The Cabin Kitchen Build Sheet

Measure, cut, and mount your self-drying cupboard and peg rail.

Reclaim your counter space with this traditional Finnish self-drying setup. Use these precise ratios and measurements to build a highly functional, sunlit cabin kitchen.



Key Measurements & Ratios

1 part paint : 2 parts water
Pickling wash for raw pine

4:1 by weight
Mineral oil to beeswax board butter

66 inches
Peg rail height from the floor

6 inches
Space between each wooden Shaker peg

1.5 to 2x width
Skirt yardage based on cabinet opening

Plate diameter + 1 in
Cupboard depth based on largest dish

Based on plate thickness
Dowel spacing so stoneware stands upright

Directly above sink
Cupboard mounting height for easy dripping

Perfectly Straight Dowels

Pre-drill your dowel holes with a simple wooden drill guide block to ensure perfectly vertical alignment across the entire drying rack.

Organizing Your Storage Zones

Find your row: **Item to store**

Item to store	Your pick	Why
Heavy daily plates	Lower cupboard rack	Drips straight into the basin
Glasses and small bowls	Upper cupboard shelf	Dries quickly in ambient air
Heavy cast-iron skillets	Shaker peg rail	Keeps in easy ergonomic reach

Pre-Build Checks & Layout

- ○ Measure sink basin for frame width and largest plate for cupboard depth.
- ○ Test dowel spacing with thick stoneware before drilling the final holes.
- ○ Plan rail length so end pegs sit at least three inches inward.
- ○ Locate structural wall studs to securely anchor the heavy wooden installations.
- ○ Pre-wash natural linen or cotton canvas in hot water to pre-shrink.
- ○ Position rod slightly inset and hem skirt just above the floor level.

Finishing the Wood Surfaces

1. **Prep and Pickle** Sand with a medium-grit block, brush glaze in small three-foot sections, and wipe before it dries.
2. **Seal the Pine** Protect the walls with clear, water-based polyurethane to prevent yellowing and block daily cooking splatters.
3. **Protect the Dowels** Coat every hardwood dowel and interior frame piece with a durable, waterproof penetrating tung oil finish.
4. **Mix and Apply Wax** Melt the mineral oil, beeswax, and optional carnauba together. Rub directly into the clean wood.
5. **Buff and Maintain** Let the butter sit twenty minutes, buff completely, and reapply every three to four weeks.

Project Notes & Measurements

Enjoy your beautifully organized, self-drying cabin kitchen!