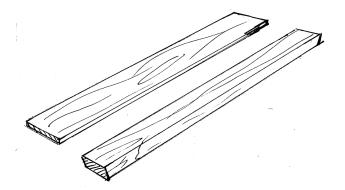
Wooden Pallet Disassembly

Pallets often have to be dissasembled for use in projects around the home, however this is made difficult because wooden pallets are constructed with galvanized steel wood framing nails which are very hard to remove. The process is made harder because pallet wood is heat treated and therefore very dry and cracks easily. If you proceed carefully, you should be able to salvage most, if not all of the boards from a standard 2 or 4 way stringer pallet relatively easily. Block pallets use 2" or 2.5" framing nails which are very difficult to remove from the pallet. The blocks will come off relatively intact with some prying using a crowbar, but the crossboards are difficult to salvage and will often snap under the stress of removing the nail. I would recommend trying your best to use block pallets in designs which do not require the dissassembly of the pallet, such as a coffee table or a bed frame.

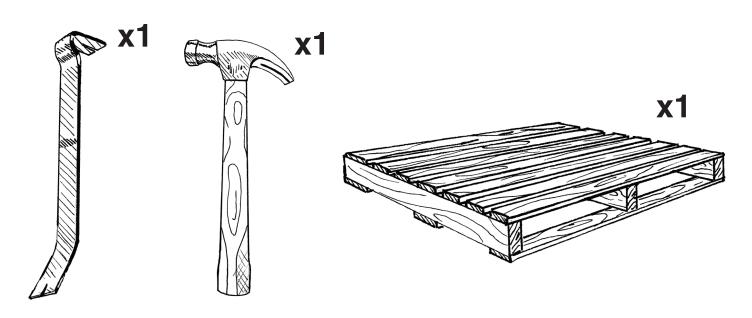
IT IS IMPORTANT TO TAKE THE PROPER SAFETY PRECAUTIONS WHILE DISSASEMBLING

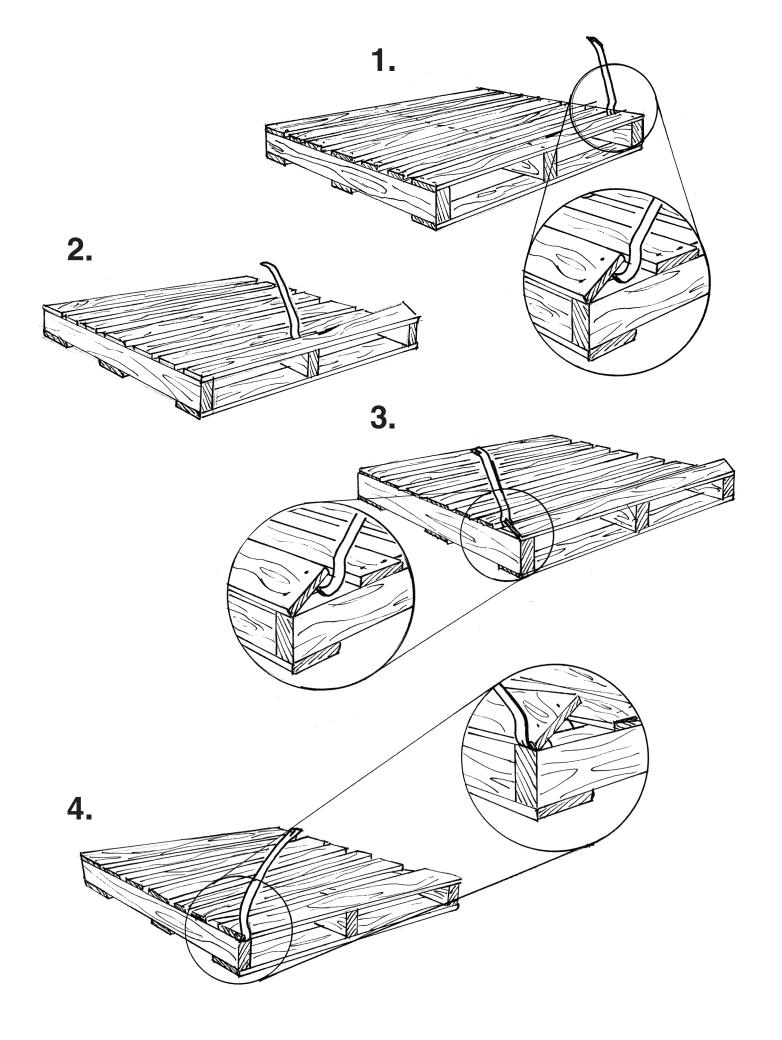
- -wear gloves as the wood can splinter easily
- -dispose of the nails in a small paper bag which can then be put out with the garbage

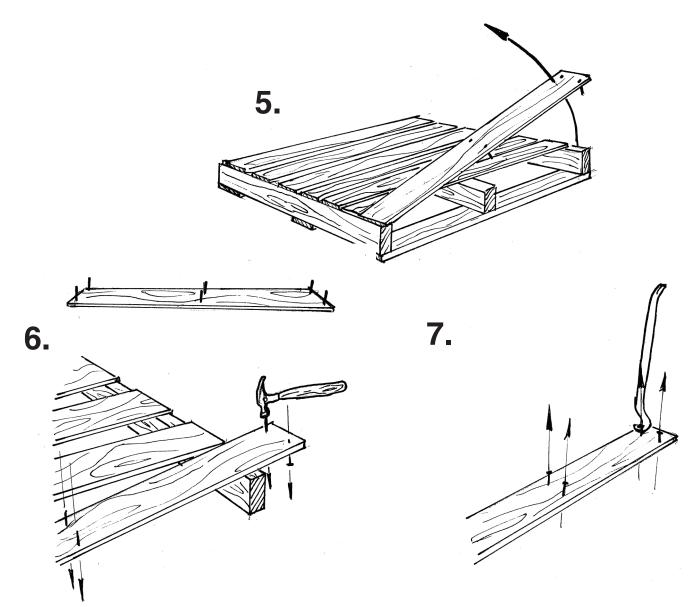


The end result of a standard stringer pallet dissasembly should be 3 2x4s and 10 1x4s. Every pallet is diffirent however, and you may have to adapt your plans according to the available wood.

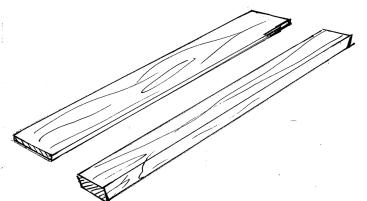
Materials







Repeat steps 1-7 until all crossboards are removed



Tips and Tricks:

You may have to hammer the crowbar to wedge it into the space between the two boards.

You can also try hammering the board back in after pulling it out halway with the crowbar, causing the heads of the nails to stick out slightly. They can then be pryed out with the crowbar.

Produced by the Canadian Pallet & Container Association