

Half of the seat plan, drawn at 1/2 scale. View is from the bottom. Each chair I make is a little different, next time I might shift the front legs out another 1/4" or more to the sides to get them more centered in the battens. But this placement worked on this chair just fine.

The spacing for the rectangular mortises for the back depends on the back you've made - so the plan is for a general placement but the actual back board is where you get the spacing off the centerline.

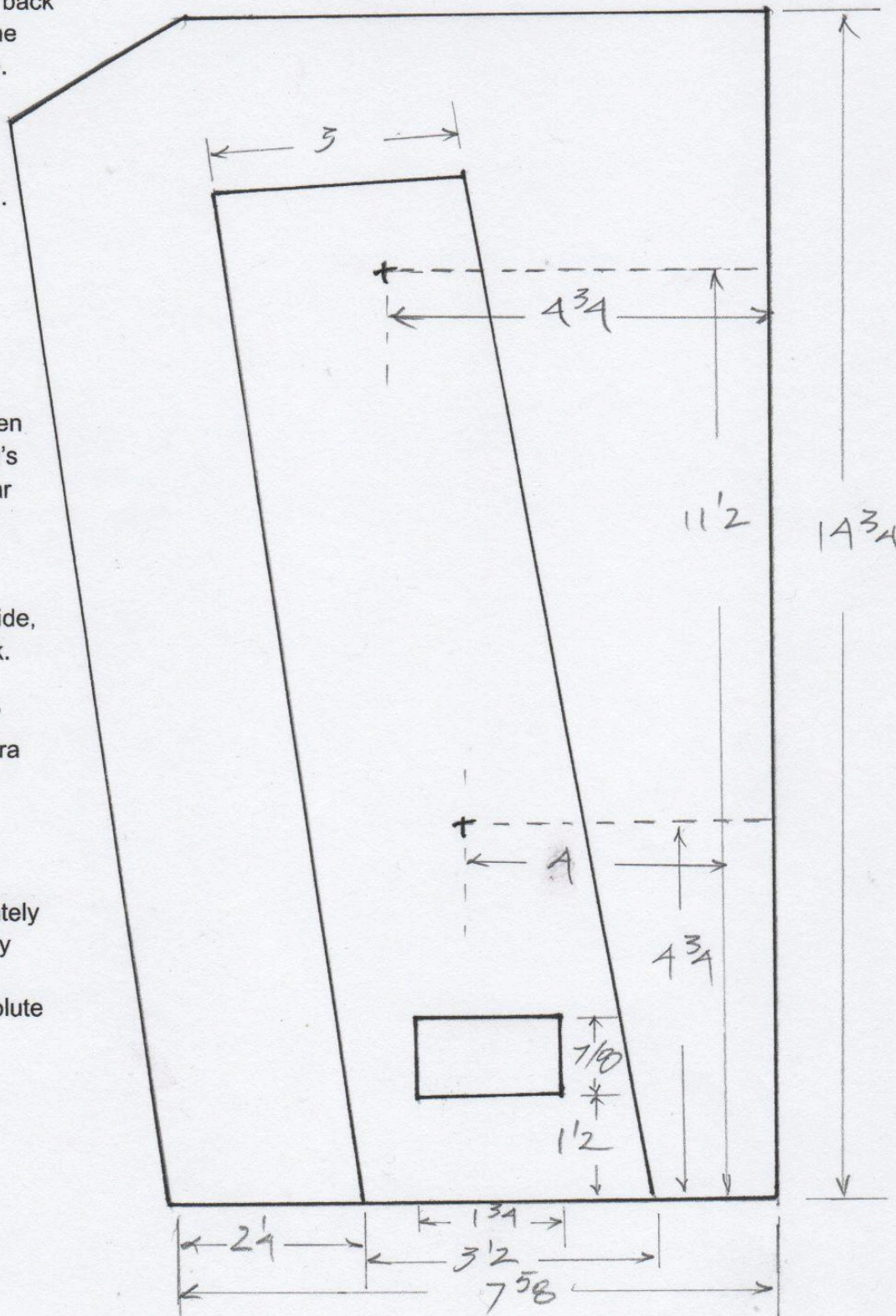
You can change the angle of the sides-to-the back. Mine is  $82^\circ/98^\circ$ . I generally keep the battens parallel to the sides, but that's not necessary.

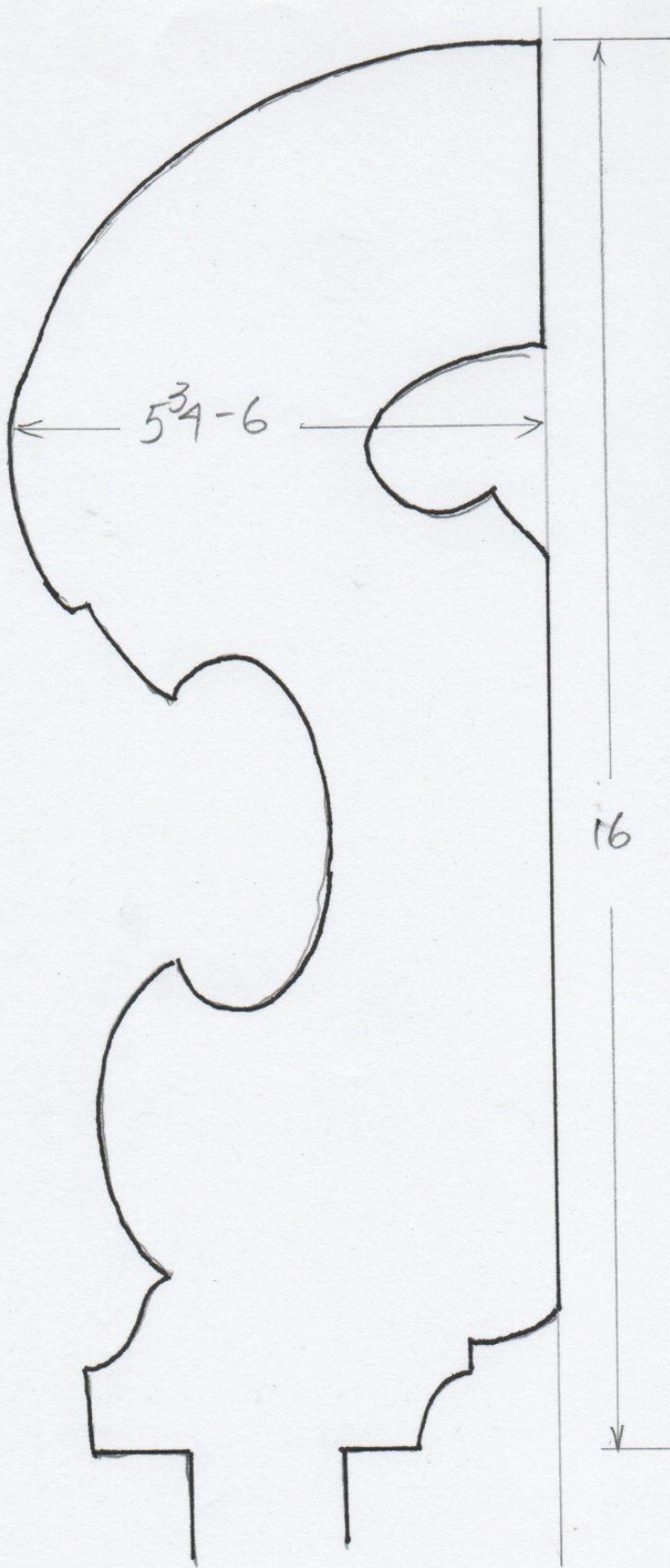
You can get the battens positioned in the seat, then decide on placing the leg's mortises. Be sure the rear legs will clear the back's protruding tenons.

Seat grain runs side-to-side, batten grain front-to-back.

My leg tenons are  $15/16$ " diameter, make them extra long at first, especially if yours will penetrate the seat and battens.

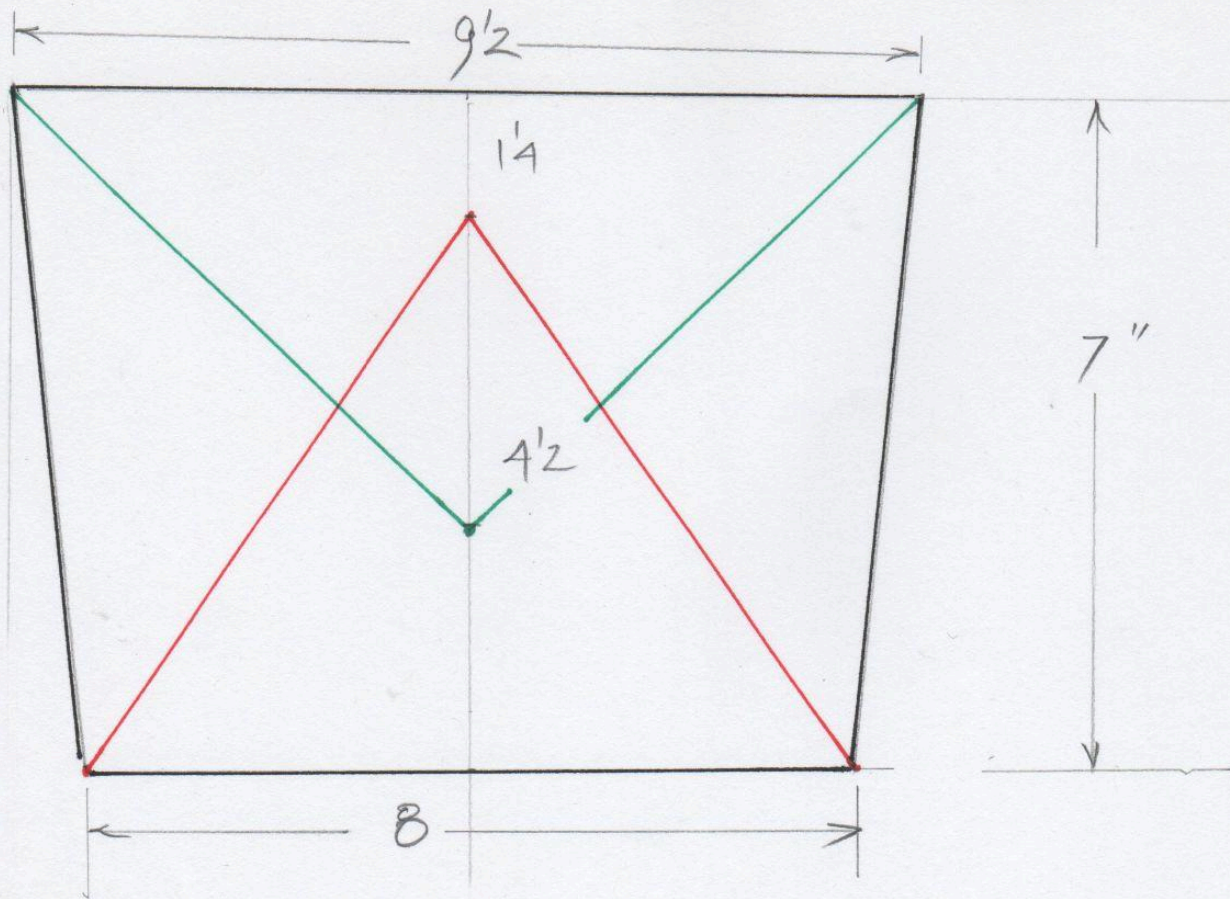
My drawing is approximately to scale but not perfect by any means. Use it as a guideline but not an absolute roadmap.





This back template is directly from Drew Langsner's article "Two board chairs: plans & methods from a Swiss woodworker" in Fine Woodworking Jul. Aug 1981. I've drawn it here at half-scale, except the tenon length. I generally start those out at about 3 1/2" long and trim them accordingly after assembly.

Thus far I've kept using this pattern, choosing to focus on the leg angles and seat shape as I explore this chair form. But there are many variations on the shapes of these chair backs. A simple search for "brettstuhl" images will provide many examples.



This is a half-scale diagram of the small card I used to align my brace and bit while boring the leg mortises. The sighting lines - red for the rear legs, green for the front legs - are where I set the adjustable bevel. Its angle was  $25^\circ$ . The card I used in the section "Boring Leg Mortises & Molding Seat" is a bit narrower at the front than this. I'm just not capable of making the same chair twice I guess. I lined up the back edge of the card  $4 \frac{3}{4}$ " from the back edge of the chair seat. You'll see in the video that I lopped the corners off my card so the bit can turn without lifting the card up off the work.

A half-scale drawing of one of my 3-piece brettstuhl backs. I made this pattern up based on some of the photos from Chris Schwarz and his friends.

A drawbored mortise and tenon joins the uprights to the crest rail. I cut those joints before shaping the parts.

Do the final fitting of the uprights' shoulders after test-wedging the bottom tenons in the seat. That way you can make the distance from the seat to the upper shoulders agree from one upright to the other. Don't do the drawboring of those upper joints until you've got those shoulders aligned properly. I learned that the hard way.

I've seen photos of chairs that have the uprights join the back of the crest rail with a tapered sliding dovetail, same as the battens/seat connection.

