

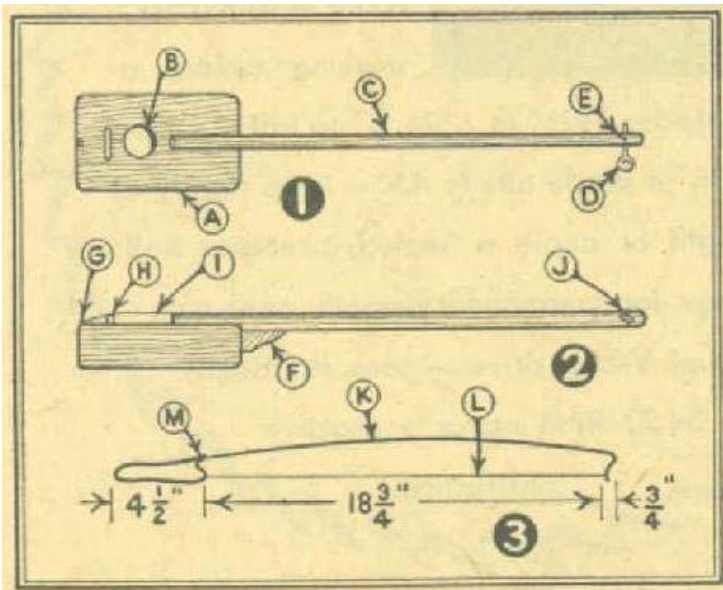
By W. J. SUTHERLAND



After you've smoked the cigars, you can make music with the box they came in. It's an easy job to make a cigar box violin, so let's begin. First remove lid from cigar box (B in Fig. 4). Cut out hole 2 1/4 inches in diameter with fret saw or pen knife. Then cut a piece of broom handle, quarter it and cut in lengths the same as depth of cigar box (A in Fig. 4). Next glue quartered pieces in four corners of cigar box. This will reinforce the box and also improve the tone. Sandpaper inside of cigar box and apply two coats of shellac, allowing first coat to dry before putting on the second.

Finger board is made from a broom handle 27 1/2 inches long and 1 inch in diameter (C in Fig. 4). On one end cut out a piece 2 1/2 inches long halfway through handle. Then glue finger board (broom handle) to lid (B in Fig. 4) and secure with small woodscrew. Drill screw hole to prevent splitting. Put screw in from up through lid into handle. At other end of finger board (E in Fig. 4) drill 3/8 inch hole 1 inch from end through top to bottom. This is so string can wind on D (Fig. 4). Then make saw cut at edge of hole to set in piece of brass 1/16 inch thick, 3/4 inch wide and 3/16 inch high.

A small notch is cut in brass with edge of file to keep string centered (J in Fig. 4). The piece of brass prevents string from cutting into handle or finger board. Another hole 1/4 inch, is drilled at right angles through 3/8 inch hole already drilled. This hole is for peg (D in Fig. 4). Peg is tapered, therefore 1/4 inch hole must also be tapered. This is easily done by wrapping a piece of fine sandpaper once around peg. With a rotating motion sand 1/4 inch hole to taper of peg. Take sandpaper off peg and fit frequently. This is important. When string is strained peg is pushed into tapered hole and must hold at desired position when turned. A supporting bracket is made from a piece of wood 2 1/2 inches long, 1 1/2 inches wide, and 1/2 inch thick (F in Fig. 4) and glued to box and finger board and secured with two small nails.



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