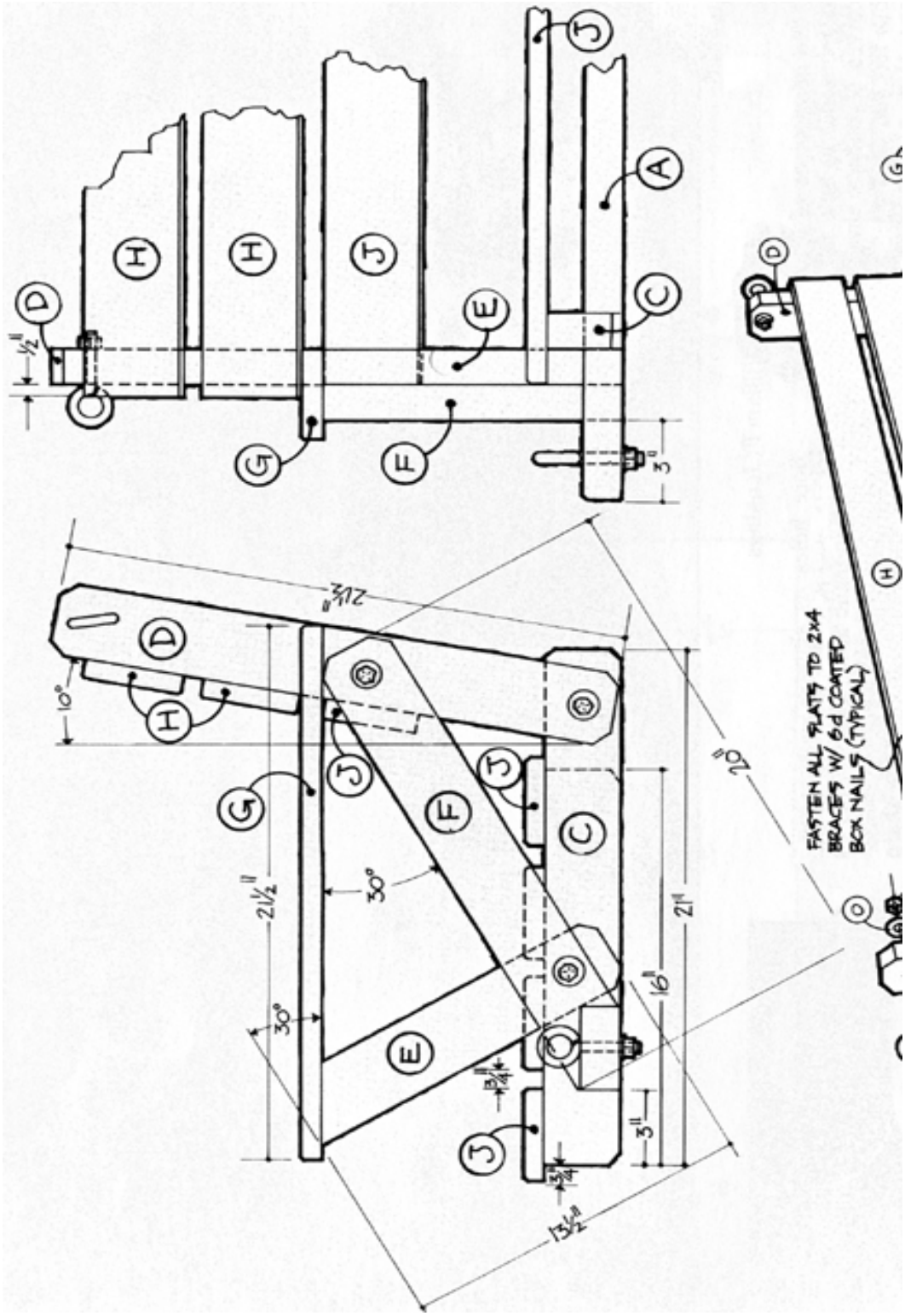
Project 16258EZ:
Porch Swing

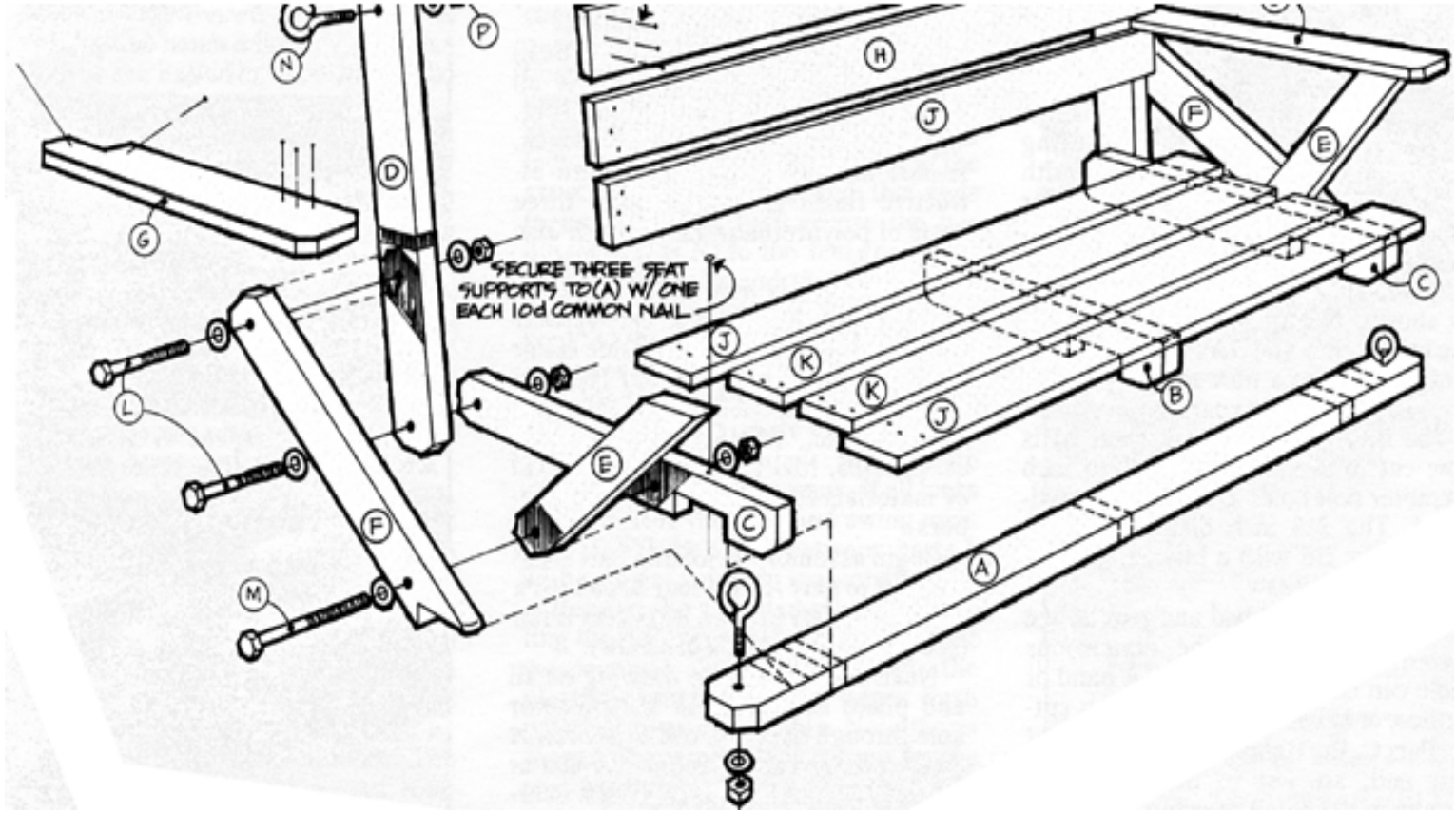
This rugged swing can be built in just a few hours, either out of redwood, or if you plan to paint it, out of regular construction lumber. The one shown was finished with an exterior semitransparent gray stain. It measures five feet overall, but the length can certainly vary depending upon available space.

Porch Swing Materials List

Part	Description	Size	No. Req'd
A	Swing Support	1-1/2" x 3-1/2" x 60"	1
B	Center Seat Support	1-1/2" x 3-1/2" x 16"	1
C	End Seat Support	1-1/2" x 3-1/2" x 21"	2
D	End Back Support	1-1/2" x 3-1/2" x 21-1/2"	2
E	Arm Rest Support	1-1/2" x 3-1/2" x 13-1/2"	2
F	Support Strut	1-1/2" x 3-1/2" x 20"	2
G	Arm Rest	3/4" x 3-1/2" x 21-1/2"	2
H	Slat	3/4" x 3-1/2" x 52"	2
J	Slat	3/4" x 3-1/2" x 51"	3
K	Slat	3/4" x 3-1/2" x 48"	2
L	Hex Head Bolt	3/8" x 4"	4
M	Hex Head Bolt	3/8" x 5-1/2"	2
N	Eyebolt	3/8" x 2"	4
O	Washers	3/8"	16
P	Hex Nut	3/8"	10
	"S" Hook		4
	Chain		

Porch Swing Complete Schematic




N
P
H
J
F
E
D
G
SECURE THREE SEAT SUPPORTS TO (A) W/ ONE EACH 10d COMMON NAIL
C
J
K
K
J
B
L
E
C
F
M
A

Porch Swing Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Cut all the 2" x 4" stock to the proper length.
2. Nip off all the corners to soften the exposed ends and take away any rough edges.
3. Make notches in seat supports (B) and (C) 3" back from the front end to accept the 2" x 4" swing support (A).
4. Use a 30/60 degree draftsman’s triangle to mark the locations of the notches as shown on the ends of support struts (F).
5. Use the saber saw to cut out the notches.
6. Check for fit over part A.
7. Make a 30-degree angle cut on one end of both arm rest supports (E).
8. Lay the back support down over seat support (C) in the position of the seat.
9. Drill a 3/8" hole through both pieces.
10. Fasten the pieces together with a 3/8" x 4" bolt (L), washers (0) and hex nut (P).
11. Tighten the pieces down so that they form an “L” shape at about 10 degrees from a right angle.
12. Take parts E and F and lay them down in the proper position over the pieces just assembled so that the notches line up with each other and the upper end of part E is parallel with the seat support (C).
13. Drill a 3/8" hole through all three 2" x 4"s in the lower end where shown.
14. Insert a 3/8" x 5-1/2" bolt (M) and washer.
15. Secure them with another washer and hex nut.
16. Drill through Parts F and D in the position shown.
17. Fasten together with a 3/8" x 4" bolt (L) with washers and hex nut.
18. Follow the same procedure for the other end except do it in the opposite direction so that, when set up for assembly, all bolt heads will face outward.
19. Drill a 3/8"hole 1-1/2" from the top of back supports (D) to accept the 3/8"x 2" eyebolts (N).
20. Do the same to the swing support (A) and secure those two eyebolts with nuts and washers.
21. Finish the two brace assemblies.
22. Cut the arm rests (G) to size out of 1" x 8" stock.
23. Nip off three corners of the arm rests as shown.
24. Cut a 1-1/2" x 3-1/2" notch on the remaining corners.
25. Fit this notch into the back support (D), resting it on the rearward end of the support strut (F).
26. Position the arm rest support (E) so that the arm rest (G) sits squarely upon its 30 degree angle.

27. Drive three 6d coated box nails through the arm rest and into part E as shown.
28. Toenail two more nails into the back support (D), then follow this same procedure with the other end.
29. Drop the two end brace assemblies down over swing support (A) into the notches you cut earlier so that the outermost edges of support struts (F) are 3" in from the ends of the swing support.
30. Drive a 10d common nail through the brace assembly and into swing support to be sure they stay in place.
31. Position the center seat support (B) exactly in the middle and do the same to that.
32. Take your remaining 1" x 8" stock and rip all of it in half.
33. Cut the pieces to the lengths required. **NOTE: Notice that these lengths vary depending upon where they go.**
34. Round off or bevel all exposed square edges slightly for appearance and comfort.
35. Lay the four seat slats down, making sure to space them apart evenly (approximately 3/4").
36. Overhang the front slat about 3/4".
37. Secure all four seat slats with 6d coated box nails.
38. Flip the seat onto its back.
39. Place the last three slats into position (one below the arm rest, two above).
40. Secure these in the same manner.
41. Set all nail heads.
42. Position hooks in your ceiling at least 12" further apart than the length of your swing so that the chain doesn't rub against the armrests.
43. Make sure that your hooks hit something good and solid to prevent any painful surprises.
44. Cut your chain into two equal lengths.
45. Secure a link to the ceiling hooks approximately 15" off center. **NOTE: The shorter length goes to the back, the longer to the seat**.
46. Lift your swing into place and fasten with "S" hooks.
47. Adjust the swing until it hangs level and swings properly.
48. Make it more comfortable by hanging the seat so it tilts back slightly.
49. Snip off any excess links and test it for weight to complete.

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