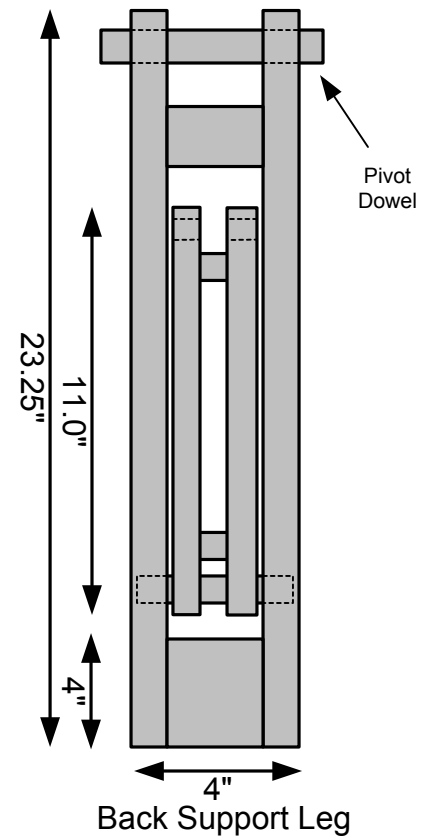
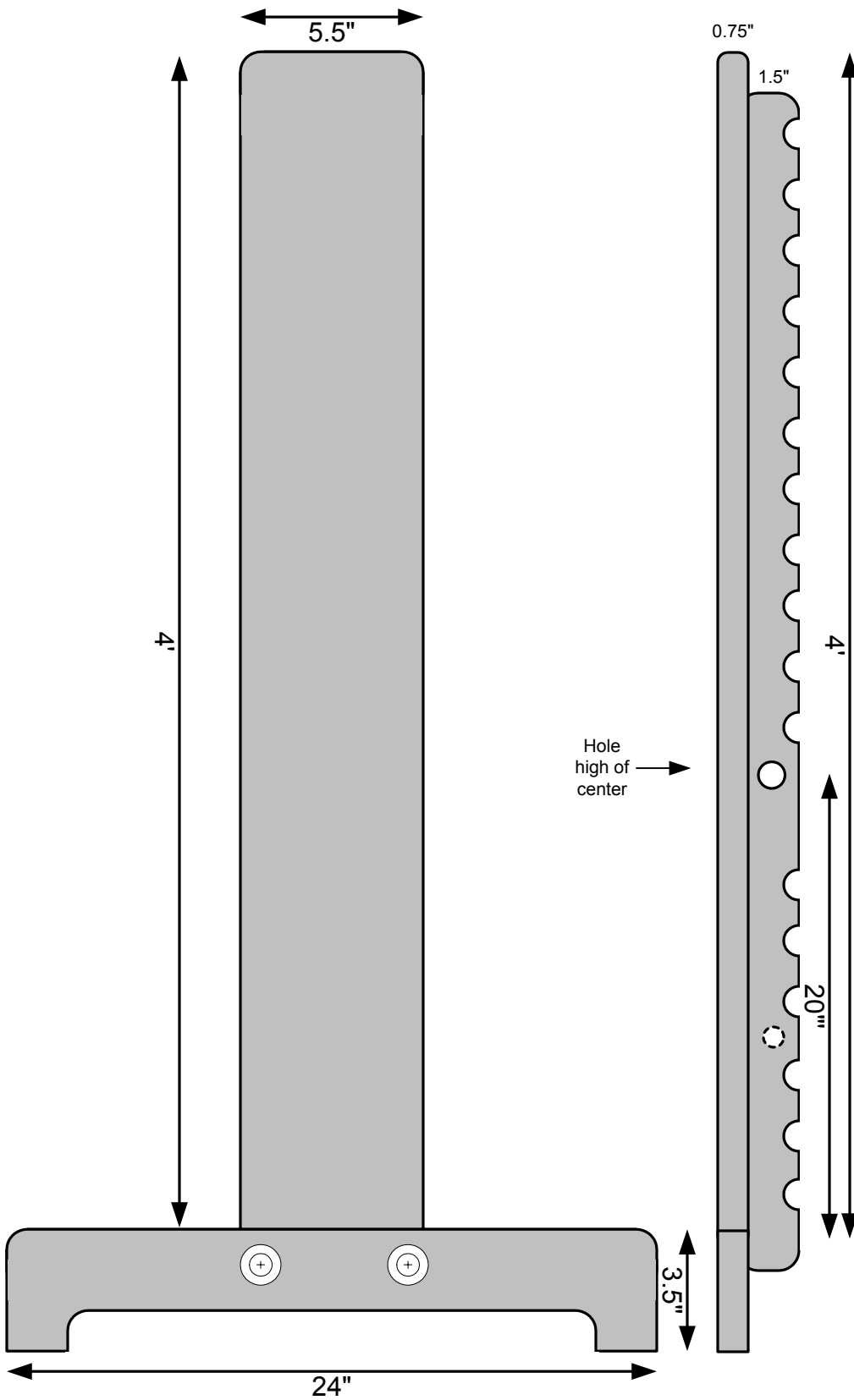


Oak Observing Seat

Inspired by the CATSPERCH(TM)





Probably the trickiest part of this project is getting the angle right on the seat and foot rest. Fortunately, getting close isn't too much of a problem, as long as the holes for both are drilled the same. During the final assembly use the nylon web that limits the distance the back leg can go to make the fine tuning on the angle of the chair back, and therefore the seat and foot rest. The horizontal wood brace will need to be drilled to match at this time.

Above: The back assembly without the locking dowel in. This dowel is the same width as the chair back and the spring clips go inside the chair back.

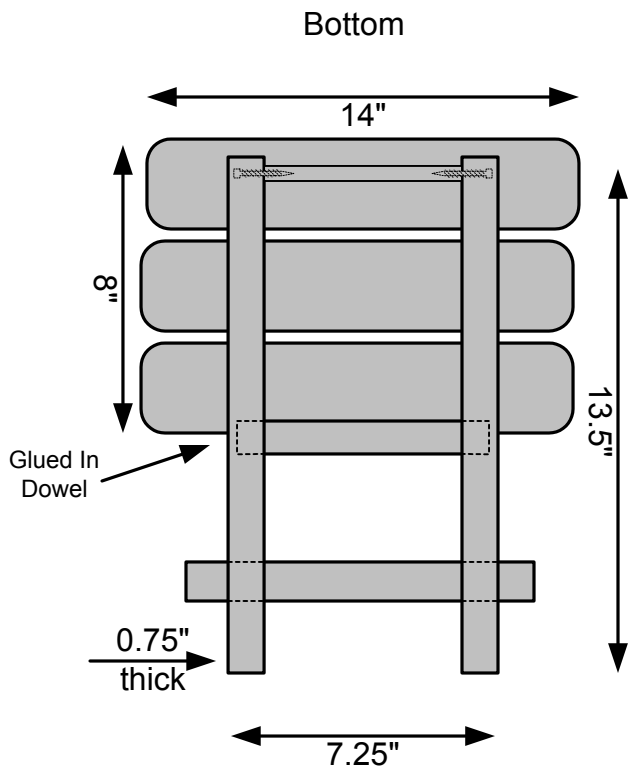
Right: The completed seat set up.



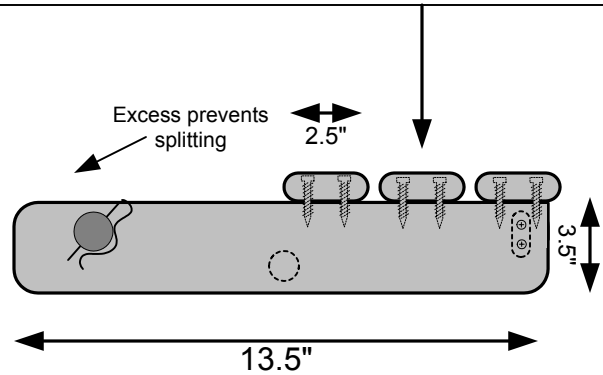
Below: Seat back folded and the front legs



The Seat



The top of the seat was coated with three coats of urethane followed by another coat mixed with H&C SharkGrip (Sold at Home Depot). This is an anti-slip grit that's mixed with the urethane. The grit has rounded edges and becomes clear on the seat. This was a little too gritty so I put on one more coat of urethane without the grit and it was perfect! A waterproof anti-slip seat that didn't cut your legs if you had shorts on.

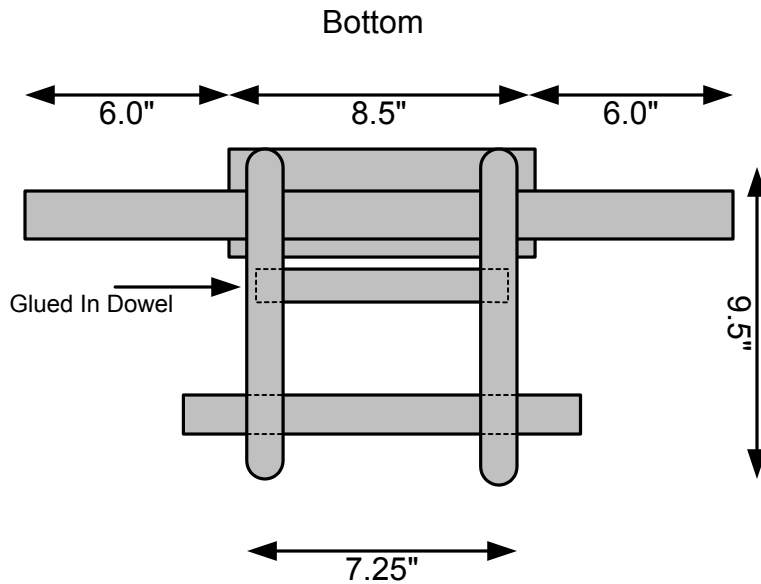


Spring clips hold in the back dowel and allow easy removal.

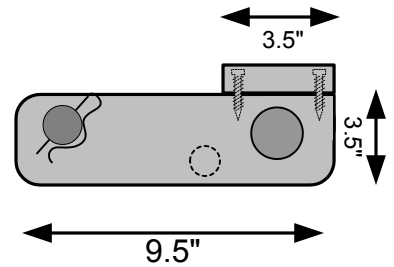
Top and bottom of the seat.



The Foot Rest



The tops of step and pegs have anti-slip coating. I used black 3M tred tape.



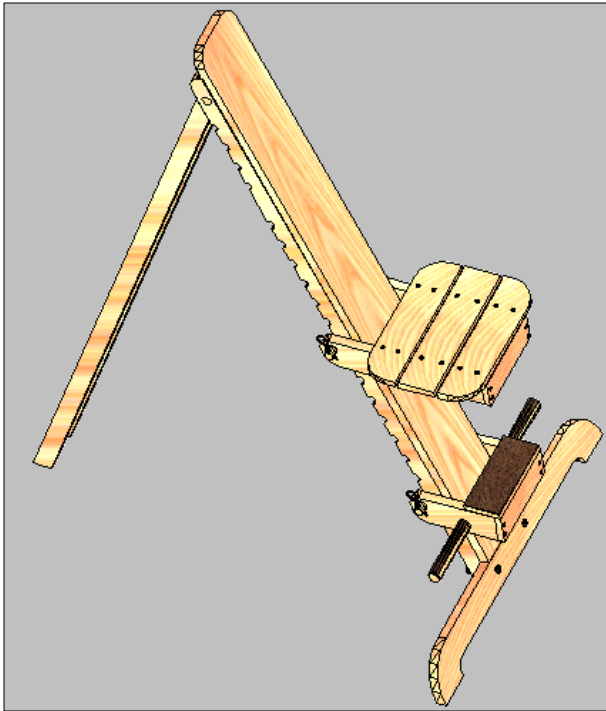
RETROSPECT

If I were to do this project over again I would go for a version that hinges the back leg from the top so that the seat and foot rest can be moved the entire length without removing the dowel on the seat (see the next page).

I would also *consider* using a stainless (marine quality) hinge to connect the back leg to the chair instead of the dowel that this one uses, although the dowel works quite well.

Top and side of the foot rest.





The CATSPERCH PRO(TM) ,
compliments of Jim Fly - CATSEYE(TM) Collimation

Here's a variation that allows you to move the seat and foot rest the length of the back without the leg getting in the way.

If you would rather just buy the chair finished or in a kit check out Jim Fly's web page here:

<http://home.earthlink.net/~flyj/cperch1.html>

He offers the model above and one similar to the preceding plans.