

## Painted Picnic Table Project Instructions

Dunwoody's Picnic Table Project is a multi-faceted program that emerged as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on the city's restaurants. What started as a simple solution for increasing outdoor seating quickly became a summer-long project that involved hundreds of citizens, brought color and spirit to the community, and parlayed into a "Tour of Painted Picnic Tables" in celebration of Dunwoody's Arts and Culture Month. The project's growth was rapid, organic, and well-received throughout the community. It garnered significant and positive media attention and won the GMA Visionary Cities Award 2020.

**Before you get started, please visit the [Painted Picnic Table Project Webpage](#) to contact the person in charge and let them know your plans. You'll also find a gallery of Picnic Tables already painted.**

### Table

This is an example of the wooden picnic table. You can find these at Lowes: [Picnic table at Lowes.com: Search Results](#) (Currently not on Home Depot's website 3.21.22). Approximately \$150. They typically come in a box and require assembly.

## Full Size Wood Picnic Tables

Add extra outdoor seating to your deck, yard or patio with Outdoor Essentials® Full Size Wood Picnic Tables. Our picnic tables are constructed out of solid sawn lumber for a strong, durable table. The legs have a wide footprint for stability and strength. And the fasteners have been carefully chosen to provide safe, lasting connections.

- Designed to hold up to six adults
- Benches and tabletop are positioned at the right heights for maximum comfort and ease
- Come in DIY-friendly kits
- Preassembled tabletop and benches
- Precut components simplify installation

Typical assembly time is 45 minutes with the help of a friend or family member. After your table is assembled, you can [customize it with paint or stain](#).



## TOOLS YOU WILL NEED

1/2" Wrench    Power drill with #2 Phillips bit



*Recommended:*  
*Hammer, Carpenter's square, Clamp, Tape measure*



### Primer, Paint, Sealant

Recommended primer:  
Zinsser Primer for all surfaces  
(Ace hardware stocks)



Recommended paint:  
Benjamin Moore outdoor exterior low lustre finish 100% acrylic paint BASE 4 542 or similar. No oil-based paints. (Ace hardware stocks)



Recommended sealant:

General Finishes Exterior 450 Satin Water Based Topcoat



**The Painted Picnic Table Sticker** – Each table has a paper or vinyl sticker indicating that the table is part of our City’s Painted Picnic Table Project. The City can provide these free stickers (contact [rosemary.watts@dunwoodyga.gov](mailto:rosemary.watts@dunwoodyga.gov)) These are adhered before coating with sealant. If you’re a school, you can decide if you’d like to be affiliated with the City’s Painted Picnic Table Project.



### Other items you may need:

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Cleaner and Rags | Brushes            |
| Water            | Paper towels       |
| Wipes            | Paint trays        |
| Drop clothes     | Sander             |
| Paint thinner    | Pencils to outline |

### Other Recommendations for Schools:

Send a school e-blast for a volunteer day to get people to assemble and prime, another day to paint (requires more supervision), and later to seal if you know you have dry days or have cover for the tables. Or, you may ask families to take unassembled tables to their garages so they can work on the tables in covered, ventilated areas. The tables need to be completely dry before priming and painting. You may

need another day of heavy lifters and pick up trucks to transport the tables to the school. Or, some volunteers to transport them as they are complete.

Your art teacher could provide simple designs to copy or some students could submit designs in a competition per grade or per two grades (if you have enough \$ for a table per grade). Volunteers can duplicate the design onto the table to the best of their ability or have the artist sketch the outlines to fill in paint. If you need additional artistic assistance, I can reach out to some art groups for volunteers.

I usually buy paint in black, white and primary colors to mix instead of purchasing specific colors unless you absolutely know which colors you'll use. If you use specific colors, make sure you keep a log of them so you can get the colors matched for touch ups later. You'll need to prepare for a maintenance day at least once per year to touch up the paint and reseal tables depending on how worn the tables become. They typically get weathered quickly when fully exposed to the GA sun.