



Sturdy sawhorse

This sawhorse pair from Axminster is definitely worth considering if you saw outdoors or simply need a temporary work table

A pair of wooden sawhorses may often be regarded as equipment mainly for the site chippy, but they can be just as useful for the home workshop. Primarily used for sawing boards or sheet materials, with a bit of ingenuity they can be adapted so that height is adjustable. Stacked for storage, though, in a small workspace, the splayed legs create quite a large footprint, so what if they had folding legs to save space? This pair from Axminster solves the problem. Made from powder-coated steel with zinc-plated legs, each one weighs about 6.4kg and is seriously heavy duty. As a result, load capacity is a maximum of 590kg (1,180kg per pair), which is impressive.

Legs fold easily into the top rail for storage, while a strong plastic carry handle makes them simple to move. Overall size of each unit when packed down is 895 x 150 x 85mm.

In use

Depressing a spring-loaded button at one end of the rail enables you to unfold the first pair of legs, repeating the process at the other end. A hinged cross-brace locks the legs apart, then you can adjust working height. With a choice of eight settings, outer legs are simply slid downwards and locate in notches at 27mm intervals. Minimum working height is 560mm, while maximum is 825mm. A hard plastic ledge



Legs fold easily into the top rail for storage...



... while a strong plastic carry handle makes them simple to move

stops boards sliding around and means there's less chance of saw blades hitting the steel casing, should you cut across them.

What makes each sawhorse clever is the cut-out at each end for a piece of 95 x 45mm softwood. These mean you can link both trestles together with a length of timber along each side to make a really strong temporary work table. You may need to shave these stretchers down to fit as the slot actually measures a tad less, but better too tight than too slack. Use CLS timber (which finishes at around 43mm) and they're fine, though.

Once stretchers are in place, you have a rigid, pop-up work surface; this provides an ideal method for supporting boards while sawing or routing, with blade or cutter passing through the material and simply notching the stretchers, without these losing strength.



With a choice of eight settings, outer legs are simply slid downwards and locate in notches at 27mm intervals



Use CLS timber (which finishes at around 43mm), to achieve a tight fit into the slot



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Conclusion

You can buy cheaper, but I doubt you'll find sawhorses as sturdy as these two. Worth considering if you saw outdoors or simply need a temporary work table. **GW**

Specification:

- ▶ Use to create a strong worktable anywhere on site
- ▶ 590kg support capacity per trestle
- ▶ Quick and easy to set up
- ▶ Independently adjustable telescopic legs
- ▶ Powder-coated and zinc-plated for long life
- ▶ Fold neatly for transport and storage
- ▶ Easy carry handles – no sharp edges
- ▶ Supplied as a pair

- ▶ **Typical price:** £89.96 per pair
- ▶ **Web:** www.axminster.co.uk

THE GW VERDICT

- ▶ **PROS:** Folds for storage; heavy-duty; adjustable height; telescopic legs
- ▶ **CONS:** Timber stretchers a tight fit; pricey for the occasional user
- ▶ **RATING:** 4 out of 5



Overall size of each unit when packed down is 895 x 150 x 85mm



Depressing a spring-loaded button at one end of the rail enables you to unfold the first pair of legs



A hinged cross-brace locks the legs apart, then you can adjust working height