

**H**aving a garage is truly an asset, but it can become a dumping ground pretty fast. To keep your garage clean and functional, you must evaluate what you want to use your garage for.

For some, it's just for storing their vehicles, but for many, it is a space that holds tools, equipment, bicycles, and even Christmas décor.

This past year we were finally able to check another project off our list, garage storage! By no means did we cover the whole garage, but we had a unique space I knew would be great for shelving, storage, winter gear, and hockey equipment. Yes, all of that! I'm pretty lucky when it comes to projects I dream up in my head. After putting it down on paper, my husband works with me to make it a reality. For this project, we were able to use some 2x4s, scrap wood, old wire shelving, and rods we had laying around. I even had some left-over mud, tape, and paint to make the project look more finished. In the end, we did need to buy some additional 2x4s, as leftover cut pieces won't always work.

We built the storage unit on the top of our 6' x 3' landing and continued it down the wall to the floor of the garage. Previously, in this space, we had hooks on the wall to hold our extra winter gear. We were missing out on a large blank wall that had useful vertical space. We incorporated shelving to hold spare boots and potting items I use throughout the year. Next to that, we put up a rod to hold the extra winter gear that we don't want to store inside the house. It was great usage of this space, as it is located over the stairs and we can hang different length items across the rod.

At the end of the unit, we created an area for storing equipment. It will predominately get used for hockey equipment, but we have used it for summer sports as well. We used a wire shelf across the top, as it allows airflow when drying out equipment. You can also use hangers on the wire shelf if needed. We installed a boot dryer in this area for use on skates, boots, or anything else needing to

# Custom Garage Storage



dry out. Under the bench is a great spot to store your hockey bag or other larger items.

To fully take advantage of the vertical space in this area, we put a plywood shelf across the top of the whole unit. This gives us space to store items we can reach while standing on the landing or storing items we don't use often, further down.

Evaluate what needs you have for your garage and you too can create a more functional space for you and your family.





# Windsor Plywood

Article & Photos Submitted

“Take a walk through our woods” is the slogan at Windsor Plywood, Brandon Manitoba. Located at 1840-18<sup>th</sup> Street North, Windsor Plywood offers many eccentric items for ALL YOUR FINISHING NEEDS!

Windsor Plywood Brandon stocks a variety of moldings to help with finishing any room in the house, or to finish something smaller like a picture frame. They offer a wide selection of oak, maple, hemlock, primed pine, and even MDF moldings. There is so many options to choose from such as angle molds, baseboards, burlaps, cabinet molds, casing, cornice, coves, crowns, half rounds, quarter rounds, and many more. They can also help find a match for any old profile used in any house.

Doors, doors, and more doors! Both exterior and a HUGE selection of high-quality interior doors. Knotty Pine Rio Plank and Knotty Pine 2-panel Square top are huge sellers at this location. There are also two doors offered that are exclusive to only Windsor Plywood. These are prefinished



slabs, with a very unique design on the skins of the doors called Marcia and Laguna.

Brandon's, Windsor Plywood has an outstanding amount of exotic woods. Woods from all over the world. Many hobbyists shop here to get something a bit different for that custom one-of-a-kind project they are working on. Some of the many exotic woods throughout the store are aromatic cedar, bloodwood, lacewood, purpleheart, tigerwood, yellowheart, and zebrawood to name a few. If you are a wood carver you can take advantage of some of their carving woods as well such as basswood, butternut, tupelo, padauk, and even one a bit more well-known, walnut.

Here you can find a good assortment of plywood. Baltic birch, birch, maple, walnut, mahogany, bending plywoods, marine, and more. There are many options from cabinet building, boat building, furniture building, and yes even a good selection of construction-grade plywood too.

What truly does make Windsor Plywood Brandon so much different than other finishing stores?

Their customer service is excellent, they help their customer from start to finish of their projects, and they even enjoy seeing the end results of projects.

They offer a wood shop in the back. Anything that your mind can imagine, they can help you complete. A lot of stairs are built there, doors are machined, butcher blocks are made, and so much more. The staff even finished a huge 20' spalted maple live edge front counter there for the store. You can see it as soon as you enter the store, right up front.

They host events for the local community to partake in. Here you get the chance to BOTH enter or see projects done by locals! Once participants are fully entered and projects are on display, go give the store a visit to vote for your favourite project! These events include things like wood carving, scroll saw, wood turning, and more. Watch



their social media pages for when these events take place. (Facebook Windsor Plywood, Brandon)

They have even been known to host after-hour events for customers who want to work with ecopoxy, but are a little hesitant to do a project their first time. The staff at Windsor Plywood are very knowledgeable and can walk you through every step.

Old 1949 Ford Truck Peter Behrens, Store Manager finished for Windsor's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Watch For Our Monthly Contests!

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