

FIG. 230.—General View of Toilet Table.

The Modern Dressing Table

It will be noticed that the dressing tables shown in Figs. 230 and 231 are quite approachable affairs from their open character, and greater comfort and deliberation are to be given the

hair dressing and other toilet operations by the use of the type of chair shown in front of the table in Fig. 230, which is distinguished from other chairs by the low back and different height of seat.

To the craftsman the construction of the articles shown in Figs. 230 and 231 is obviously apparent and it is only necessary to call attention again as in former articles to the almost in-



FIG. 231.—A Toilet Table or Dresser and Its Low Back Chair.

variable use of what is referred to as a "construction frame" illustrated in Fig. 232. The outer size of this is determined on the detail drawing, for be it known that the worker should lay out some sort of drawing showing at least half of the length and

width of the article. In this case the plan is determined by the size of the top, which is 20 x 34 in. Now in the drawing 20 x 17 in. is sufficient to put in all needed detail of half the construction for purposes of location of posts, which in this and usual cases should set in $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ in. Then proceed to draw in on the half plan the position of the $\frac{3}{4}$ in. side and back rails, together with the drawer front, which is also $\frac{3}{4}$ in. thick. The rails should set in from the face of the posts $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch.

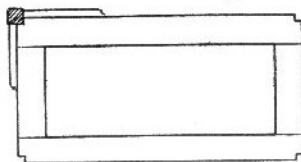


FIG. 232.—Plan of Construction Frame.

Having made this part of the plan, it will be easy to draw in this structural detail suggested in Fig. 231, the thickness for the ordinary case work for this frame being $\frac{3}{4}$ in. and the width of both stiles and rails 2 or $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. Such a frame is usually jointed with dowel pins, and the corners to receive the posts cut out after the frame is made up, as indicated in Fig. 231. Here, again, as frequently happens, the front part of the frame is exposed to view, as will be noted under the drawer in Fig. 230, and this part of the frame must be of the same wood as the entire construction. Usually when it is not in view the frame is of basswood.

The "construction frame" is a means not only of giving a stiff construction, but also affording a place to secure sliding strips of a harder material upon which the drawers are to slide. The turned form of leg and mirror pillar shown to the right in Fig. 229 is offered as equally appropriate if the plain post is not desired.

Fig. 230 has the added attraction of the swinging side mirrors so much desired in dressing the hair. A certain delicate character and finish should be given to the making of these mirror frames and material of $\frac{7}{8}$ in. thick and having a finished width of $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. will make frames amply strong, yet light in appearance. Make the rabbet for the glass $\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep and treat the face of frame to a low round shape. Cover back of framing with $\frac{1}{8}$ in. paneling or veneer, neatly secured with round head

brads. As thin stock is hard to secure, a certain quality of hard-pressed straw board is being used very generally for such purposes. The middle mirror is held and stiffened by two cleat strips screwed firmly to the frame and to the back rail of the table. Material pressed to a thickness of $\frac{3}{4}$ or $\frac{3}{16}$ of an inch is universally used for most all forms of furniture, while post stock for the lighter carcasses is secured from $1\frac{3}{4}$ to 2 in. squares, which when reduced to a finished size generally measure $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. respectively. This allows for roughness or squaring up of other imperfections. The posts in Fig. 230 are dressed to a square of $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. at the top and reduced to a curved taper of $\frac{7}{8}$ in. at floor.

As to the chair shown in Figs. 230, 232, and 233, it is a distinct part of the table, and when not in use it is placed directly under the table out of the way. When in use the low back af-

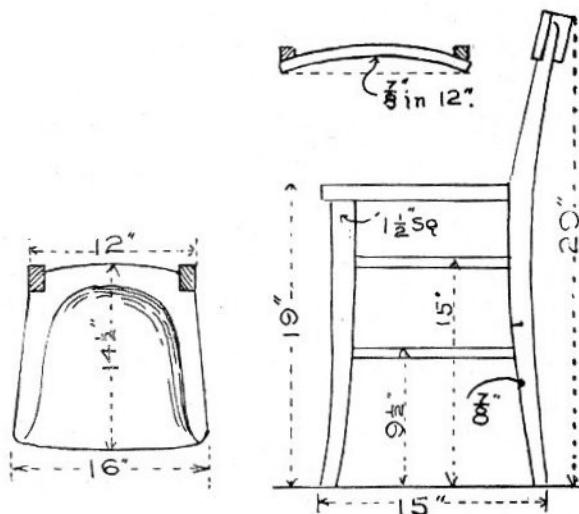


FIG. 233 and 234.—Details of Toilet Table Chair Shown in Fig. 231.

fords sufficient back support, yet does not retard the use of the arms in dressing the hair—considerations which give these two pieces of furniture growing popularity among women. As the

back posts of this chair are secured from a $\frac{7}{8}$ in. board $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, sawed to a pattern made from shape indicated, it will not be a difficult chair to make as the two posts are screwed to the seat in a vertical outside width of 12 in. and square to the front.

The curved and tapering front legs are obtained from $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. square stock and are secured by two dowels each to the under side of the seat, having an outside width of $15\frac{1}{4}$ in. The stretchers are $\frac{3}{4}$ in. square.

The seat is of a solid or jointed board dressed to a thickness of $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. and hollowed out in the deepest part to $\frac{5}{8}$ in., forming the saddle effect indicated.

The top slat may be secured by using a draw-knife and spoke shave in producing an even sweep of $\frac{7}{8}$ in. in depth in its length of 13 in., and by a pattern or template previously made, mark out the back curve to produce a curved slat which shall have an even thickness of $\frac{5}{8}$ in. and have a finished width of 3 in. and length sufficient to project well over the shouldered-out ends of posts. After the chair is set up ready to receive the slat and banister the excess of length may then be marked and cut off to have an overhang of $\frac{1}{8}$ in. on outside of posts. Use a depressed screw on each post and fill up after with flush plugs.

The banister may be flat, measuring 4 in. in width and $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in thickness.

Figs. 232 and 233 will give further information about the building of this chair, and in passing it may be mentioned that the same directions apply in building a reception, or light hall chair, except that the back would be continued to a customary height of 20 in. from top of seat, and 18 in. would be the height from floor to top of seat, instead of 19 in. as shown.