

How to make a finishing press similar to the one Glenn Malkin ([Signature Bindings](#)) is using in [this video](#) (around 18m50s)



Disclaimer: My skills at woodworking are pretty limited and I use a minimal set of basic tools: a handsaw, a electric drill and occasionally chisels and planes. The measures of this version of Malkin gadget are adapted by eye to my particular needs and/or availability of materials in my local shop. I used pine wood since it is cheap and easy to work with although I guess bleech would be much better

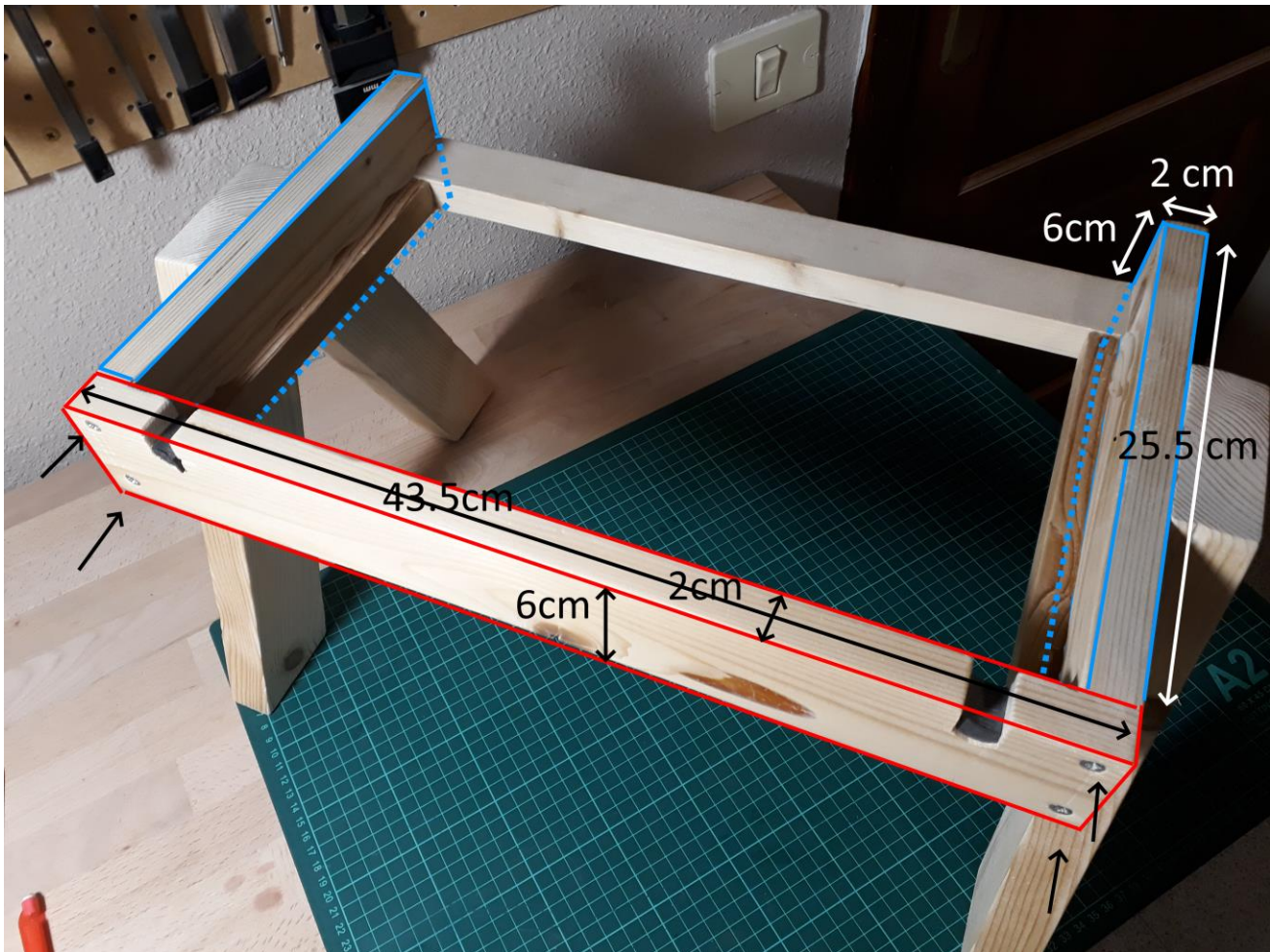
I've been using this thing for a couple of months now and I find it quite handy for many bookbinding tasks. If you build this or have any comment/suggestions/improvements to share, please let me know:

- [mamerto.bacallado\[AT\]gmail.com](mailto:mamerto.bacallado@gmail.com)
- [https://www.reddit.com/r/bookbinding/comments/i2bnc2/i\\_made\\_another\\_gadget/](https://www.reddit.com/r/bookbinding/comments/i2bnc2/i_made_another_gadget/)

Enjoy,  
Mamerto

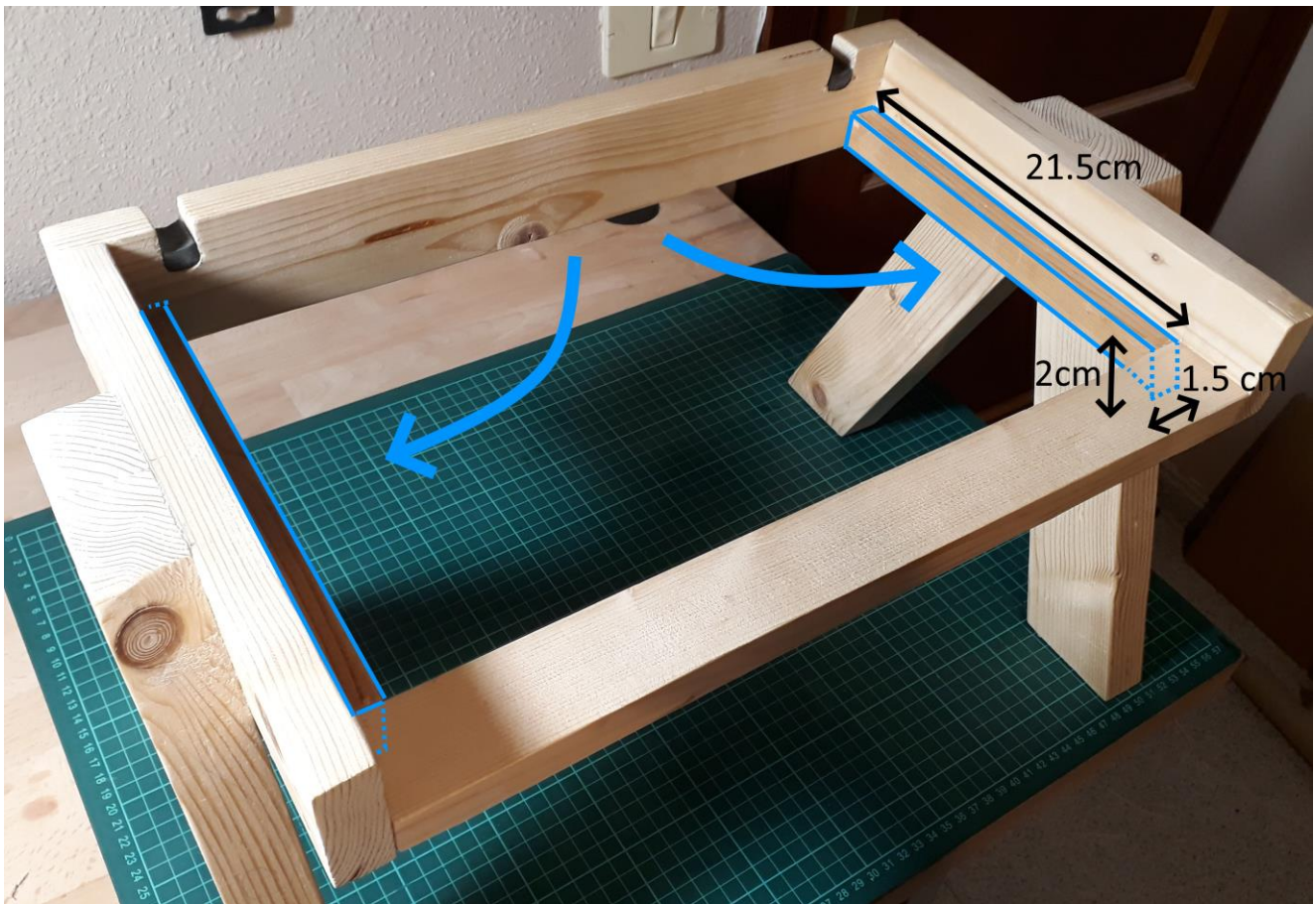
## Step 1 (frame)

- From a 6 x 2 cm wood strip, cut:
  - One piece of 43.5 cm long (red)
  - Two pieces of 25.5 cm long (blue)
- Assembly them as a "U" shape with PVA and 4 screws of 4 cm as shown in the picture



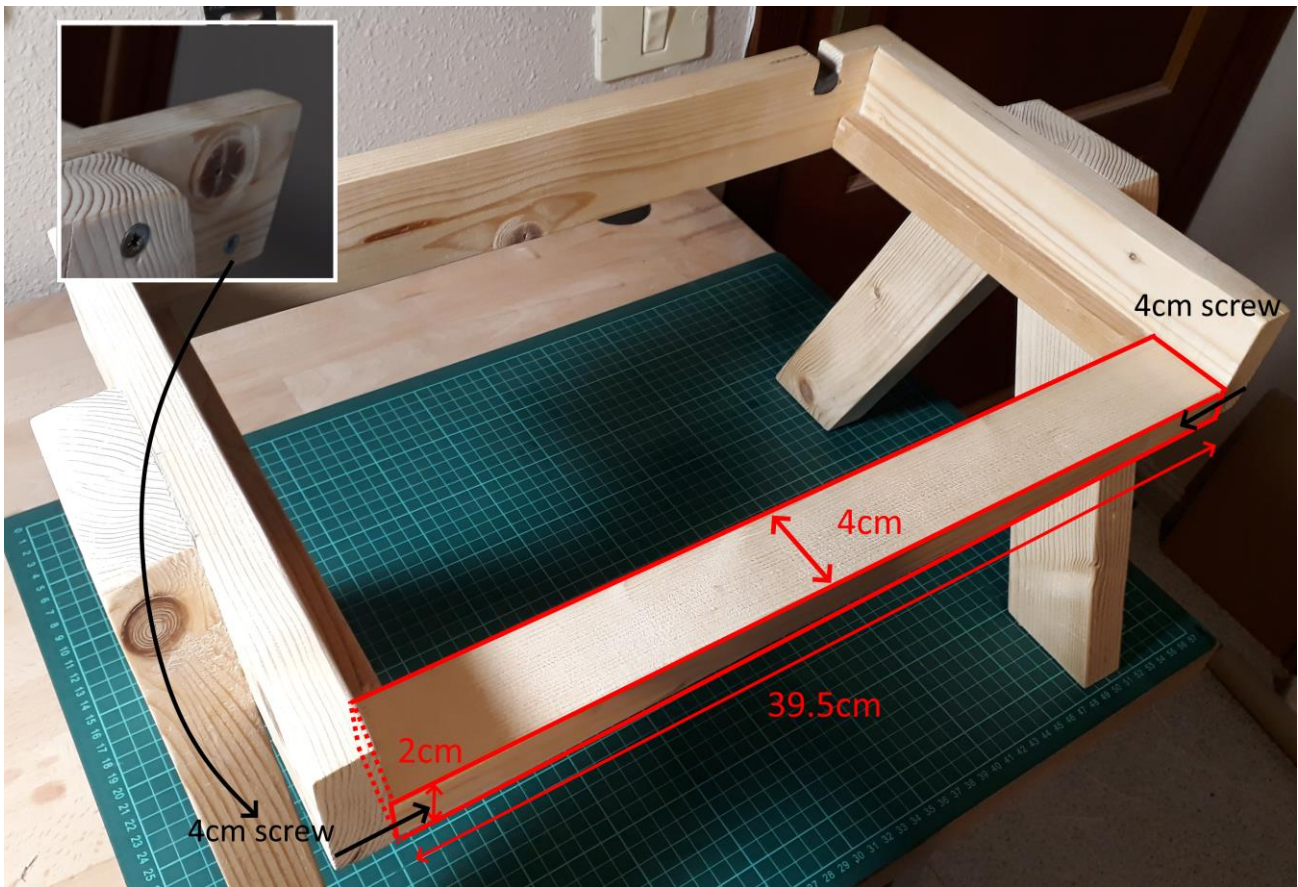
## Step 2 (frame)

- From a 2 x 1.5 cm wood strip, cut two pieces of 21.5 cm (blue)
- Glue them with PVA to the inner sides of the “U” as indicated in the picture



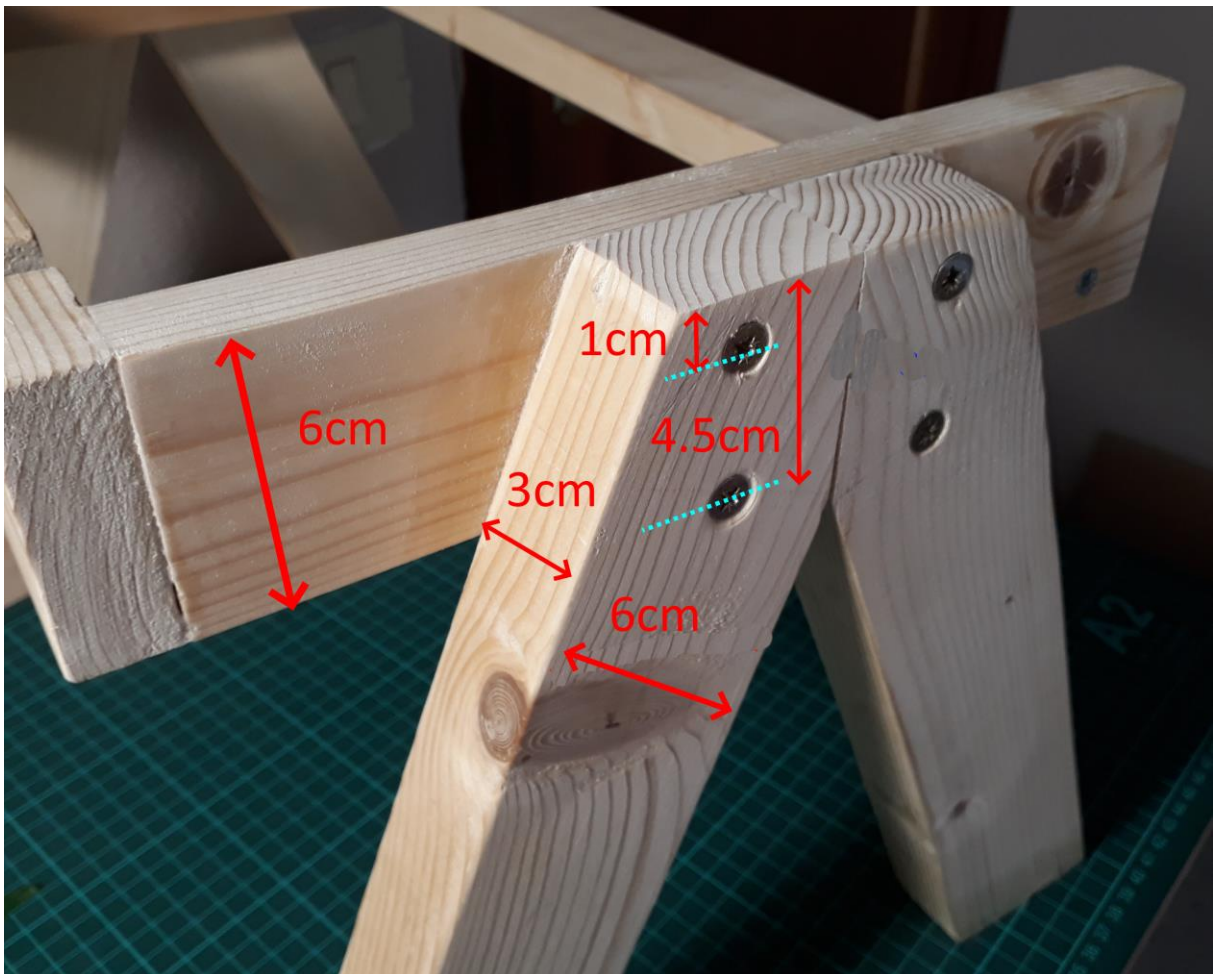
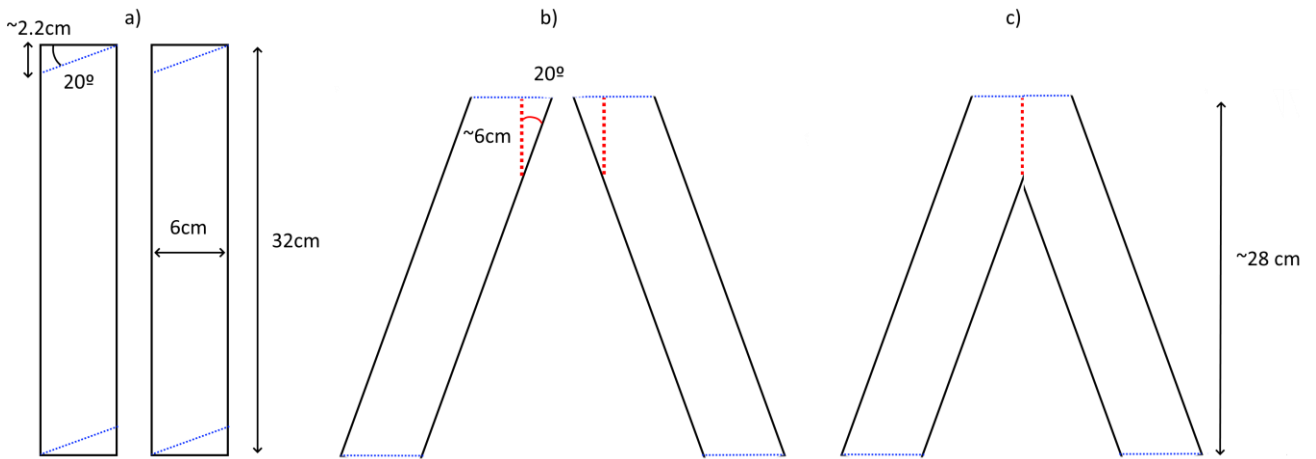
### Step 3 (frame)

- From a 4x2 cm wood strip, cut one piece of 39.5 cm
- Close the frame with PVA and two 4cm screws as indicated



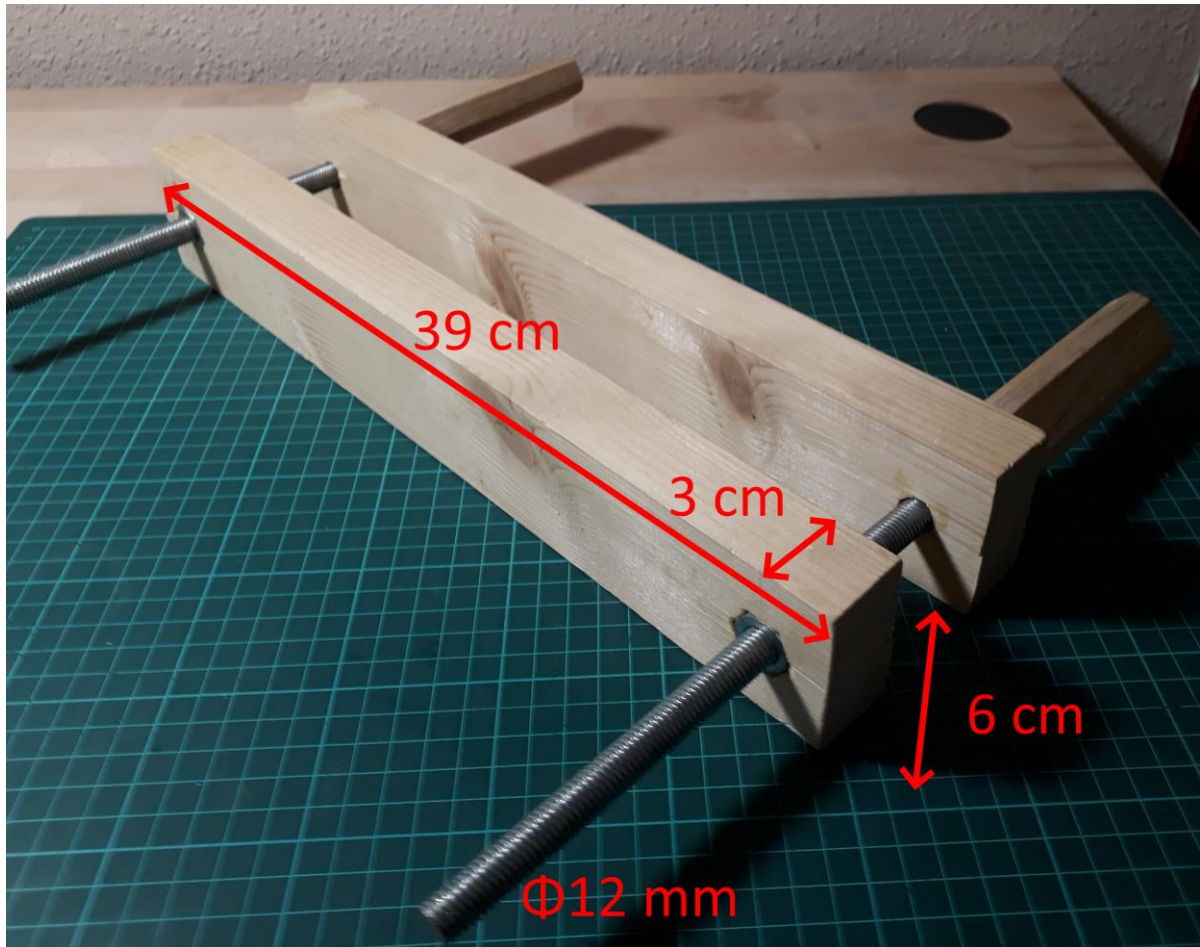
### Step 4 (legs)

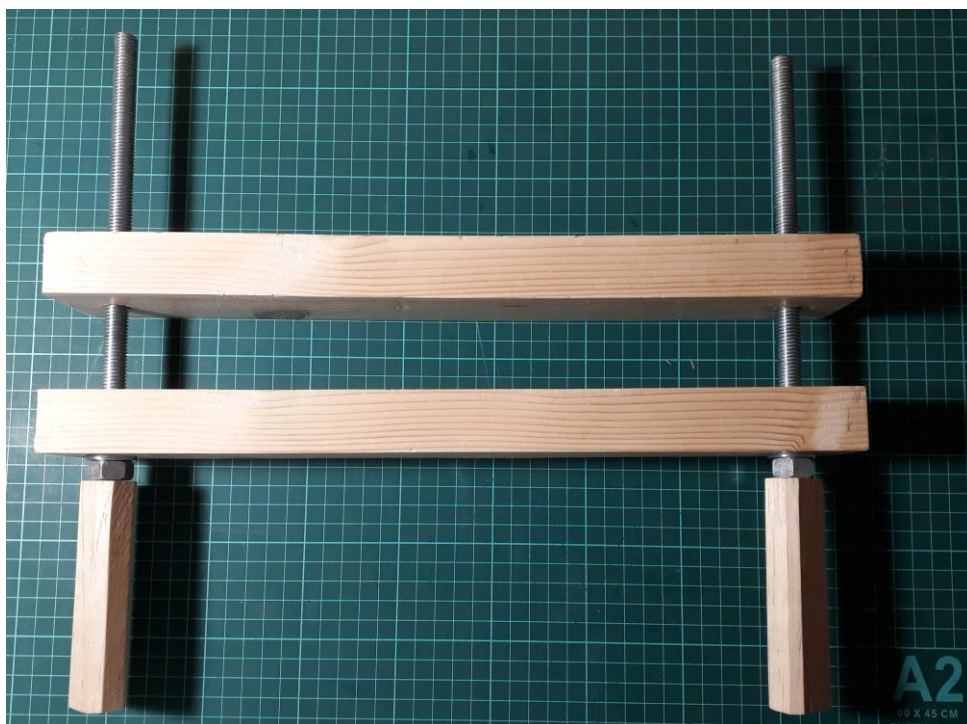
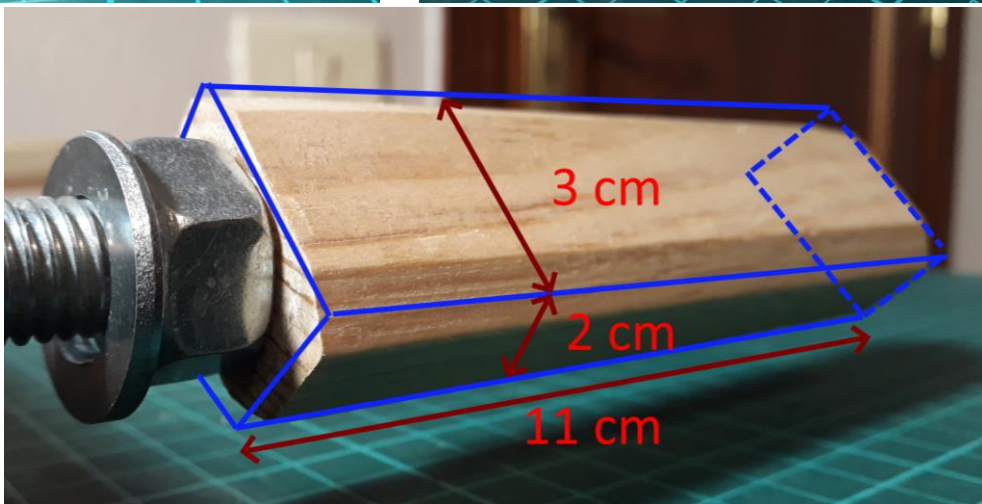
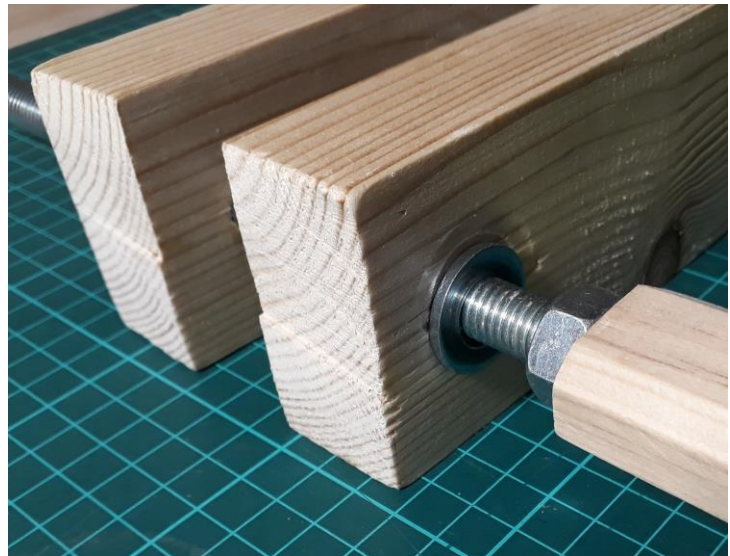
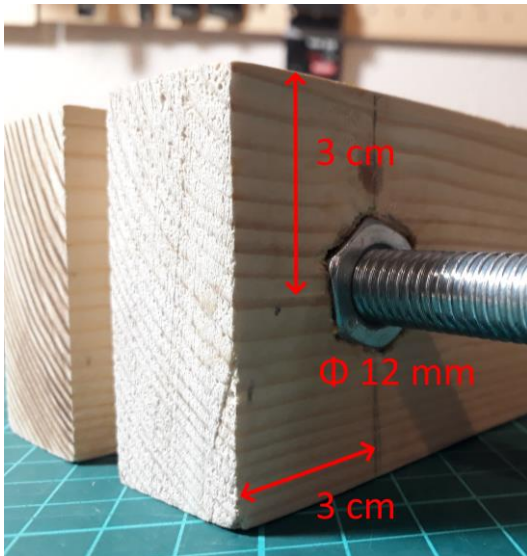
- From a 6x3 cm wood strip cut two pieces of 32 cm
- Remove wedges at 20° from all four ends as indicated in (a)
- Remove wedges at 20° from top as indicated in (b)
- Legs must fit approximately forming an inverted “V” (c)
- Make a second pair of legs in the same way
- Attach the legs to the frame with PVA and two 4cm screws on each leg



## Step 5 Press

- From a 6x3 cm wood strip cut two pieces of 39 cm to make the press cheeks
- From  $\Phi 12$ mm threaded rod cut two pieces of 30 cm
- Drill holes on cheeks so that rods can slide freely through them.
- Use a chisel to make hexagonal holes to bury bolts on the cheeks (epoxy to reinforce blocking)
- From a 3x2 cm wood strip cut two pieces of 11 cm to make the handles
- Drill holes for the rods on handles and screw them with epoxy glue
- Optionally remove corners from the handles with a wood plane





### Step 6 All together

- On the front side of the frame, make two indents with a chisel to accommodate the rods.
- Mount the press on the frame to check it fits ok
- Use sand paper to smooth the wood borders

