

**BamCraft – Crafting a Green Future: Bamboo  
in the curio and souvenir industry of Kenya**



# **Bamboo Training Manual 3: Bamboo Product Designs**



Funded by:



Government of Japan

Executed by:



United Nations Industrial  
Development Organization

Implemented by:



Kenya Forestry Research Institute

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# Introduction

This booklet compiles the product designs that were made as part of 'Crafting a Green Future – Bamboo in the curio and Souvenir Industry in Kenya', also known as the BamCraft Project.

Most of the products were made by staff of KEFRI, who were trained by international experts. The know-how for making these products was then transferred by KEFRI trainers to internally displaced people (IDPs) evicted from Mau Forest.

With the assistance of marketing experts, the Mau IDPs received support in selling and trading their products in local and national markets. This contributed significantly to improving their livelihood opportunities.

Bamboo is a multipurpose material and sustainable timber substitute. It can be transformed into numerous products with varying degrees of simplicity and complexity. The BamCraft project has focused on showing IDPs to make basic and simple products with market potential. This manual highlights many of the handicrafts made by the project beneficiaries at Mau. It is a tribute to the hard work of this group of people, who given the chance and with good guidance, have been able to help themselves while positively contributing to the Kenyan economy. Hopefully, this is just the beginning of capturing the value of bamboo for the mitigation of poverty in Kenya.

# Kisiet

Bring authentic Kenyan tradition into your home with the 'Kisiet', a sturdy hand crafted basket made of a combination of bamboo and other natural fibres. This product can be used for storing grain, vegetables and fruit or for keeping trinkets out of the way, adding colour and style to corners and table tops in the home. Variations of sizes and styles are available.

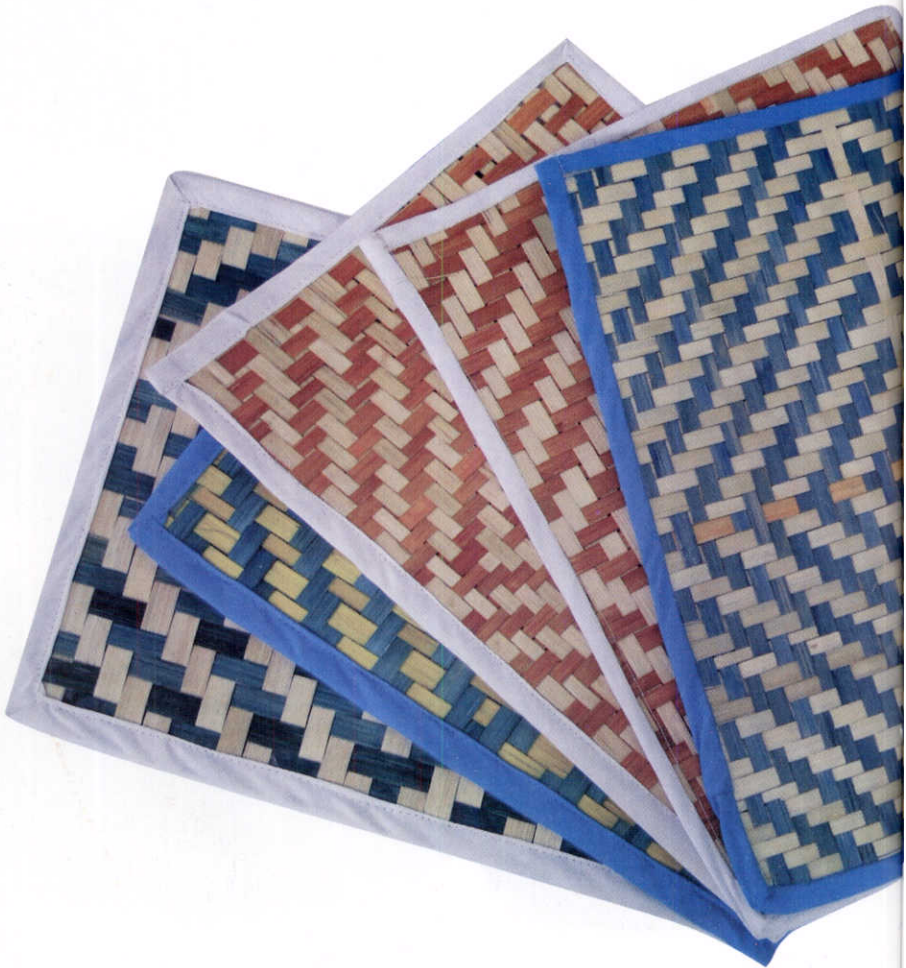






# Hand Made Mats

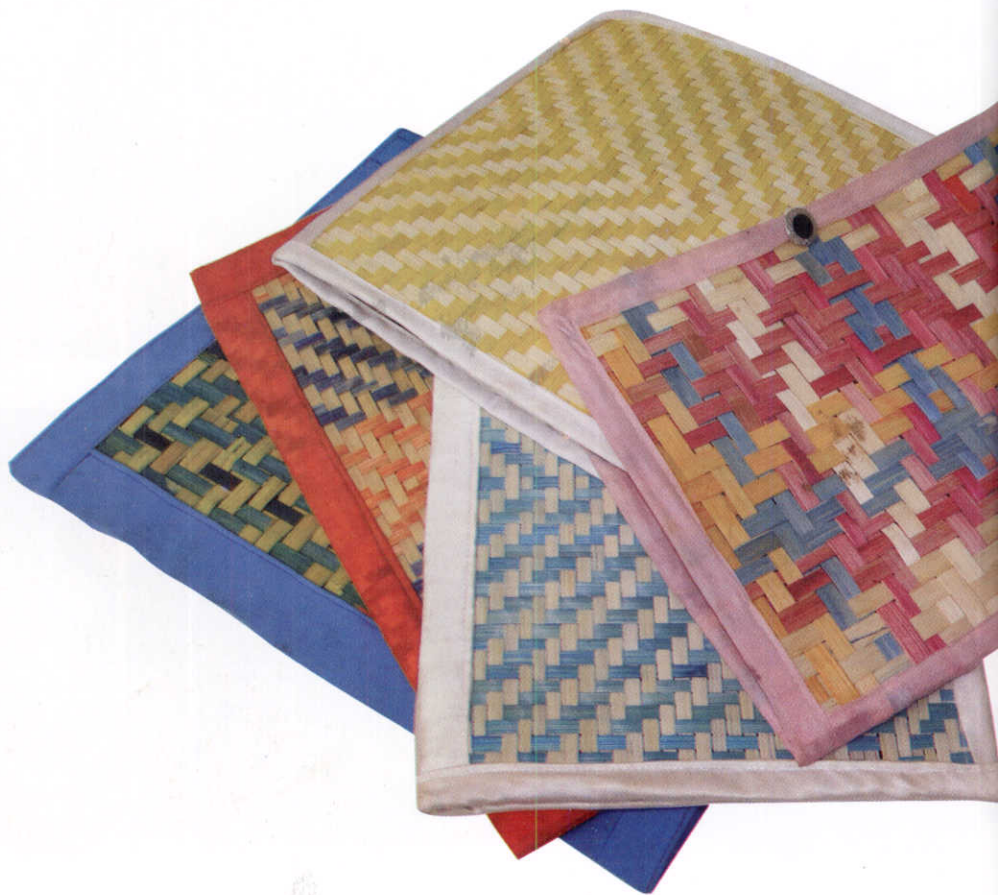
Furnish your table tops with handmade bamboo mats of various sizes and finishes. These are woven using different colours and patterns to suit varied tastes and can be tweaked for custom orders.



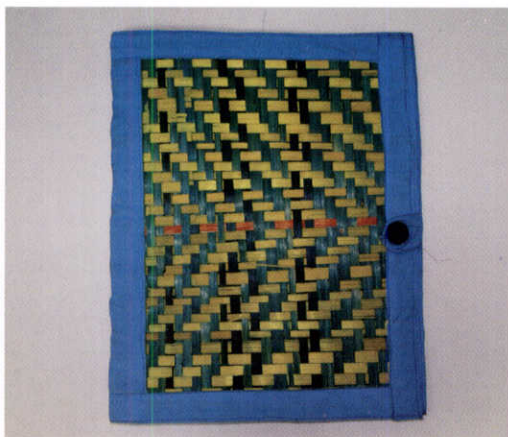


# Woven Folders

Impress your customers with these bamboo woven folders with cloth lining on the inside. They are ideal document carriers at conferences, as menu carriers in food outlets, and as room folders in hotels. They are long lasting and memorable souvenirs with a touch of authentic Kenyan craftsmanship.









# Bamboo Candles

Illuminate your homes and spaces with these environmentally friendly bamboo candles. They are available in various sizes and scents and are sure to create a cozy atmosphere anywhere, anytime.

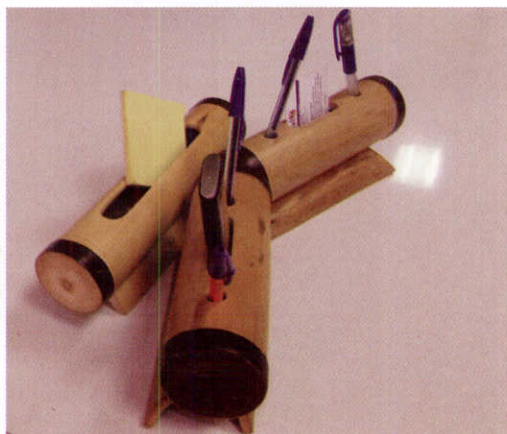
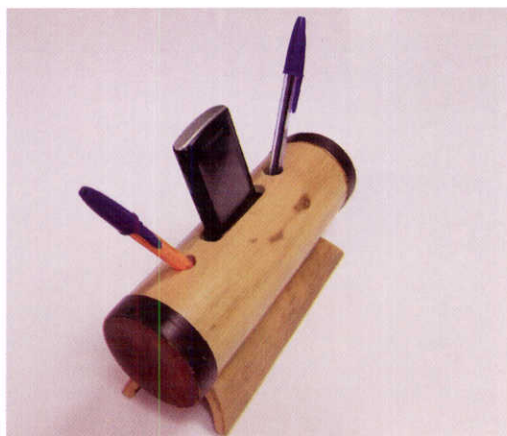




# Penholders

Adorn your desk top with a stylish bamboo penholder. Various models are available from a simple cup to more intricate designs that include slots for business cards and mobile phones. These unique bamboo products are sure to increase appreciation and visibility to your clients when branded.







# Bamboo Tray

A hand crafted bamboo tray is perfect for serving tea and snacks. Sturdy, with handles on the side and raised edges for stability, this item is a must for your kitchen. They are available in various hand dyed colours to suit your unique taste.





# Bread Basket

The bread basket made purely from bamboo is strong and durable, handy in any store or shelf to hold many other items besides bread: vegetables, breakfast spreads or books amongst others. It has infinite utility options that make it ideal for storage use.









# Bamboo Skewers

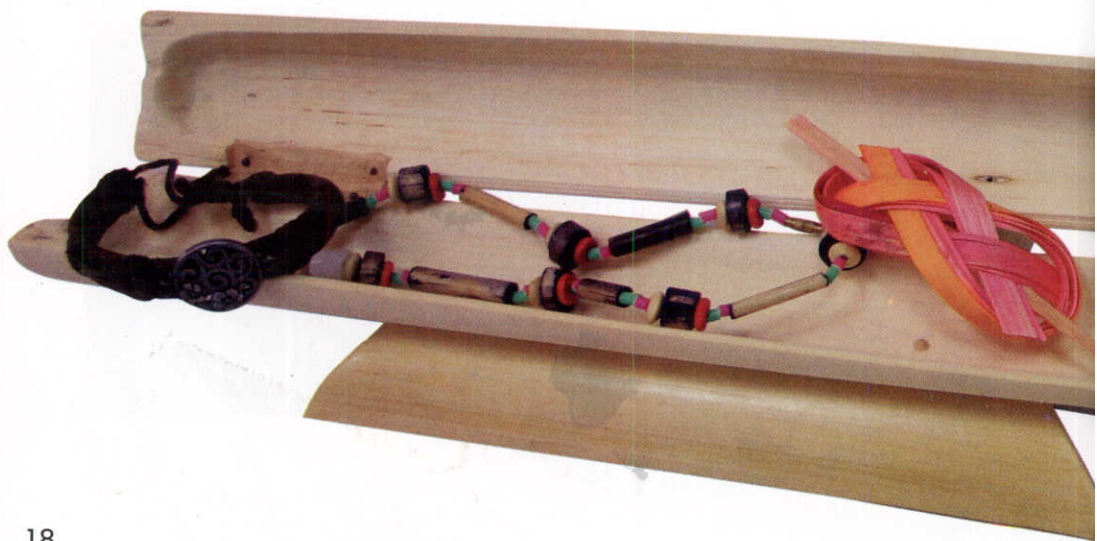
Take a bite of juicy roasts and kebabs right off these 100% handmade bamboo skewers, a natural product that is a must-have at a barbecue or grill. Each packet contains 50 pieces of even sized skewers of standard length which are easily stored and disposed of after use.

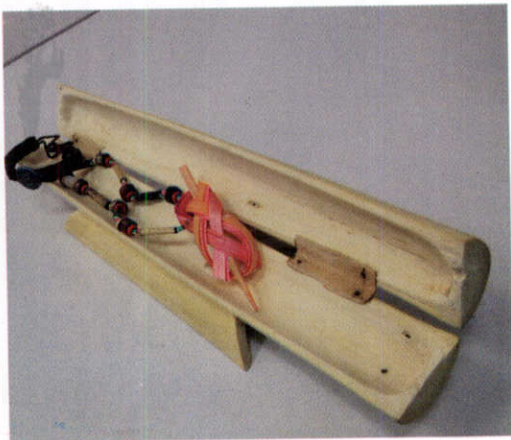
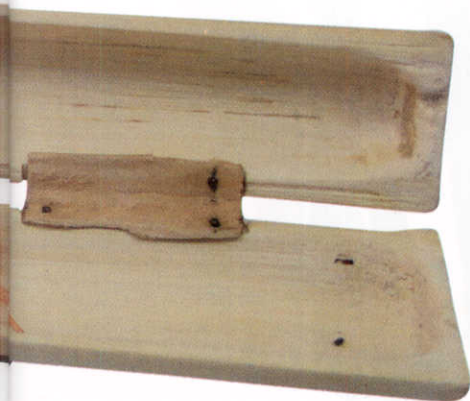
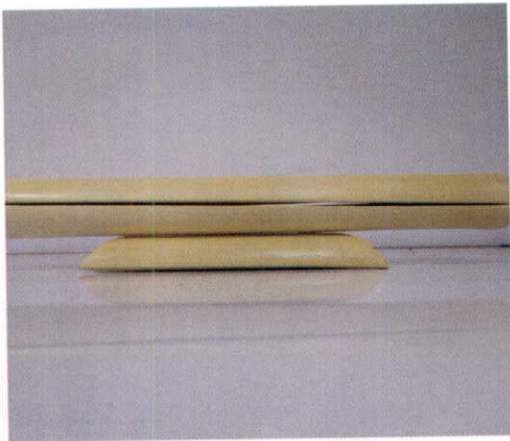
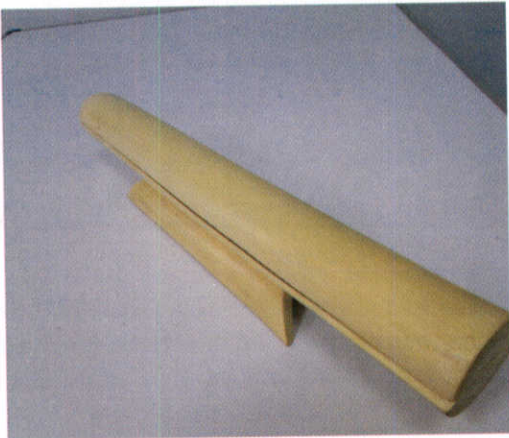




# Bamboo Case

Grace your mantle piece with this long and elegant bamboo case and store away your trinkets, coins and keys in an charming way.







# Cooking Sticks

Stir your stew or fry with these bamboo cooking Sticks. Handmade in various shapes and sizes and finished to a smooth touch, any of these cooking sticks will be invaluable to a home or professional cook!



# Rolling Pins

The bamboo chapati roller is indispensable to pastry chefs or home cooks. This cooking utensil is a must for any kitchen. It will surely help you roll out that dough with ease.

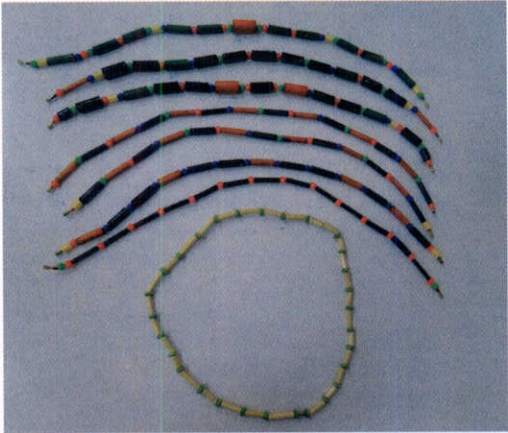


# Bamboo Jewellery

Add these rustic traditional bamboo jewellery items to your personal collection, which are a must to accessorize African and casual attire. Items include bracelets, ear rings, necklaces, hair clips and many more. They are available in various sizes and hand dyed in various colours.







# Bamboo Dining Set





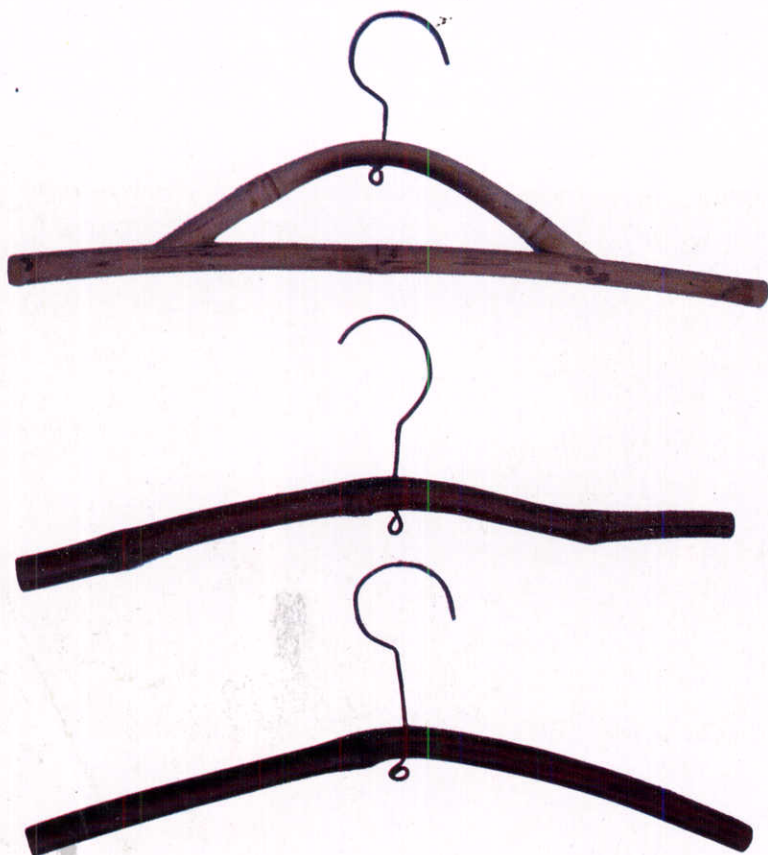
Bamboo dining sets are available in various sizes and can be made to custom sizes and designs on special order. Use them in your dining room or veranda and add a special touch of Kenyan craftsmanship to your home.





# Coat Hanger

The Bamboo Hanger is unique, sturdy and long lasting. Produced to a smooth natural finish, they are an eco-friendly alternative to iron and plastic hangers. Make a change and hang your clothes on bamboo!



# Foldable Beach Chair & Stool

This foldable chair is perfect for relaxing outdoors. With its smooth finishing and comfortable back railing, it is ideal for those relaxing moments under the sun. The foldable bamboo stool is a useful piece of portable furniture that is best suited for the outdoors or small spaces. Take one along on a picnics while touring our beautiful country. Rural homes and city verandas would do beautifully with this item, available plain or with stenciled decorative designs.









# One Seater Bamboo Chair

Sink into the comfort of this one seater bamboo chair, which comes complete with cushions. This seat can be given a special place in your living room and veranda.

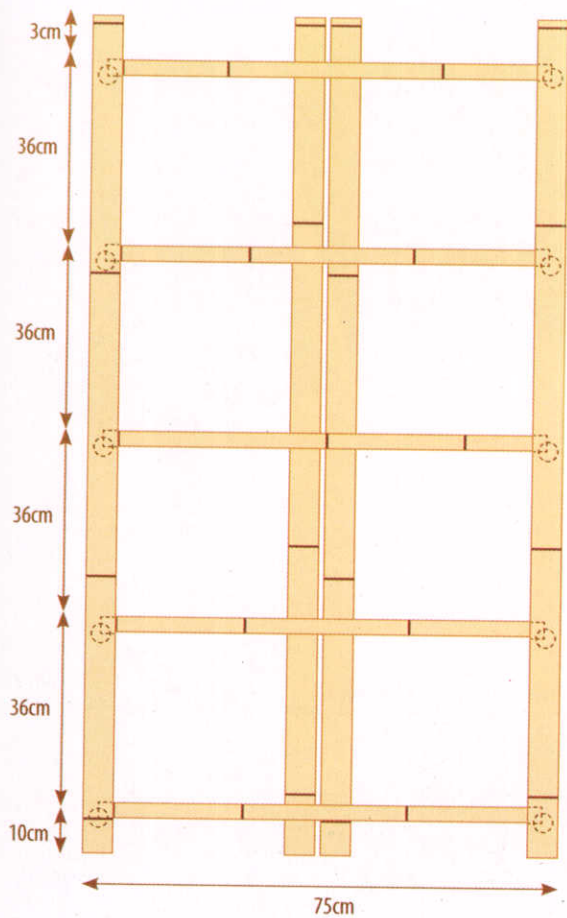


# Corner Stand (five Shelves)

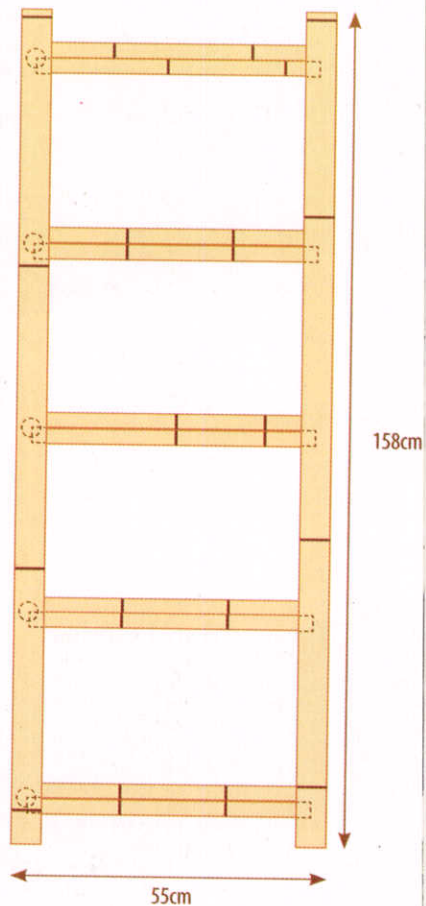
This five-level bamboo corner stand combines form and functionality, and will add a touch of Kenyan grace in any corner of your living room. It is produced in various finishes and sizes, and can be custom made to client requirements.



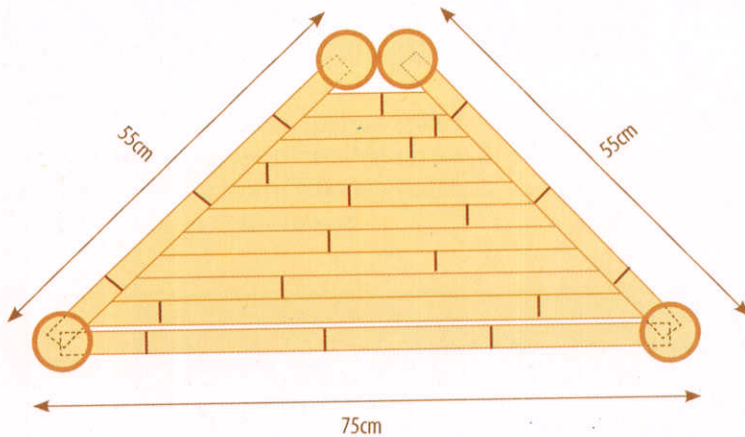
**Front View**



**Side View**





**Top View:****Corner Stand cut list:**

Pos.	Function	width(cm)	Diameter (cm)	Quantity	Length (cm)	Total (m)
1.	Legs (stands)	-	6.5	4	158	6.32
2.	Side Rails	-	2.5	10	55	5.50
3.	Front Rails	-	2.5	5	75	3.75
4.	Top Shelf Rails	-	2.5	10	55	5.50
5.	Splits	3.0	-		different lengths for each of them	
6.	Dowels					



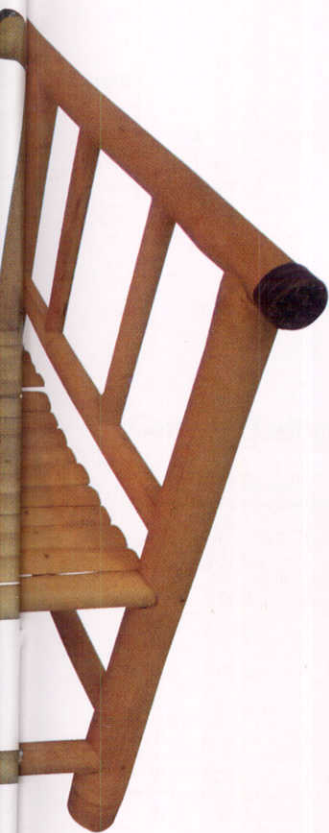


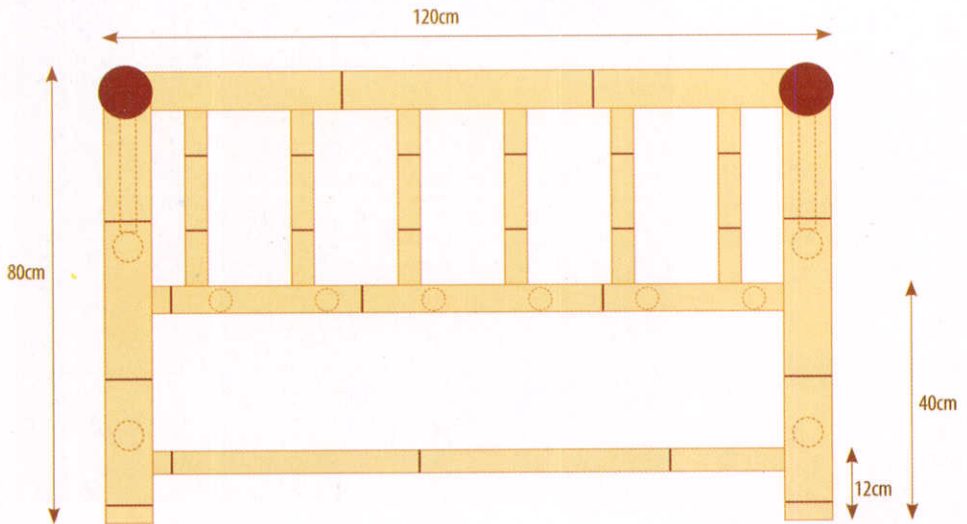
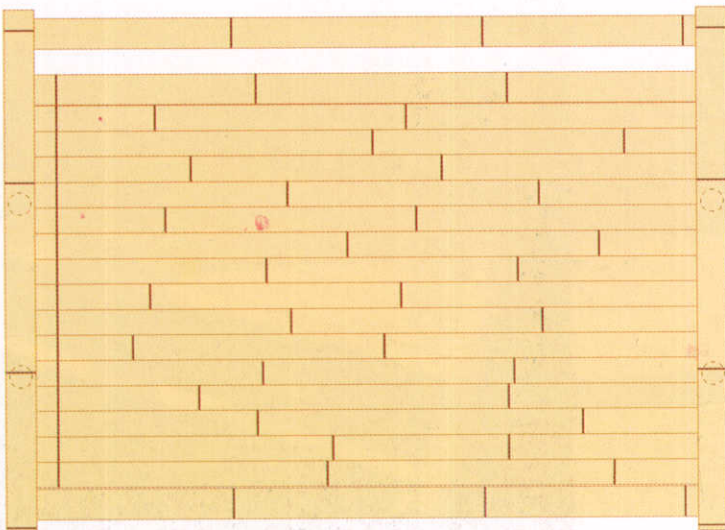
# Garden Chair

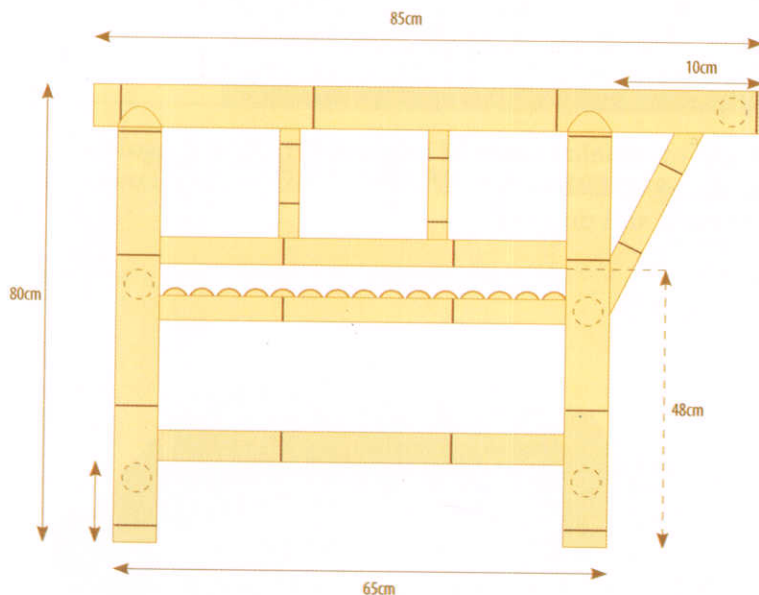
The garden bamboo chair is a double seater that, with the addition of cushions, is comfortable for relaxing in the veranda or in a shady area of the garden. Enjoy its wide sitting space and smooth finishes with a friend in a fresh outdoor atmosphere.







**Front View:****Top View:**

**Side View:****Garden chair cut list:**

Pos.	Function	Diameter (cm)	Width (cm)	Quantity	Length (cm)	Total (m)
1.	Legs	7.0	-	4	80	3.20
2.	Side Rails	4.0	-	4	65	2.60
3.	Front Rails	4.0	-	2	112	2.24
4.	Top Rails	7.0	-	2	85	1.70
5.	Back Rails	4.0	-	3	112	3.36
6.	Side Spiddles	3.2	-	4	35	1.40
7.	Back Spiddles	3.2	-	6	43	2.58
8.	Splits	-	3.2	15	112	16.80
9.	Seat Supporter	3.2	-	5	65	3.25
10.	Dowels					
11.	Leather Bindings		1.3			

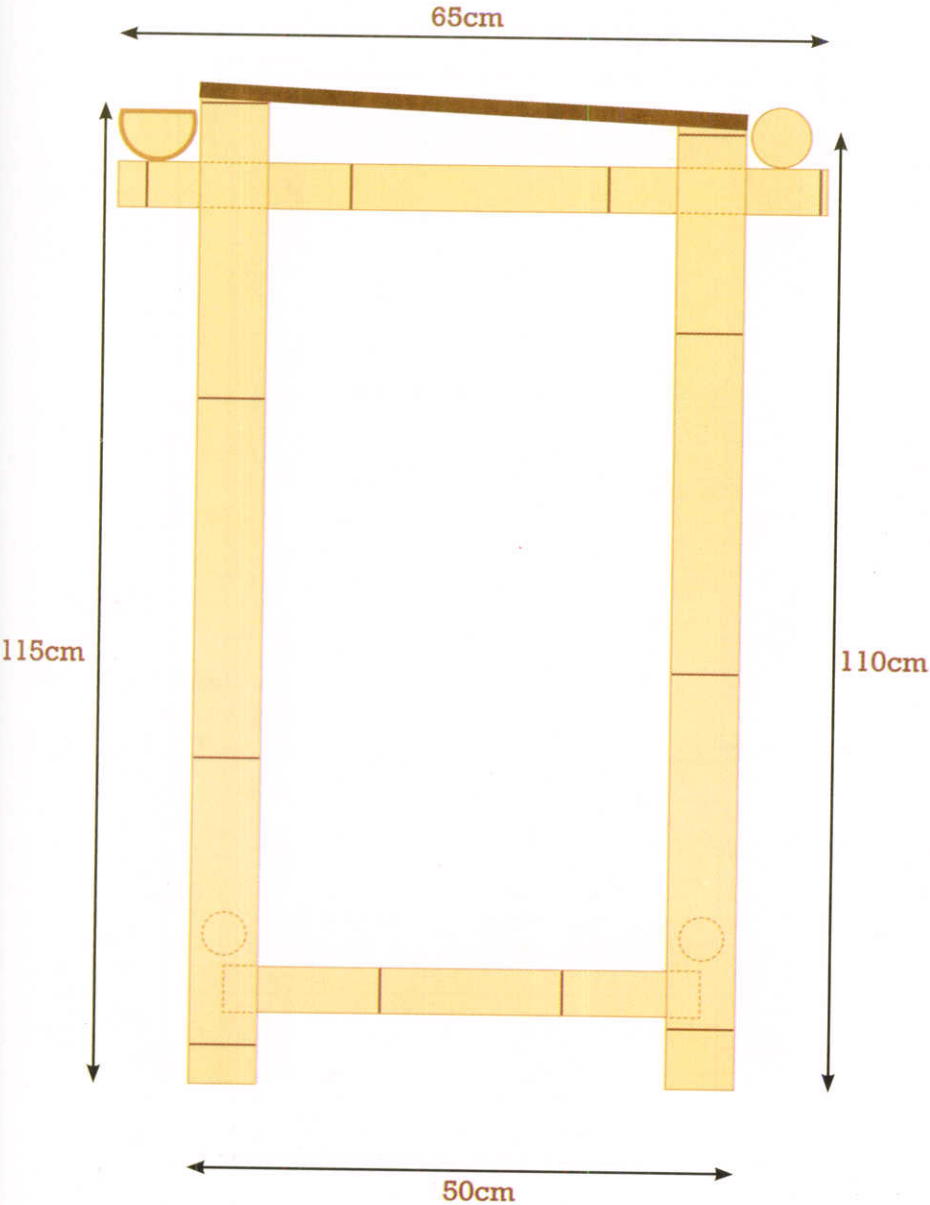


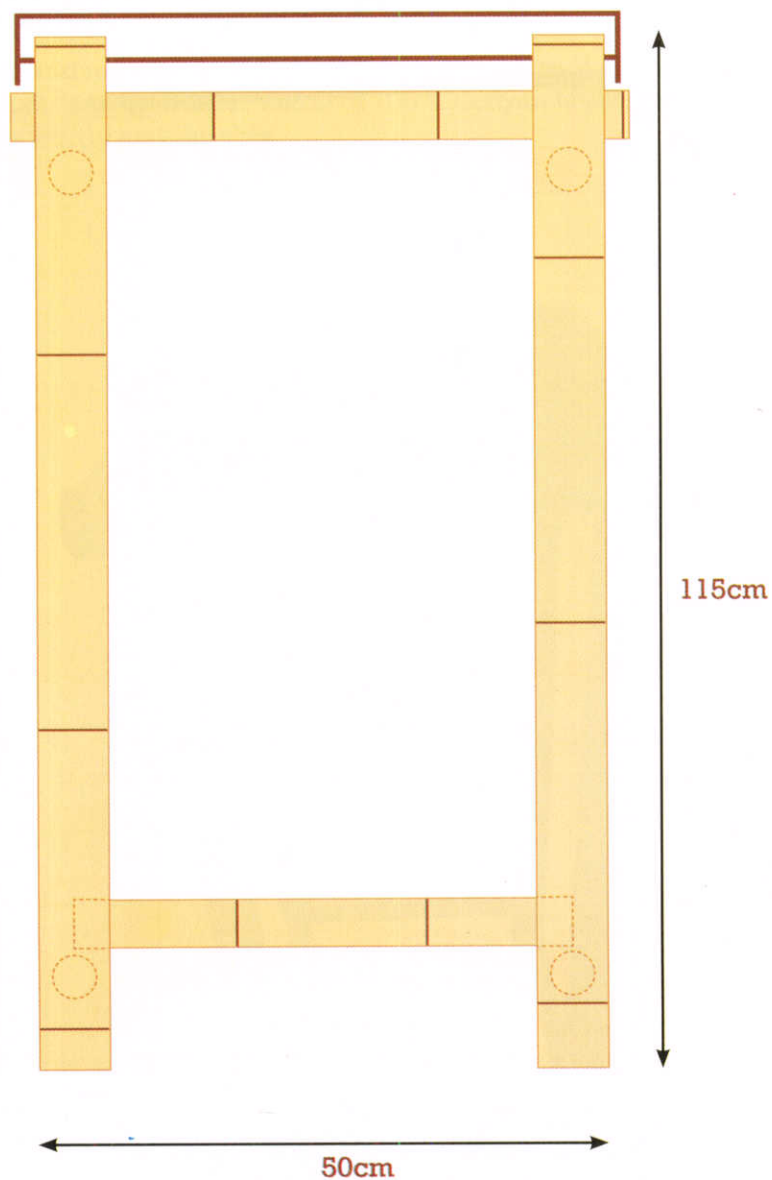
# Bamboo Lectern

This original and minimalist piece of bamboo furniture is useful for lecture halls and churches. Made of 100% Kenyan highland bamboo, it is sturdy and durable.

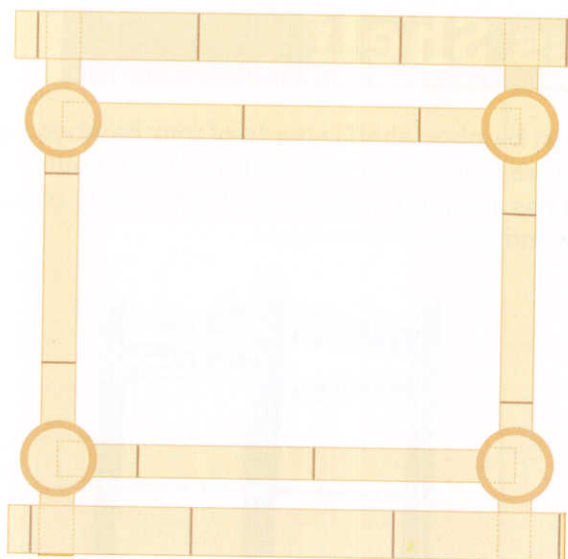


Side View:



**Back View:**



**Top View:****Bamboo lectern cut list:**

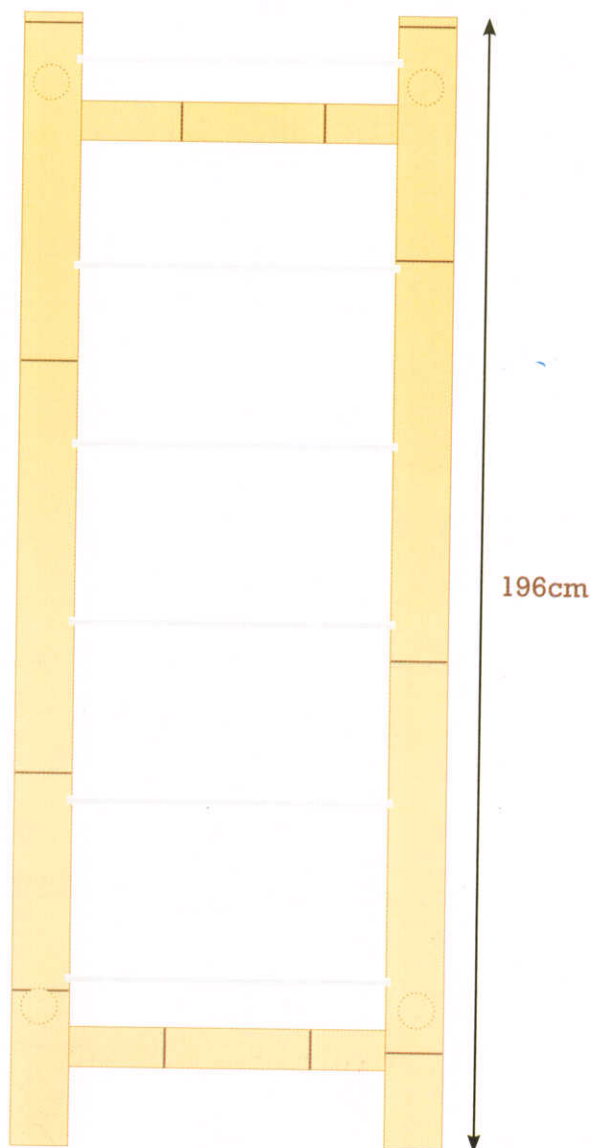
Pos.	Function	Diameter (cm)	Width (cm)	Quantity	Length (cm)	Total (m)
1.	Front Legs	7.0	-	2	115	2.30
2.	Back Legs	7.0	-	2	110	2.20
3.	Top Rails	3.5	-	2	65	1.30
4.	Bottom Rails	3.5	-	4	48	1.92
5.	Rails	6.5	-	1	50	0.50
6.	Rails	6.5	-	0.5	50	0.25
7.	Glass		50		50	
8.	Dowels					

# Bamboo Glass Shelf

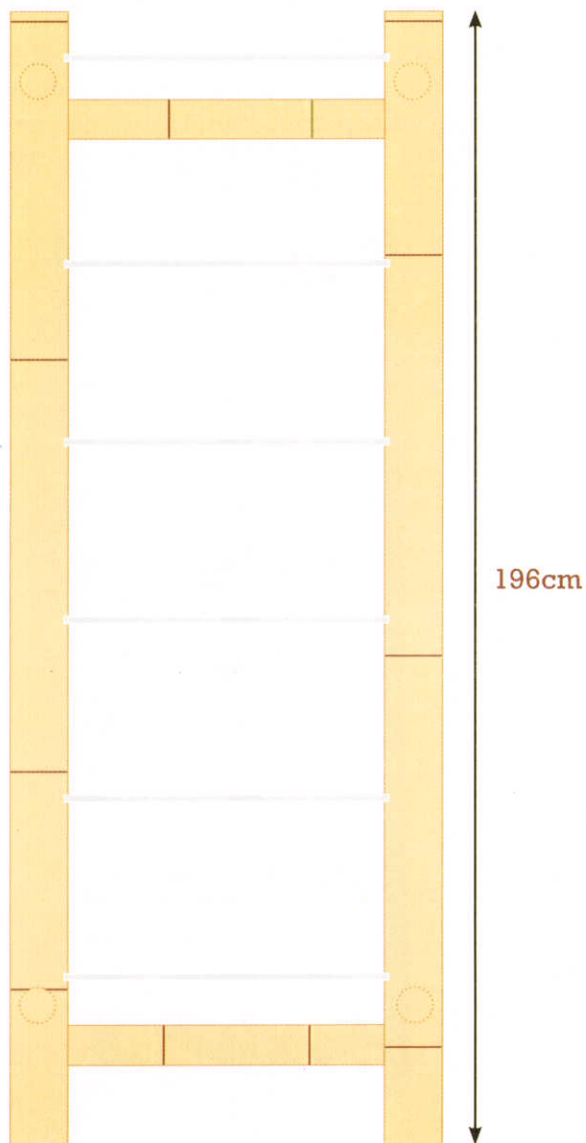
This minimalist bamboo shelf is made of four bamboo poles with supporting cross connecting rails that provide stability and strength. The bamboo has a smooth satin finish. High quality glass panels add to the elegance and value of this object.

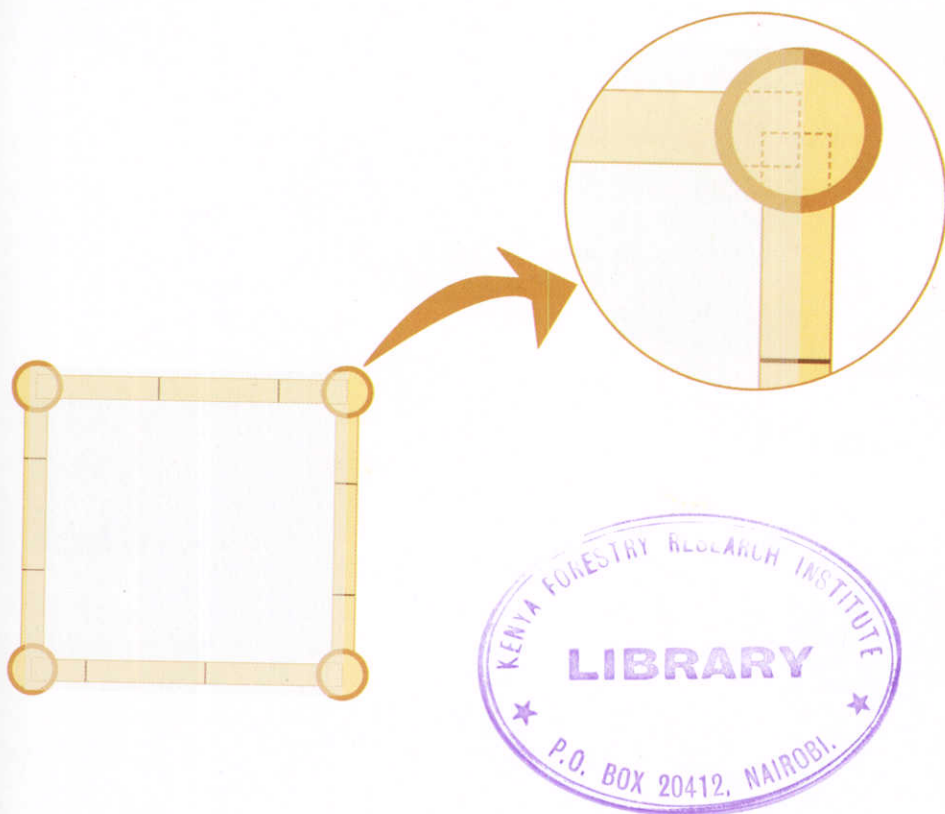


**Side View:**





**Front View:**

**Top View:****Glass shelf cut list:**

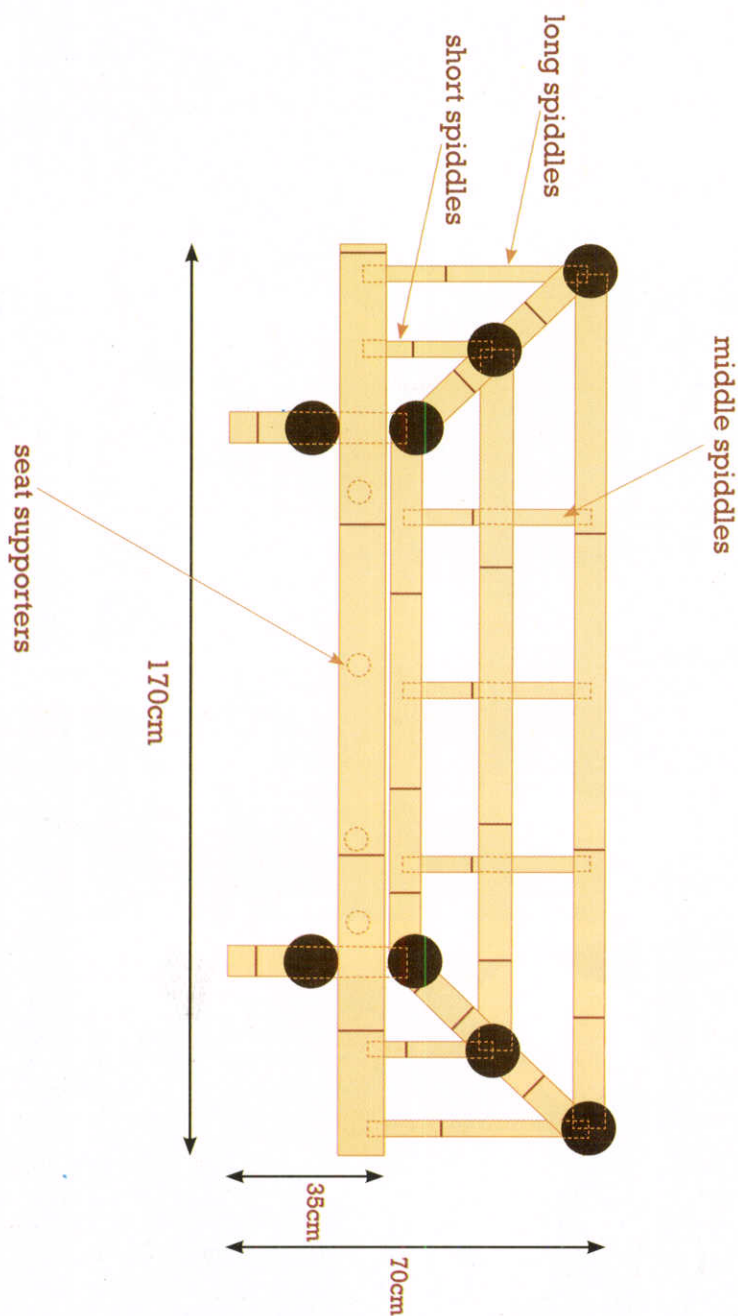
Pos.	Function	Diameter (cm)	Width (cm)	Quantity	Length (cm)	Total (m)
1.	Legs	6.5	-	4	196	7.84
2.	Side Rails	4.0	-	4	50	2.00
3.	Front Rails	4.0	-	4	50	2.00
4.	Glass	-	-	6	50	3.00
5.	Dowels	-	-	-	-	-

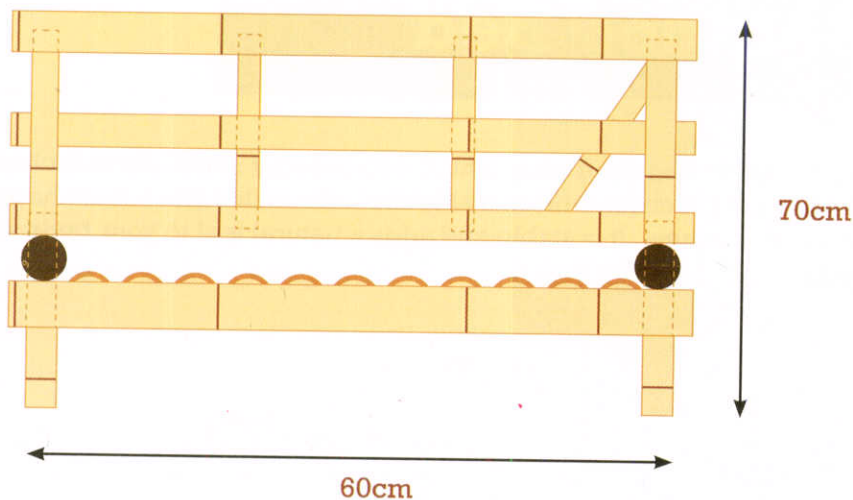
# Two Seater Sofa

Get cozy in this two-seater bamboo chair complete with cushions, perfect for any garden setting. With the option of additional cushions, enjoy relaxing on this functional yet simple chair.





**Front View:**

**Side View:****Two seater sofa cut list:**

Pos.	Function	Diameter (cm)	Width (cm)	Quantity	Length (cm)	Total (m)
1.	Long Rails	7.0	-	2	170	3.40
2.	Side Rails	7.0	-	8	84	6.72
3.	Stands	3.5	-	4	30	1.20
4.	Back Rail	5.5	-	1	130	1.30
5.	Back Rail	5.5	-	1	150	1.50
6.	Back Rail	5.5	-	1	170	1.70
7.	Long Spiddle	3.0	-	4	40	1.60
8.	Short Spiddle	3.0	-	4	30	1.20
9.	Splits	-	3.5	15	65	9.75
10.	Legs	3.5	-	4	35	1.40
11.	Dowels					
12.	Middle Spiddles	3.0	-	7	35	2.45
13.	Seat Supporters	3.2	-	4	60	2.40
14.	Leather Bindings	3.2	-	20		

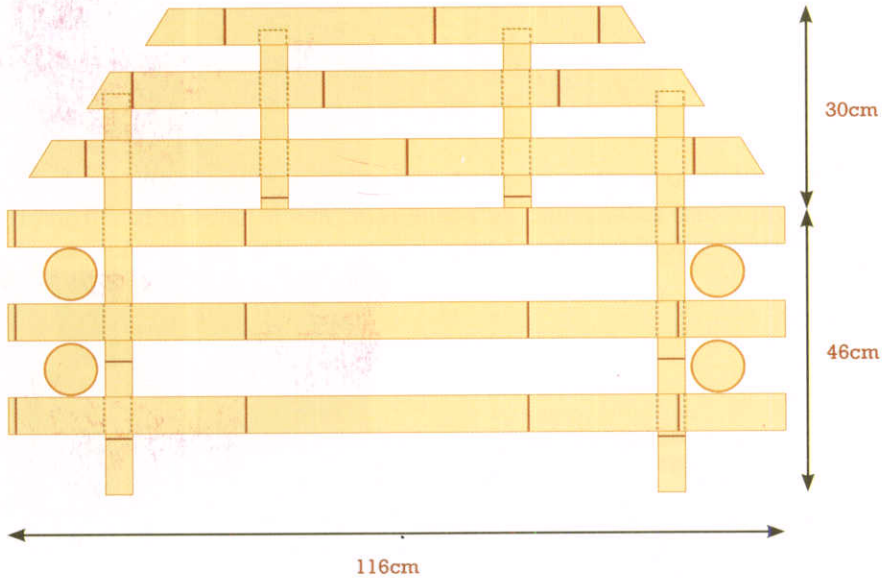


# Bamboo Bed

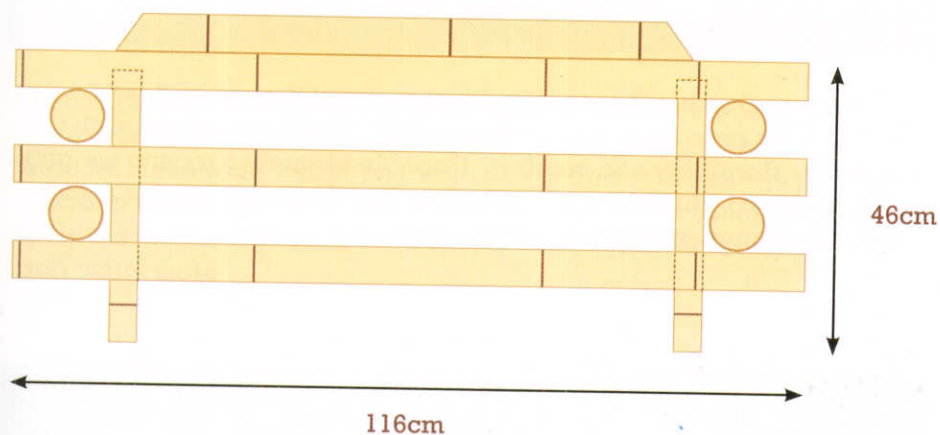
The bamboo bed combines natural eco-friendly materials with classic design and precision workmanship that culminates into a must-have piece of furniture. It is stable and adds a natural feel to your bedroom space.





**Front View:****Side View:**

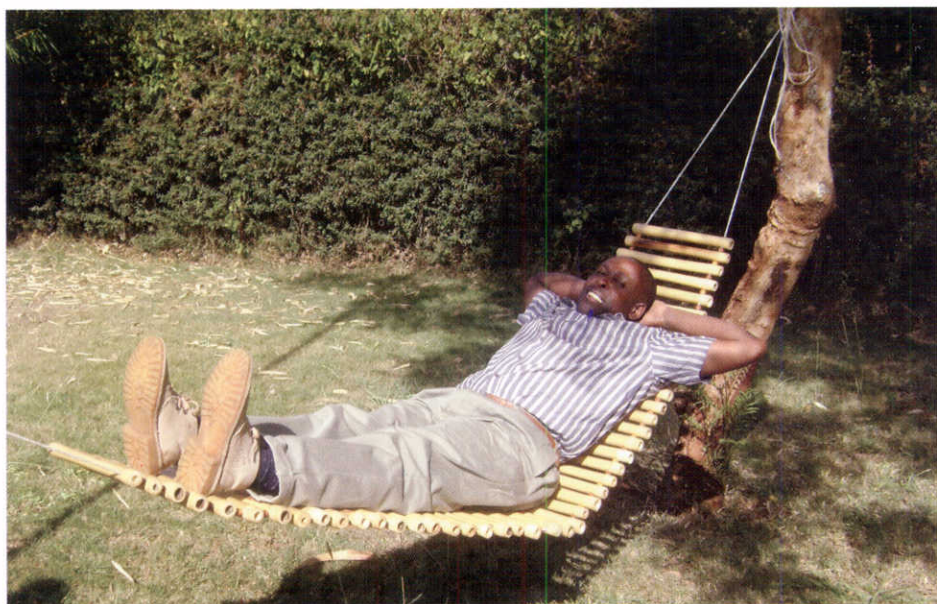


**Back View:****Bamboo bed cut list:**

Pos.	Function	Diameter (cm)	Width (cm)	Quantity	Length (cm)	Total (m)
1.	Side Rails	6.0	-	4	213	8.52
2.	Side Rails	6.0	-	2	203	4.06
3.	Back Rails	6.0	-	3	116	3.48
4.	Front Rail	6.0	-	3	116	3.48
5.	Head Board Rail	6.0	-	3	116	3.48
6.	Front Spiddles	4.0	-	2	60	1.20
7.	"	4.0	-	2	30	0.60
8.	"	4.0	-	1	20	0.20
9.	Side Spiddles	4.0	3.5	6	20	1.20
10.	Back Spiddles	4.0	-	2	46	0.92
11.	"	4.0	-	1	20	0.20
12.	Supporters	4.5	-	4	106	4.24
13.	Supporter Splits	-	3.0	20	203	40.60
14.	Dowels					

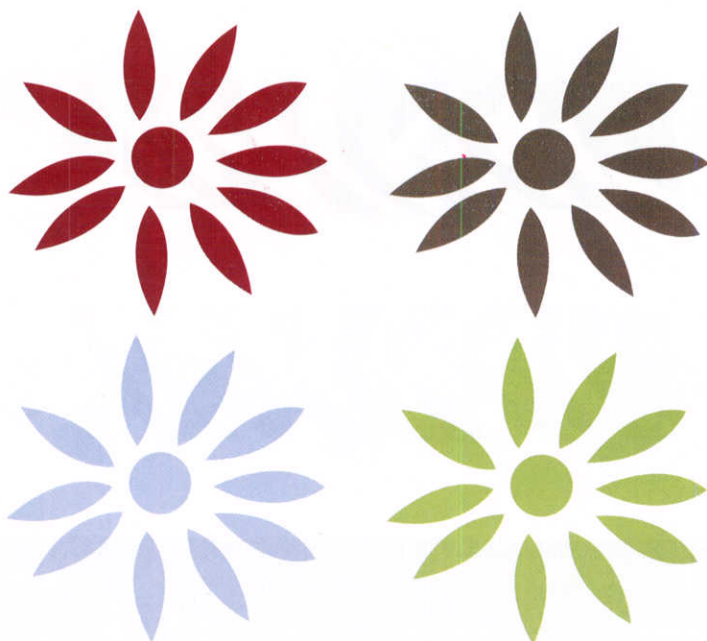
# Hammock

This hammock is handmade of culm sections of Kenyan highland bamboo that have been selected based on thickness and strength to guarantee durability and comfort. Capable of safely carrying weights of up to 150 kg, this hammock is built to last and is perfect for dozing off in the serene atmosphere of your garden.



# Bamboo Stencils

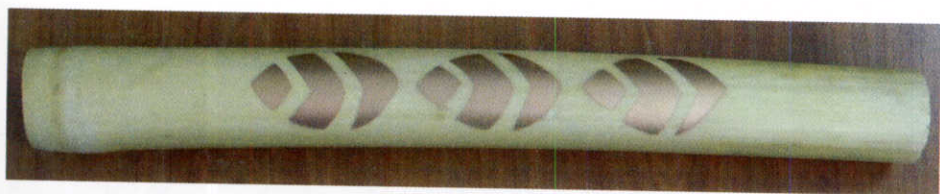
Stencils are used as guides for the production of the same motif or design in terms of size and shape. They are easily adapted by anyone, make work easier and save a lot of time in decorating bamboo products. There are a lot of inspirations that can be adopted to create stencils for instance animals, flowers, insects and many more.



Flower inspired stencil applied on a piece of bamboo







Insect inspired stencil applied on a piece of bamboo



Abstract inspired stencil applied on a piece of bamboo



## Notes:



