



NO. LET. ITEM				DIMENSIONS (INCHES)			NOTES
				T W	L		
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	A	Posts	2 1/4	2 1/4	75	
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	B	Short rails	1 1/4	6	40 1/2	3/4" x 5" x 3/4" TBE
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	C	Long rails	1 1/4	6	76 1/2	3/4" x 5" x 3/4" TBE
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	D	Headboard	3/4	15 1/2	40 1/2	3/4" TBE
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	E	Footboard	3/4	7	40 1/2	3/4" TBE

You want your mattress to fit close against the rails. As a rule of thumb, make your rails (between tenons) the same length as your box spring's width and length. With this particular bed design, you'll get the right gap.

- **18" -high Bed:** A common height for a platform bed. When you sit on this bed, your knees will be bent.
- **25" -high Bed:** The most common bed height. When sitting on the bed, your legs will be mostly extended, but your feet will reach the floor.
- **36" -high Bed:** Common on antique beds. When sitting on the bed, your legs will not reach the floor.

Essentially, there are five common ways to support your box springs or mattress. If you're building a king-sized bed, you likely need a center support, too.

**Bed Irons:** This traditional and sturdy method is outlined in this article. Note that these work only with a quality box spring. Some inexpensive box springs aren't rigid enough.

**Wooden Cleats:** Screw 1½"-square cleats to the inside edge of all four rails and rest the box spring on those.

**Angle Iron:** Screw angle iron (or aluminum angle brackets) to the bottom inside edge of all four rails.

**Cleats and Slats:** If you're building a bed that won't use a box spring, screw square wooden cleats to the inside edge of all four rails and then screw 1 x 4s to the cleats 1" apart.

**Cleats and Plywood:**  
Screw cleats to the rails and then screw a piece of  $\frac{3}{4}$ "-thick plywood to the cleats.

Whitechapel Ltd., 800-468-5534, [www.whitechapel-ltd.com](http://www.whitechapel-ltd.com)  
Horton Brasses Inc., 800-754-9127, [www.horton-brasses.com](http://www.horton-brasses.com)  
Ball and Ball, 800-257-3711, [www.ballandball-us.com](http://www.ballandball-us.com)

- For bed bolts, I use a 6"-long steel bed bolt. In general, bed bolts have a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " square head, a  $\frac{15}{16}$ "-diameter flange and 16 threads per inch. You also will want to purchase a bed wrench that makes tightening and loosening the bolts easy. Call the companies above for pricing, shipping information and availability.
- For bed irons, I use 3" x 6" irons. These are made from  $\frac{1}{4}$ "-thick steel that is  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " wide. Use three irons on each side rail for full, queen or king sizes. Use at least two irons on each side rail for a twin mattress.