Stud-Bay Mirror Cabinet Build Sheet

Safely open up your walls and reclaim hidden square footage for custom storage.

Organize your linens and utilize vertical voids with this printable cut list and step-by-step sequence. Always check for a clear cavity before making the first cut.



Cabinet Cut List

14.5 x 3.5 in
recessed box size for standard bays

3.5 in
modern 2x4 stud depth

16 in
standard on-center stud spacing

1/2 in
cabinet-grade birch plywood thickness

2 in
construction screws for securing box

Paint for Visual Depth

Paint the recessed box a contrasting color before installing it to add visual depth and make small everyday items stand out clearly against the shadows.

The Assembly Sequence

1. **Locate and mark** Find the empty bay and draw exact, plumb lines directly onto the painted wall surface.
2. **Cut drywall safely** Slice the opening shallowly using a manual jab saw to protect undiscovered hidden insulation.
3. **Assemble the box** Join the plywood frame using wood glue and pocket hole screws, clamping overnight.
4. **Mount the mirror** Attach the heavy wood-framed glass using a continuous hinge to distribute the load evenly.

Safety & Clearance Checks

- [ ] Scan both wall faces of a shared wall with a stud finder.
- [ ] Sweep the intended cut zone with a non-contact voltage tester.
- [ ] Inspect baseboards for hidden plumbing and check for nearby electrical outlets.
- [ ] Prop the mirror on wooden shims to test swing clearance over baseboards.
- [ ] Check the packaging for the pneumatic lift kit mattress weight rating.

Hardware & Finishing Details

- [ ] Solid wood-framed full-length mirror to accept hinge screws.
- [ ] Continuous piano-hinged mirror setup to prevent door drooping.
- [ ] Self-centering drill bit to pre-drill countersunk holes flush.
- [ ] Slim wooden casing to frame the rough drywall opening.
- [ ] Dry graphite lubricant for yearly hinge pin maintenance.
- [ ] Natural cedar block to keep under-bed linens smelling crisp.
- [ ] Lightweight woven baskets with secure lids for high shelves.

Choosing Your Storage Strategy

Find your row: **Storage goal**

Storage goal	Your pick	Why
Bulky winter blankets	Under-bed gas lift	Exposes footprint without requiring drawer clearance
Rarely used belongings	Doorframe-top shelf	Capitalizes on dead space above casing
Complete sheet sets	Sheets in a pillowcase	Creates neat, stackable bundles for retrieval
Changing bottle heights	Adjustable metal tracks	Easily reconfigure interior shelves anytime

Project Notes & Measurements

Enjoy your beautifully organized space and all that newly reclaimed square footage!