



Oak, mahogany and maple are blended in this chest to form an antique mosaic. The inlays are of a type that can be duplicated without difficulty.

Inlaid Chest of Drawers Craftsmen Can Copy

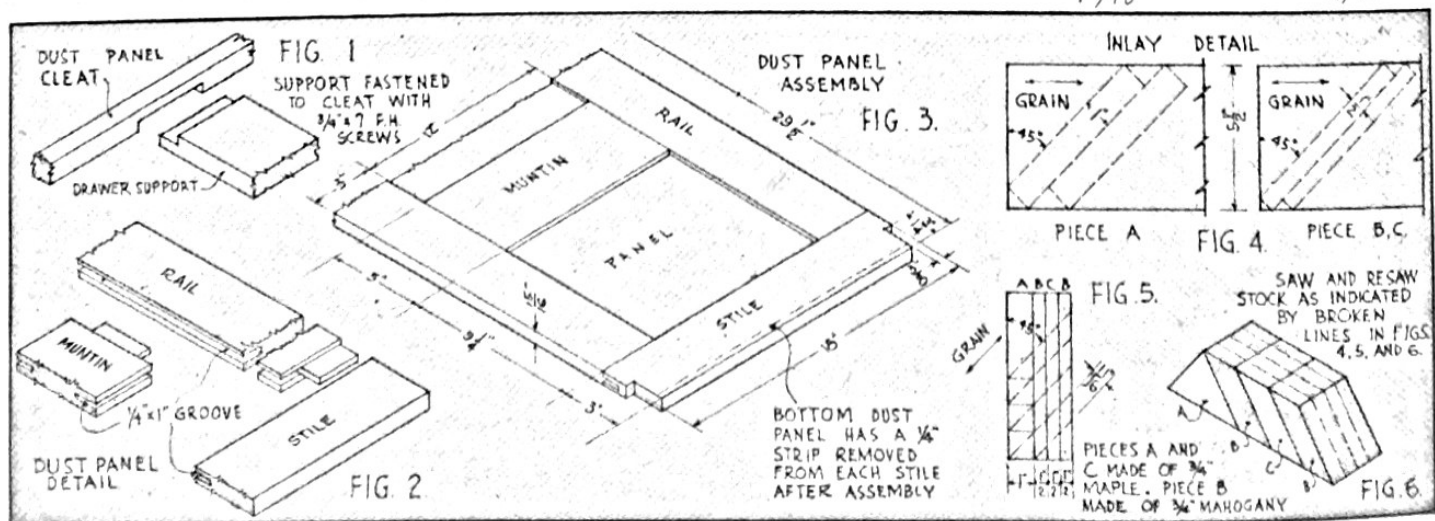
IN EARLY Colonial times the chest was one of the principal objects of furniture. Because of its great utility a chest, with or without drawers, assumed a place of importance in nearly every room in the house. Chests of many varieties brought over from England served as models for American cabinetmakers. These pieces were always of simple rectangular construction but were often richly adorned on the outer surface.

The fanciful small chest of drawers, which is constructed of oak, mahogany and maple as illustrated in the photograph and measured drawing, embodies

the Elizabethan tradition of sturdy, rectangular construction. The use of simple geometric inlay as its chief source of decoration and the application of molding on the drawers and the use of fielded panels at the sides, all create a distinctively rich form of embellishment. But its decoration does not end with these features. The extra quality of color is added in the combined use of oak, mahogany and maple blended to give the effect of an antique mosaic.

The carcase of the chest is made of two side units joined together by the front and back rails as shown in Fig. 9.

Construction is started with the side units which consist of the posts, upper and lower side rails and side panels. Four posts made of oak and finished to an overall size of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $30\frac{1}{16}$ " are required. The upper side rails, also of oak, are made of stock $1\frac{1}{8}$ " x $3\frac{3}{4}$ " x $19\frac{1}{4}$ ". The lower side rails measure $1\frac{1}{8}$ " x 3" x $19\frac{1}{4}$ ". The mahogany side panels require stock $\frac{15}{16}$ " thick, $18\frac{3}{4}$ " wide and $20\frac{9}{16}$ " long. In order to obtain a panel of this width it will be necessary to glue together several pieces of narrow stock. The panels should be made oversize so they can be cut down and squared



Note to Reprint Edition: This piece is now the property of Trent House, Trenton, New Jersey.