20" and was printed by Shutterfly. We added a 1" mat all the way around, overlapping it with the print a little. The total inner frame/glass space ended up being about 17.5" x 21.75". Our frame is about 1.5" thick, so the total dimension from outer edge to outer edge is about 20.5" x 24.5".



**\*If you're starting with flat narrow planks that are frame-ready, skip ahead to step 7\***

3. If you're using a round log you may have to get creative. As shown in the visual below (viewpoint from the end of the log), we chopped the log into quarters (roughly) using a split in the log as a natural starting point and an axe. We then selected the center, rounded edge for our frame so that the corners of the frame didn't have drastic height differences. The frame pieces are notated with a star.

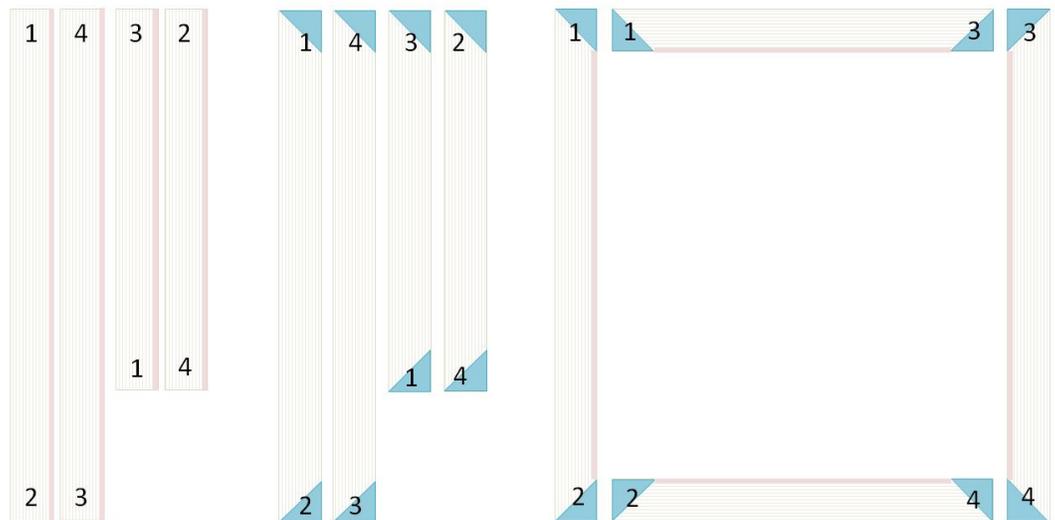


- The first cut on the table saw was along the green line, and was freehanded by our master wood craftsman. This is not recommended for anybody with less than total confidence and comfort- and safety gear- working with power tools and saws.



- With the straight edge from the first cut as a guide now, saw off the opposite edge of the quarter block so you have the width of your frame (along the blue line parallel to the green line).
- Next make the cut for the depth of the frame, remembering to leave room for the rabbit- the notch that you will set the glass, photo, and backing into. We cut our pieces about 1.5" deep- though the terrain of the driftwood is uneven so it varied along the plank.

- With four pieces cut to (generous) length start playing around to see which pieces match up best for your miter joints- the corners where you will make the 45-degree angle cuts. We had all four pieces laid out on the floor and shuffled them around until we were satisfied- then marked numbers in pencil at the end of the pieces that went together. See image to the right.



- Lower the blade on the table saw to the correct height of the notch and make the two cuts to notch out the rabbit- this is the pink line above- make sure your notch the inside of the frame! Ours is just about .5" deep.



9. With your notches in place, go back to the miter saw and make your 45-degree angle cuts. Again, this takes some attention to make sure you're cutting the correct angle. See the blue triangles above. Those are the scrap pieces to be cut off.
10. Finally, with all pieces cut to length, notched and mitered you can put it all together! This is where those pencil marked numbers come in handy. Using a miter clamp (corner clamp) secure the corner with some glue, clamp them together, and use two nails or screws to hold the frame solidly together. You can use some wood putty over the nail holes if you want. Unless you have four miter clamps, you'll have to work one corner at a time.
11. Lastly attach your hardware to the back. We got a little unique here and installed two metal brackets at a 45-degree angle across the bottom of the frame and installed two turn buttons at each of the top corners. Then we attached a wire hanging kit that we purchased at a local hardware store- very affordable. Lastly, gently drop in your glass, photo, and a foam board backing. Voila!

