

Make Your Own LAZY MAGIC TABLE



Tips & Tricks for Magicians by Ryan Pilling

This solid little side table has been on the road with me for years. It packs flat, it's nearly indestructible, and cost me about \$15 dollars total. With this tutorial I'll teach you how to build one in twenty minutes or less. No workshop, no fancy tools. *Easy and practical!*

Let's get what we need...



Table Top - I found a new wooden stool on sale for \$5 and used the seat. Also, a cutting board, or any solid thick wood will work. Search garage sales or thrift stores.

You may want a power drill to pre-drill holes.



Flange - Specifically, you're looking for a "**Female Microphone Flange Mount**", This one is actually a male mount with a collar /adapter ring. The solid one-piece is better.

You'll also need three screws.

Almost anything could be used for a table top, with three considerations; It must be thick enough to accept screws, strong enough to survive the road, and small enough to not create a tipping problem.

The flange can be found at well stocked music stores, or search online. Microphone stands are a standard size*.

This project is intended for professional performing magicians. The kind of people who find their shows held together with duct tape. This table is extremely practical, not pretty. Although, I personally find its minimal style much more attractive than many more bulky magic tables.

No woodworking skills are required to build this thing. Even the power drill is optional. I used a stool top simply because I did not have a saw, or a workshop where I could create my own wooden circle. If you do have the space and skills, I look forward to seeing your deluxe model creation. (I'd love to see one with the flange inset into the wood, leaving it flush with the table bottom.)

* 99% of microphone stands are the same size. Very old stands found in the back of dusty closets at the Royal Order of the Moose lodge may have a smaller mount, but you can carry a simple adapter in case you ever find one.

Preparing the table top...



My stool top had some extra pieces attached. These were connected with screws, which were easily removed.



Smooth as a stool bottom! That's not a common saying, but it accurately describes how smooth the stool bottom is at this point. Ready for flanging.



Check your screw depth. Make sure the screws you use are short enough that they won't poke through your table surface. Here you see I'm checking the depth as it goes through the flange mount.



Place the flange in the center and mark it. Use a screw (or pencil) to mark the spots lining up with each of the three holes in the flange.

Attaching the flange...



Set your drill depth. Make sure it won't drill right through the table surface. Pre-drilling holes in your marked spots will save you from splitting the wood.



Attach the flange. Put your screws through the flange holes and into your table surface. Tighten it up and you're all set.



Attach to the nearest microphone stand. Were you hoping for a bigger project? Sorry pal, you're finished. Time to get back to practicing for your show.

BYO Stand

The "lazy" part of this table is that it attaches to any microphone stand anywhere. This means you don't need to bring your own to a gig. You can travel with the table top only, and use a stand from the venue. Worst case scenario, they can be borrowed or rented almost anywhere.

That said, if I'm not travelling by plane, I'll bring my own stand. I found the **AirTurn GoStand**, a collapsible, portable microphone stand that is perfect for these tables.



AirTurn
GoStand
\$40



You will usually see two of these tables in my show. One holds my prop bag, and the other is free to be used and moved for routines as needed. It's equally at home on a big stage, or the street.

I'd love to see photos of your own "Lazy Magic Table" in construction or in use. Send a note to ryan@MagicTipsAndTricks.com.

Ryan Pilling is a magician in Calgary, Canada.

He regularly shares **Tips & Tricks for Magicians** on his blog. If you like this, you can find more at www.MagicTipsAndTricks.com