# How to Build a Fireplace Mantel Shelf
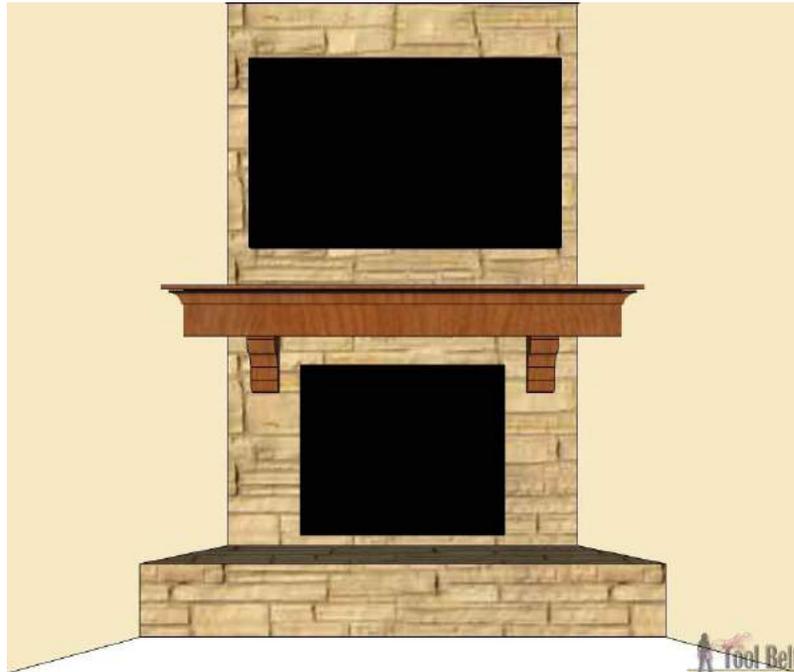
Materials

- 2 - corbels ([providence contemporary bracket](#) - Osborne Wood)
- 1 - 1" x 10" x 8' knotty alder board (actual 3/4" x 9 1/4")
- 1 - 8" knotty alder casing (actual 7 7/8")
- 1 - 1" x 6" x 8' knotty alder board (actual 3/4" x 5 1/2")
- 1 - knotty alder crown molding
- 1 - 2" x 4" x 8' board (actual 1 1/2" x 3 1/2")
- 4 - drywall anchors - optional
- 1 1/4" brad nails
- 2" brad nails
- 1 1/4" screws
- 3" screws
- 4" screws
- sandpaper
- wood glue
- pre-stain conditioner
- stain
- polyurethane

Tools

- [Miter Saw](#)
- [Brad Nailer](#)
- [Sander](#)
- [Drill](#)
- [Crown Pro](#)* - optional

Adjust dimensions for your space. Consider staining the boards before final cuts and installation.
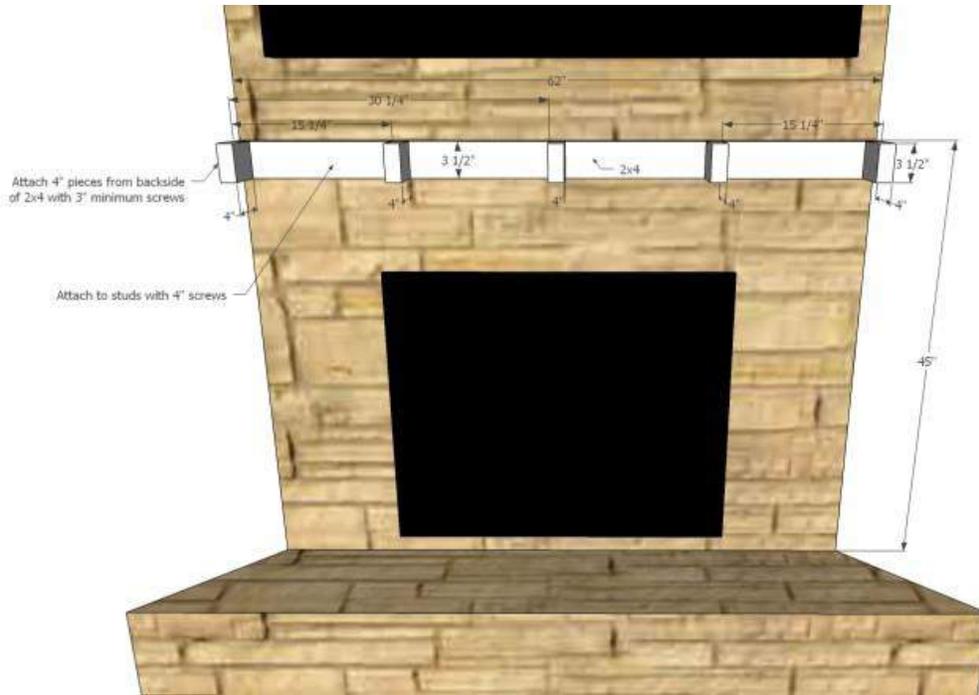
Cut a piece of 2x4 to 62" and cut 5 pieces that are 5" long. Spread the 4" pieces evenly along the 2x4, and secure from the back of the 2x4 with 3" screws (make sure they are countersunk or sucked into the wood). Mark the studs in the fireplace wall, level and attach the mantel support into the studs with 4" screws. (I attached it at 45" from the step)

Install screws for the corbels to attach to the wall (alternatively use drywall * or concrete anchors.)
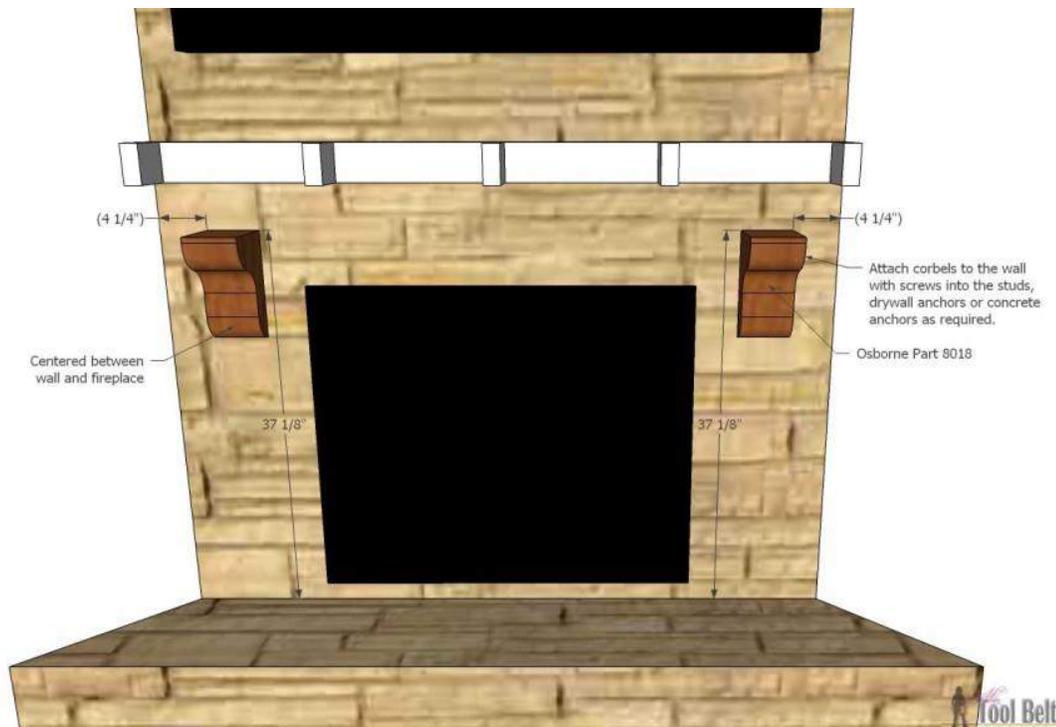
Cut the bottom board to fit against the wall (both ends have a 45 deg cut.) Then glue and secure the bottom board to the corbels with 1 1/4" self tapping screws.
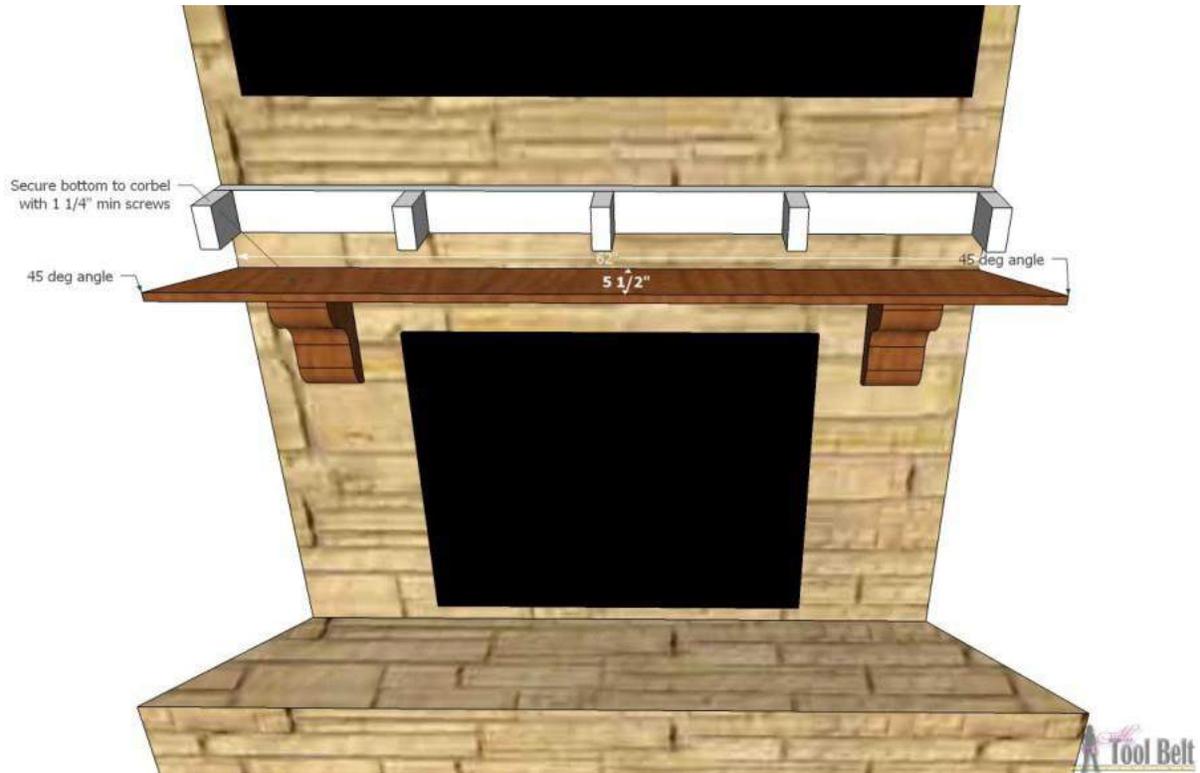
Cut the front board (casing) to fit snug along the bottom board and with a 45 against the walls. Nail the front to the bottom near the bottom edge with 1 1/4" brad nails. Limit the number of nail holes, since they'll show (probably about 4-5). Nail the front to the mantel support 4" 2x4's near the top 2" or so. The crown will cover these holes.
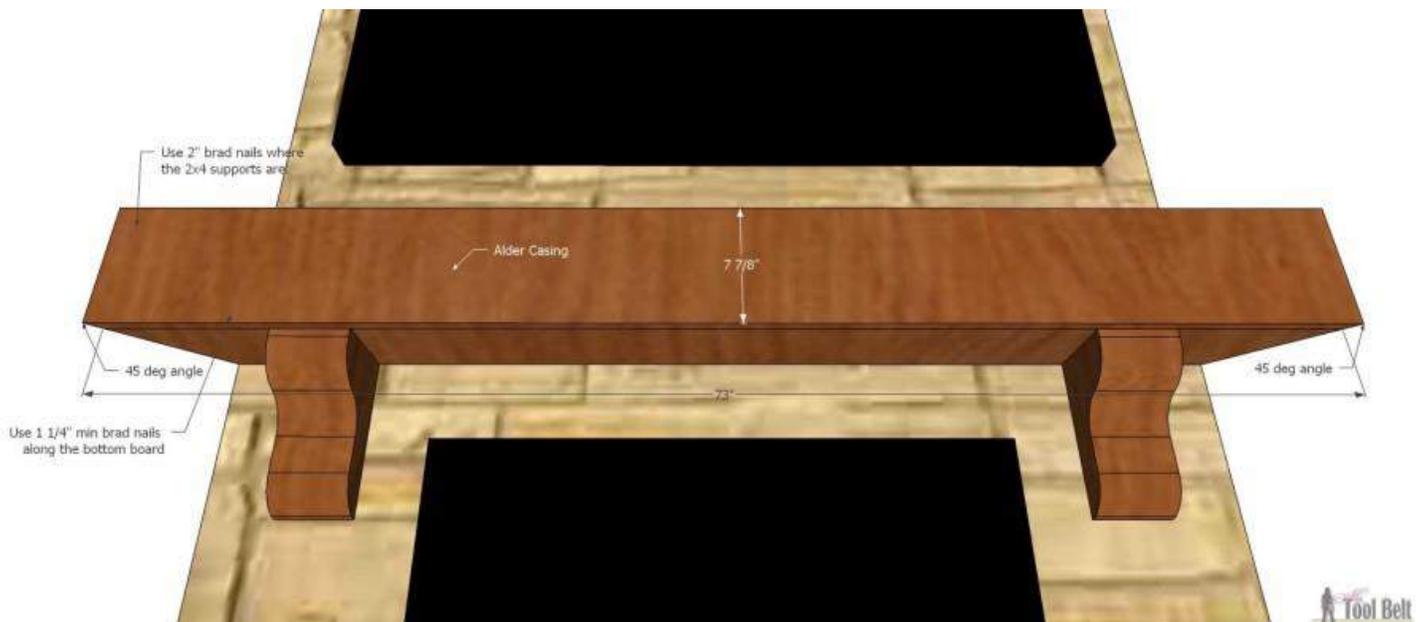
Cut a 45 deg angle on each end of the top board to fit snug against the wall. Use 1 1/4" brad nails to attach the top to the 2x4 supports and to the front board.
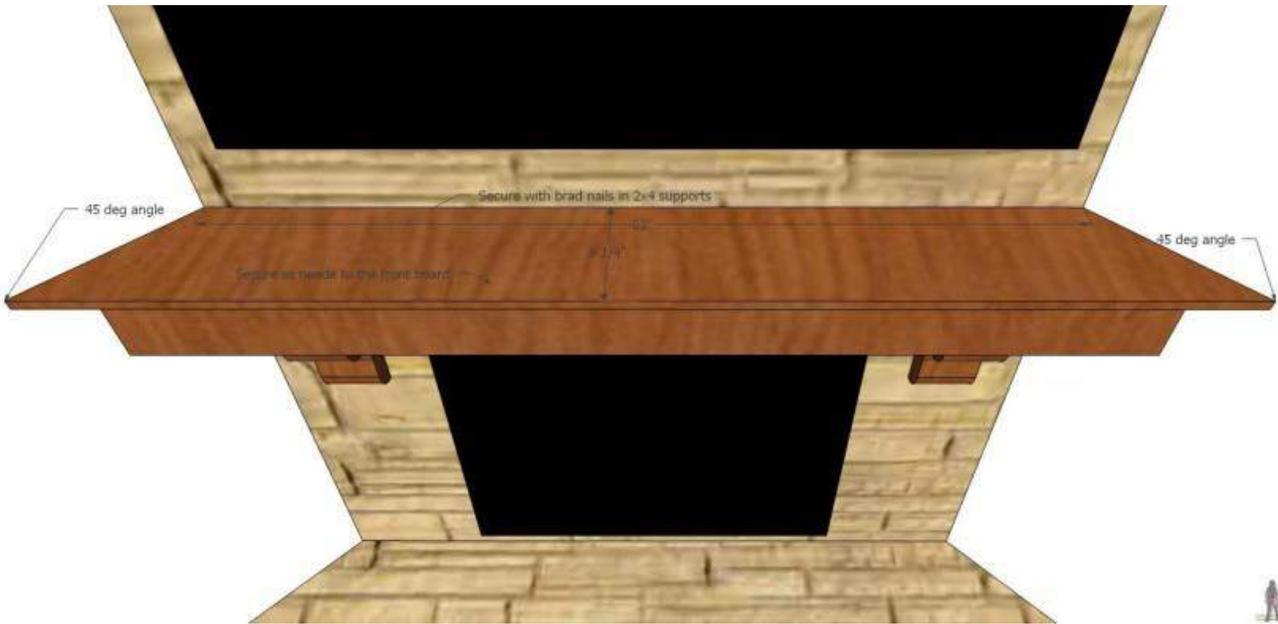
Cut the crown molding to fit under the top. Nail the crown in place, with as minimum nails as possible.