

Instant infrastructure for creating team spaces and writing surfaces.

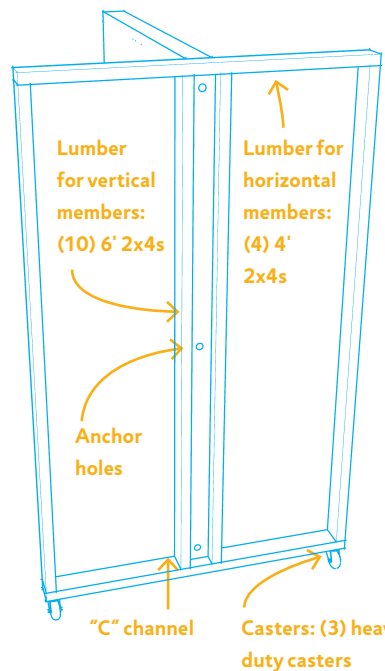
The T-Walls (so called because of their shape on a floor plan) allow for the creation of rapid configurations of intimate or open spaces in any context. They are one of the most time-tested elements at the d.school. An early need to be able to quickly adapt spaces for multiple-use cases had us literally mounting entire walls on casters to move them about the space.

Each T-Wall unit consists of two nearly identical "walls." These walls are wood frames "skinned" with thinner

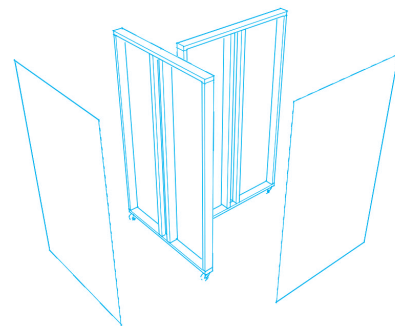
laminated materials such as acrylic, polycarbonate, Masonite, and showerboard. The nonporous surfaces of showerboard and acrylic, for example, create easily replaceable, dry-erase writable surfaces—less expensive than commercially available products of similar scale.

The framing construction can be basic, using standard 2x4 lumber, or more elaborate, using thick (1") multi-ply plywood or finer hardwood lumber.

t-walls



Overall height: 6' 6"
Showerboard surfacing specs:
(4) sheets @ 4' x 6' 3".



Hardware:
Self-tapping lath screws for showerboard attachment at 8" spacings.

Carriage bolts (with nuts & washers) or lag screws for connecting wall components

sketches: Scott Wittthof

build instructions

build sequence:

1. Build the frames.
2. Skin one side of each as illustrated.
3. Connect the walls.
4. Attach remaining skins.
5. Install casters anytime after Step 1.

the guts

Both wall components are identical, with a consistent C-shaped vertical center assembly, allowing either wall to function as connector for the pair, using bolts or lag screws. Holes for these bolts or screws should be predrilled in the center channel before installing the laminate surface; holes should be located at top, mid, and bottom heights.

how tall?

We have found 6' 6" to be a good height for usability without intimidation. Taller surfaces can wreck team dynamics and create unreachable areas.



"Lecture"

sketches: Scott Wittthof



"In the Round"



"On Stage"



"Expo"

sourcing

showerboard/lumber

Lumber & showerboard are available from local lumber suppliers as well as home centers. The d.school has had excellent results with the product available from Pine Cone Lumber (895 East Evelyn Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086; 408 736-5491; www.pineconelumber.com).

casters

Industrial Caster & Wheel Co. (2200 Carden Street, San Leandro, CA 94577; 510 569-8303; www.icwco.com). Reference Stanford d.school red caster in 3" or 5".
California Caster and Hand Truck Company (1400 17th Street, San Francisco, CA 94107; 800 950-8750; www.californiacaster.com)

polycarbonate/acrylic

Port Plastics (550 East Trimble Road, San Jose, CA 95131; 408 571-2231; www.portplastics.com) ships regionally.
TAP Plastics (154 South Van Ness, San Francisco, CA 94103; 800 246-5055; www.tapplastics.com) has many western U.S. locations.

start

Because it is a tall, rolling structure, the T-Wall needs to be built sturdily. Start with a quantity of one or two (a pair is nice) and use the cheap option: standard 2x4s.

see also

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Tools_Z-Rack

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Tools_Whiteboard Sliders

Common configurations for using T-Walls with teams.