

Magazine Rack

1. Start with a cardboard carpet tube procured from your local home improvement store. They are often free for the asking. These are usually 6' or 12' long by about 4" in diameter made from heavy duty cardboard. You'll need to cut it to about 4' 0" long (a hand saw will work for this). We chose to cut ours on an angle to give it a sort of funky look.



2. You will then need 12 cardboard magazine boxes, available from your local office supply store:



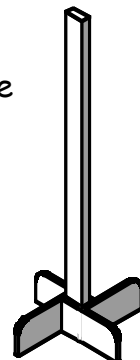
3. You will need a length of 2x4 about 4' 0" long.



4. You will also need 4 pieces of 3/4" stock that are about 6" high by 12" long. We used plywood but you could use wide boards or precut narrow shelving. If you can, round off one of the corners (for aesthetic reasons only.)



5. Glue and screw the 4 pieces of 3/4" stock to the bottom of the 2x4 as illustrated:

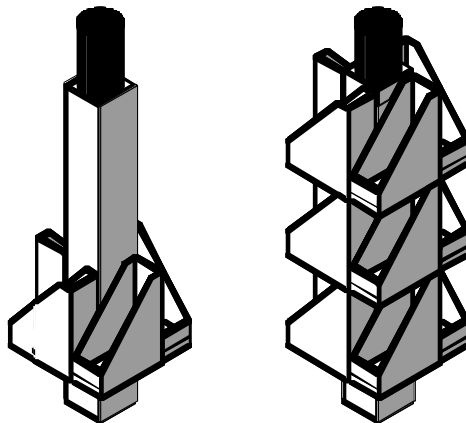


6. Now you need to find some flat cardboard stock that is roughly 40"-42" by about 25", depending on the height of your magazine boxes. A refrigerator box works well. With it, create a rectangular cardboard tube to wrap around the carpet tube to make flat sides. Starting your measurement from the



bottom of your tube, allow 8" between the bottom and the first layer of boxes, plus the height of your boxes times 3 (for the three layers). That will determine the height of this rectangular cardboard tube - it should be about 40"-42". Score the cardboard the long way about every 5", depending on the diameter of your particular carpet tube, with a 5th side that overlaps the first. Glue the scored cardboard, scored side in, to the carpet tube, using white glue and gluing and overlapping the 5th side. Use masking tape if necessary to hold things together as the glue dries.

7. The next step is a multi-stage process, as glue needs to dry. First assemble the magazine boxes. Start gluing the magazine boxes to the rectangular tube on the carpet tube, and to each other, starting about 8" off the bottom of the tube. Then glue on the next row of boxes, and then the next until you have all 12 boxes glued to the tube.



8. You're almost done...slide the carpet tube assembly over the 2x4 and test the ease of rotation. If it sticks a little, apply some bar soap or floor wax to the edges of the 2x4. This will act as a lubricant for the rotation.

9. I haven't talked about aesthetics much but your imagination is the limit. You could consider painting the carpet tube and the feet of the 2x4. You might want to do a cutaway on the magazine box outside side to allow for more visibility of the contents; perhaps contact paper might be a good choice for decorating the boxes. Don't paint them, as the paint will cause warping of the cardboard. We added styrofoam stars on copper tubes to the top of ours to make it fanciful but all sorts of other options are out there: pinwheels, stiffened magazine covers, stick puppets, foam noodles, cardboard letters, etc.



Happy reading!