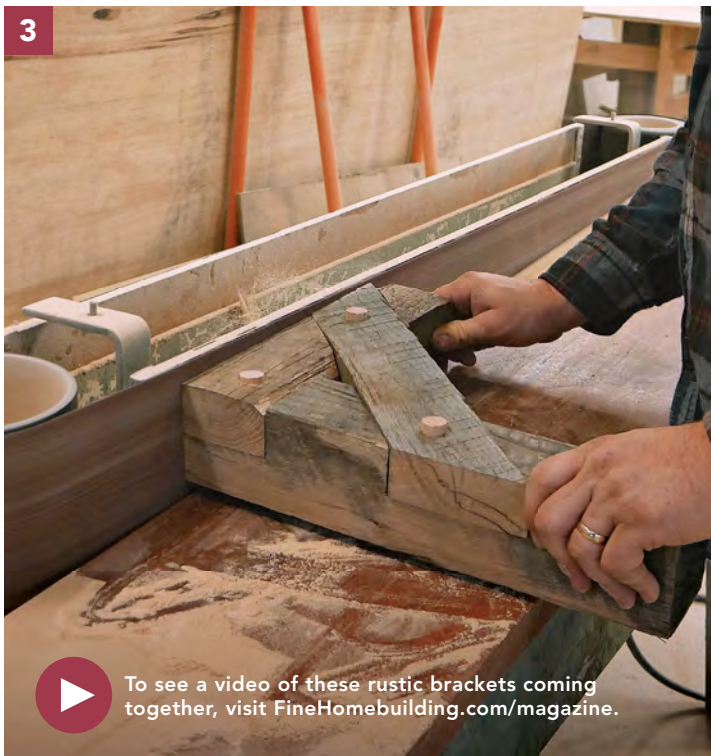


DRILL AND PEG

There's no glue in this assembly, just 1/2-in. dowel stock used as pegs. I center the pegs over each joint and use a 1/2-in. Forstner bit to drill the holes (1). The bit's shank is shorter than the bracket's width, so I drill as far as I can and then separate the parts to complete the holes. Then I line up the holes and pound in the pegs, which are cut long to stay proud of the surface (2). It should take some heavy hammer blows to seat the pegs and lock the joints tightly together. Then I use a belt sander to smooth the surfaces that meet the cabinet and countertop (3). Finally, I clip off both ends of the "L" with a miter saw set at 45°.



To see a video of these rustic brackets coming together, visit [FineHomebuilding.com/magazine](https://www.finehomebuilding.com/magazine).

APPLY FINISH

Before applying finish, I use a Restorer tool with an abrasive brush to clean away any dirt (1). (My version is made by Porter-Cable, but the tool is licensed to other manufacturers and can be found at [imarestorer.com](https://www.imarestorer.com).) It produces the same effect as a wire brush—cleaning reclaimed lumber without removing its character—but faster. To finish the brackets, I apply dark stain (2), wipe it with a rag, and hit the edges with a sanding block for a little additional distressing (3).



Porter-Cable Restorer Tool
(PXRA2676, \$80)

