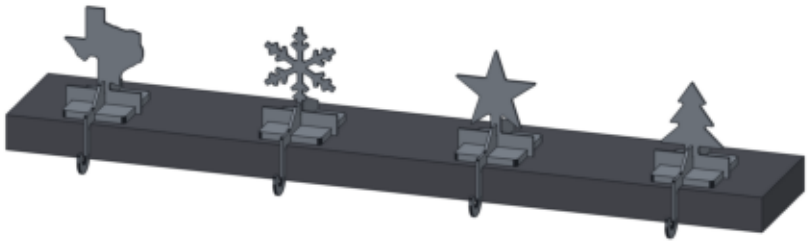
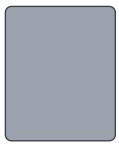
Texas Christmas Stocking Holders, set of 4

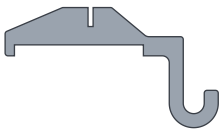


Four heavy steel stocking holders for the mantel: a pine, a star, a snowflake and Texas, each standing on a 1/2 in steel base that keeps a full stocking from pulling it off. Each holds up to 7 lb. Twelve laser-cut parts that lock together with slots and weld in a few short beads.

What's in the box



Base x4
Part SH4-01



Hook x4
Part SH4-02



Pine plate x1
Part SH4-03



Star plate x1
Part SH4-04



Snowflake plate x1
Part SH4-05



Texas plate x1
Part SH4-06

What you'll need

- MIG or flux-core welder (1/2 in to 3/16 in fillets; a 120 V machine handles short beads)
- Angle grinder with a flap disc or wire wheel
- A square and a few clamps
- Welding helmet, gloves, jacket and safety glasses

Texas Christmas Stocking Holders, set of 4

1 Lay out the bases

Set the four bases flat on the bench, a hand's width apart. They're identical.

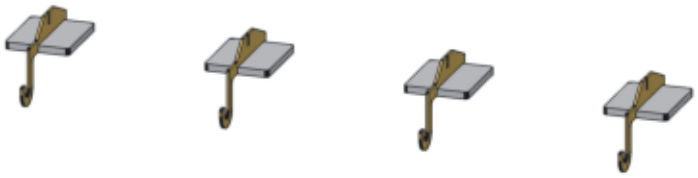


2 Stand a hook on each base

Set a hook plate on edge over each base, its J hanging off the bench edge, so the notch along its bottom straddles the base from front to back. Slide it sideways to the middle of the base.

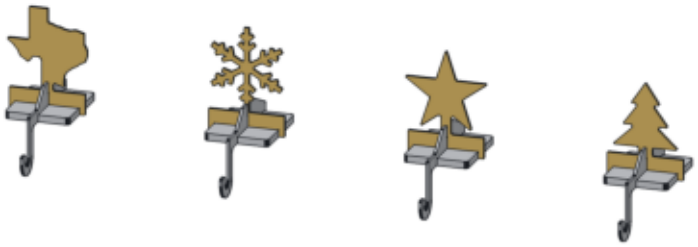
TIP

Work at the edge of the bench so the J hangs clear.



Texas Christmas Stocking Holders, set of 4

3 Slide the motifs down over the hooks

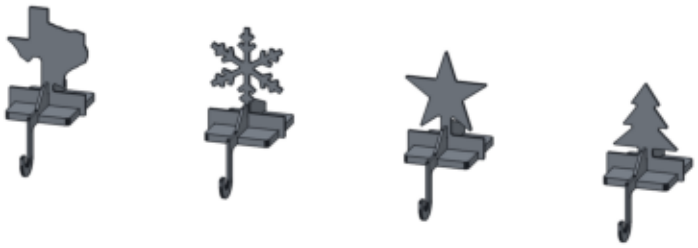


Hold each motif plate with its face toward the hook's J, the side that faces the room. Line its slot up with the hook plate's slot and slide it straight down until its legs straddle the base and both plates sit on it. The slots center the hook and square the two plates.

TIP

The Texas plate reads right from the J side: Panhandle up and on the left.

4 Weld them



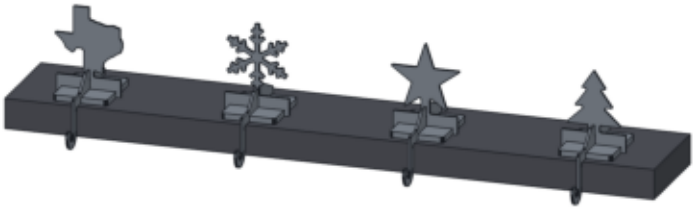
Weld each leg of the motif plate to the side of the base, then run a short bead along each side of the hook plate where it sits on the base. Tack the crossing at the back. Let them cool and wire-brush them.

TIP

1/2 in plate soaks up heat: preheat the base with the torch or run a hotter setting so the beads tie in.

Texas Christmas Stocking Holders, set of 4

5 Hang your stockings



Set each holder on the mantel with its base flat and the hook over the edge. Space them about 14 in apart. Hang one stocking on each J, up to 7 lb.

TIP

Stick felt pads under the base to protect a wood or stone mantel.

Texas Christmas Stocking Holders, set of 4

Finishing

- The parts ship bare with a light oil film. Wipe them down with a degreaser before welding.
- Wire-brush or sand them, then paint: satin black, hammered bronze, or Christmas red with gold.
- Or clear-coat the bare steel for a raw, rustic look.
- Felt pads under the base protect the mantel.

Safety

- Each holder holds one stocking up to 7 lb. Heavier stockings can pull it forward off the mantel.
- Keep the base flat on the mantel and the hook over the edge; don't set it on a mantel shallower than the base.
- Keep stockings clear of the fire and the fireplace opening: they burn.
- Don't let kids pull on the stockings or climb up to them.

This is a kit of raw steel parts. You build the finished product, and the quality of your welds and your judgment about where and how you use it are yours. Weld with proper ventilation and protective gear.