

## DIY Airbrush Booth Tutorial

One of the first “OOPS!” moments I ever had was the day I decided to airbrush a cake blue in my kitchen. I didn’t realize it at the time, but I was literally blowing blue food color into every crevice in my entire kitchen. I couldn’t tell right away but as soon as the counter got wet, or I touched a pan, a smear of bright blue would appear. I desperately needed an airbrush booth but could not afford a professional-grade one. I decided to take matters into my own hands and made my own booth. It did take some doing but overall I am very happy with it and still use it to this day.

### Supplies Needed

3/4-in/18-mm melamine board (see below for specific sizes)

48-in/122-cm x 35-in/89-cm piece of thin backing board (laminite or pressboard)

12 L brackets

1/2-in finishing screws

Finishing nails

Gorilla Glue

Jigsaw or skill saw

Flat-head and Phillips-head screwdrivers

Power drill

1/8-in/28.5-mm drill bit

3/8-in/9.5-mm drill bit

Electrical tape

Four 1/4-in bolts

Four 1/4-in nuts

30-in/76.2-cm under-cabinet-mount range hood

Eight 1-in washers

120-volt power supply (or equivalent) Wire strippers

Sharp knife or X-ACTO knife

Pencil

Tape measure

Straight edge

### Board Measurements:

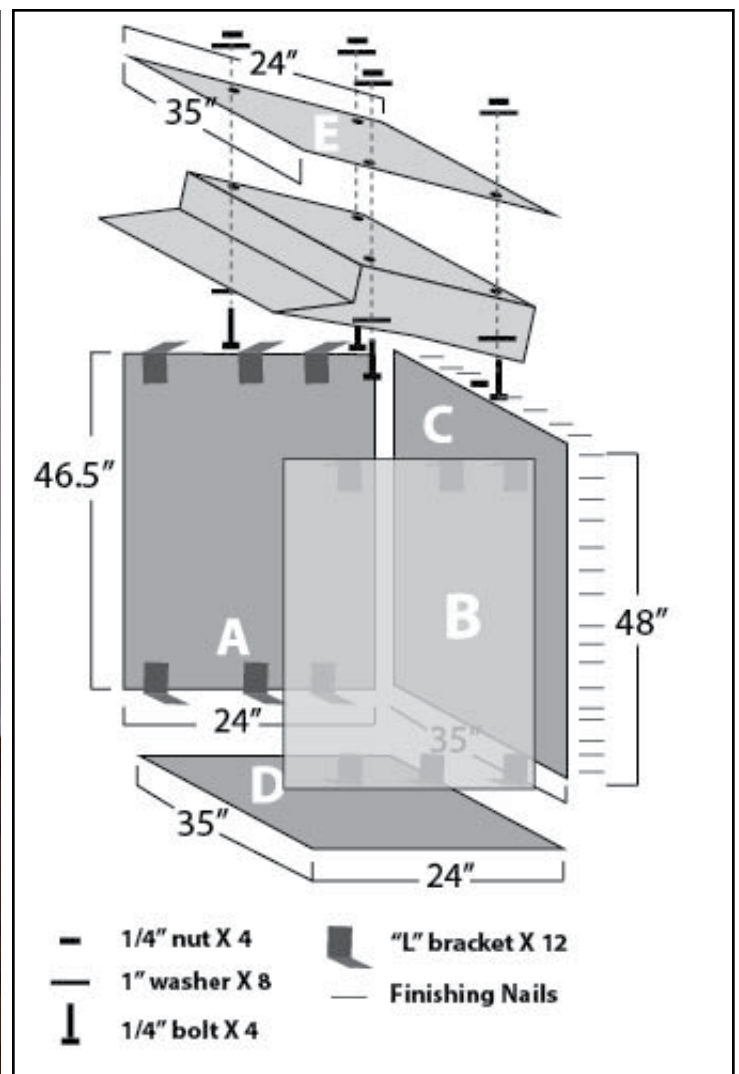
Side A: 46.5 in/118 cm x 24 in/61 cm

Side B: 46.5 in/118 cm x 24 in/61 cm

Side C: 35 in/89 cm x 48 in/122 cm

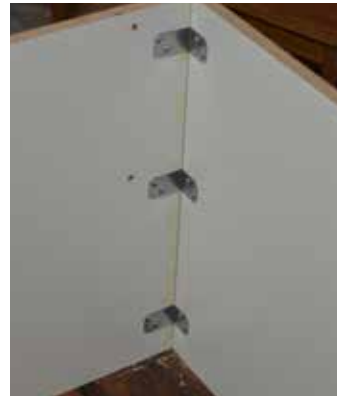
Side D: 35 in/89 cm x 24 in/61 cm

Side E: 35 in/89 cm x 24 in/61 cm



## Making the Box

Measure out your pieces and cut your boards using a skill saw or jigsaw, or have the store cut them for you when you purchase your boards. Some places will do this for you for free or for a small fee.



The range hood will act as a vent. Lay it on top of Side E (top piece) and mark where the attachment holes are. Remove the vent and drill a hole in the middle of each circle with your 3/8-inch drill bit. Lay side E and Side B with corners end to end. Side E goes on top of side B's top edge. Apply a thin layer of Gorilla Glue according to instructions. Press ends together and secure with L brackets. It really helps to have an extra pair of hands to hold the boards while you screw in the brackets. Repeat process with Sides D and A. Put together to form a rectangle. Side D goes under side B's bottom edge.

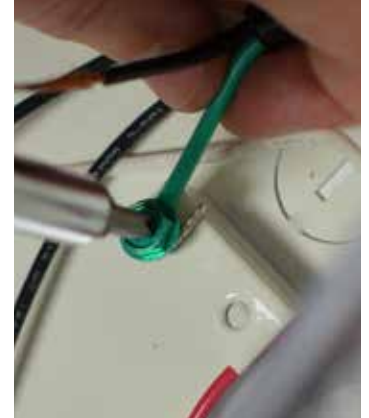


Apply a thin layer of your Gorilla Glue to the entire back edge. Lay your pressboard on top of your rectangle. Nail your pressboard to your rectangle with finishing nails, about two to three inches apart. Begin by putting one nail in each corner, then in the center of each side, and work your way around evenly until the board is completely attached. Let box dry overnight.



## Attaching the Vent

The ductless venting system is very easy to install and prepare for your airbrush booth. I have zero knowledge of how electrical things work but I was able to do this much. If you are too intimidated, have a friend help you with the wiring part. The first step is to remove the tab at the back of the vent where the plug wire will insert through the box and into the vent. Just use your flat-head screwdriver—insert it into the slot and wiggle back and forth until the tab pops out. Use your wire strippers to expose a bit more of the wire on your plug so you will have enough to wrap around the corresponding wires in the vent. Pop the cover off the electrical box on the underside of the vent by unscrewing one small screw to expose the vent wiring.



Thread the plug wires through the back of the vent, and into the box (I think this is confusing and should delete these three words). Match the wire colors to each other (make sure your plug is NOT plugged in) and twist together. Wrap the green wire around the screw at the base. This is the ground wire. Tighten the screw to secure. Wrap the exposed wires with electrical tape to prevent touching each other later; touching can cause the vent to short out. Screw in a light bulb and plug in to test. Replace the cover.





## Finishing the Booth

Measure two 1 1/8-inch circles at the back of your booth near the top where you want the plug to come out. Use your drill bit to cut two holes overlapping each other. Make sure your plug end fits through the hole.



Insert the vent inside the box and line up the holes. Have a friend help you thread the bolts through the drilled holes with a washer on the inside and the outside of the hole. Secure with the nut. Repeat with all holes. Your airbrush booth is done! You can also size this booth down if you need to but it really depends on the width of your vent and how big the cakes are that you make. Now when you are airbrushing, you can turn on the fan and all the dust gets sucked up into the filter. I change my filter about every three months. I keep my booth out in the garage just in case, but I have never noticed any color in my nose or anywhere else outside the booth and that is proof enough to me that it works.

