Simple Wall Shelf — Construction Plan V1.1

Brand-neutral beginner plan | One wood board + two visible metal brackets | Revised October 2026

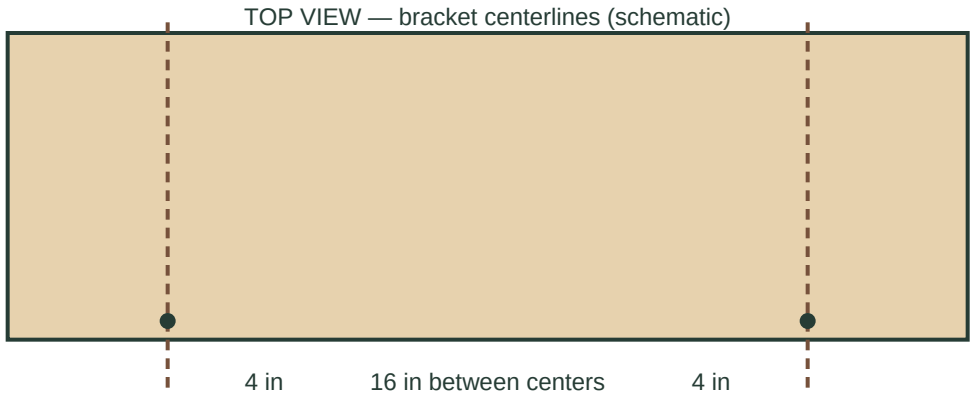
Important: This is an educational, dimensionally checked schematic, not a physically built or load-tested design. Actual bracket compatibility, stud conditions, fastener selection and allowable loading must be verified for each installation.

Project dimensions

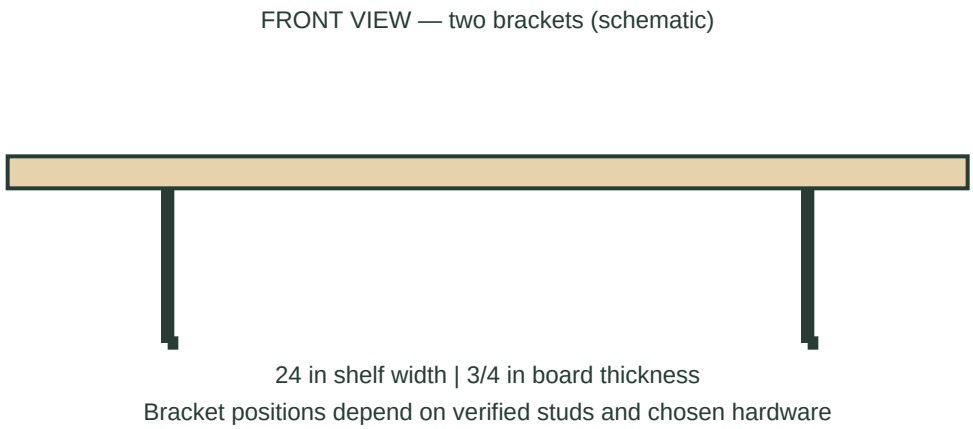
Part	Quantity	Finished size / requirement
Shelf board	1	24 in long × 8 in deep × 3/4 in thick
Wall brackets	2	Matched metal L-brackets with horizontal arms suitable for an 8 in-deep shelf
Wall attachment	Per bracket instructions	Fasteners approved by bracket maker for structural wood studs
Shelf attachment	As required	Manufacturer-approved fasteners short enough not to pierce 3/4 in wood

A nominal 1×8 board is generally about 3/4 × 7 1/4 in. For the specified 8 in depth, buy an actual 8 in-wide project panel or rip a wider board.

Dimensioned layout



Nominal bracket centerlines: 4 in and 20 in from the left end (16 in apart). These are not universal screw-hole positions. Confirm actual stud spacing before cutting or drilling.



Materials, tools and mounting criteria

Materials: straight pine/poplar board or suitable solid-wood panel; two matching shelf brackets; bracket-maker-approved structural fasteners for wood studs; compatible short shelf-to-bracket screws if required; sandpaper; optional paint or finish.

Tools: tape measure, square, pencil, saw if needed, sanding block or sander, stud finder, level, drill/driver, suitable drill bits, eye protection.

Bracket selection checklist

Choose two matching brackets expressly intended for wall shelves. The horizontal arm must provide adequate support for an 8 in-deep board, according to the manufacturer. Confirm the brackets can be mounted to structural wood studs at the planned locations; use the maker's specified number and type of fasteners, pilot holes, embedment and shelf attachment method. Bracket hole geometry is not standardized.

Wall and load restrictions

This plan assumes two verified, suitable structural wood studs at 16 in on center. Do not rely on drywall alone or substitute generic drywall anchors. Verify wall construction and hidden utilities before drilling. If studs do not match the planned layout, revise the design or location. No weight limit is stated: usable capacity is constrained by the complete system, including wood, brackets, fasteners, stud and wall condition, and installation. Avoid heavy, overhead, or safety-critical storage.

Build and install — 7 steps

1. Measure and cut. Measure 24 in, mark a square line, and cut the board. Verify its actual width is 8 in if using this exact plan.

2. Prepare edges. Sand faces, ends and edges, progressing to a finer grit appropriate for the finish. Ease sharp corners lightly; remove dust.

3. Finish the wood. Apply optional paint or clear finish according to product instructions. Respect ventilation, drying and curing guidance.

4. Locate studs. Locate and verify two suitable wood studs, nominally 16 in apart. Check for utilities and other hazards before drilling.

5. Mount brackets. Mark a level line, align the actual bracket mounting holes with the verified stud centerlines, drill appropriate pilot holes, and fasten exactly as specified by the bracket manufacturer.

6. Secure board. Center the board over the brackets. If the brackets require shelf attachment, use suitable screws without penetrating the 3/4 in top surface.

7. Inspect. Check level, movement, fastener seating, board attachment and any protruding screws. Use only within the complete assembly's verified capacity.

Before publishing or building

This brand-neutral plan intentionally does not specify universal screw lengths, pilot-hole diameters, bracket load ratings or exact mounting-hole positions. Those depend on the chosen hardware and wall conditions. Do not treat the drawings as a substitute for the bracket manufacturer's instructions.

Project page: woodprojectlab.com/projects/simple-wall-shelf