

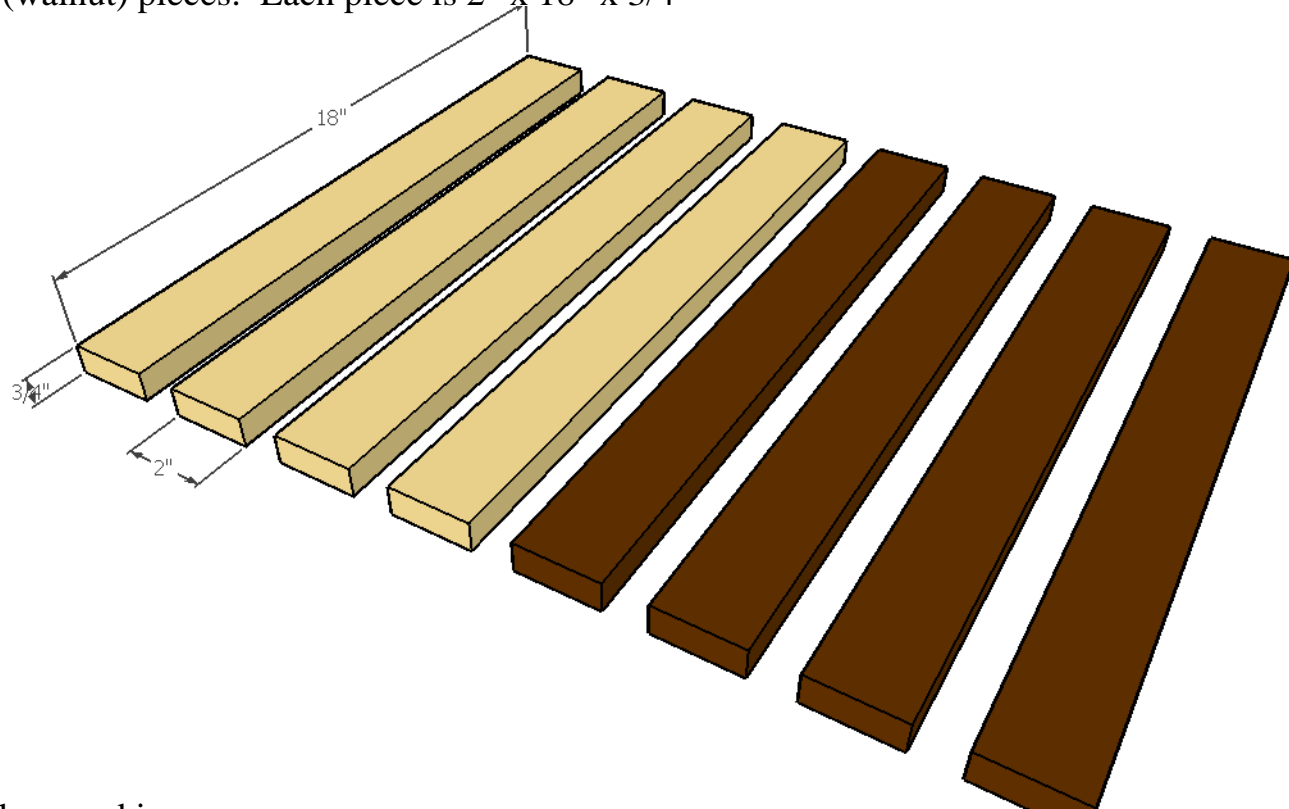
## Step #1: Cut wood

Use contrasting colors such as maple and walnut

Use S4S (squared wood with all right angles)

Cut four light (maple) pieces: Each piece is 2" x 18" x 3/4"

Cut four dark (walnut) pieces: Each piece is 2" x 18" x 3/4"



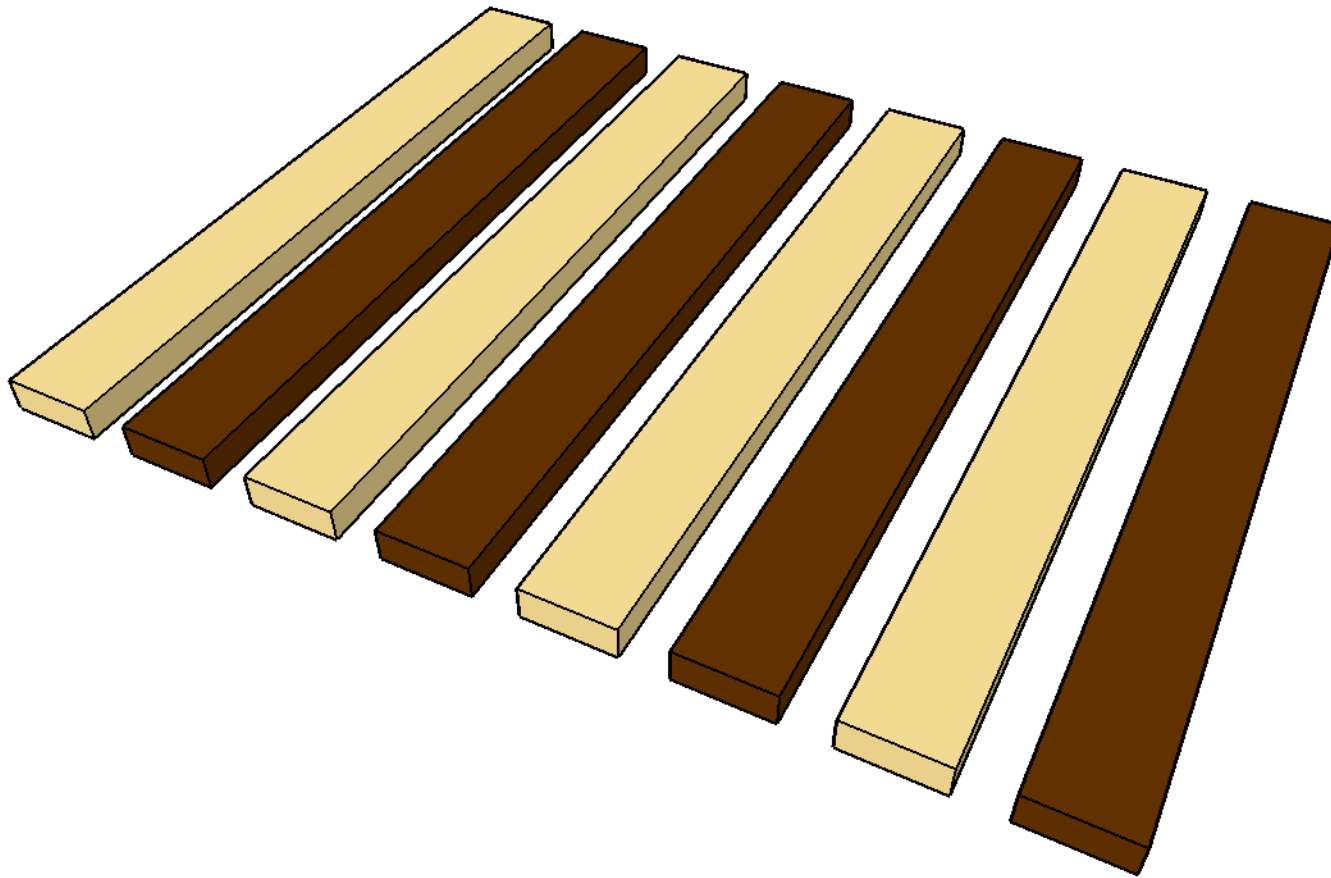
Notes:

- Make sure the wood is square
- Cut each piece to exactly the same width (2.00")  
Having the same width is the most important
- If the widths are each greater than 2.125", you will need strips longer than 18"

## Step #2: Arrange wood

Alternate the wood strips

Each strip is 2" x 18" x 3/4"

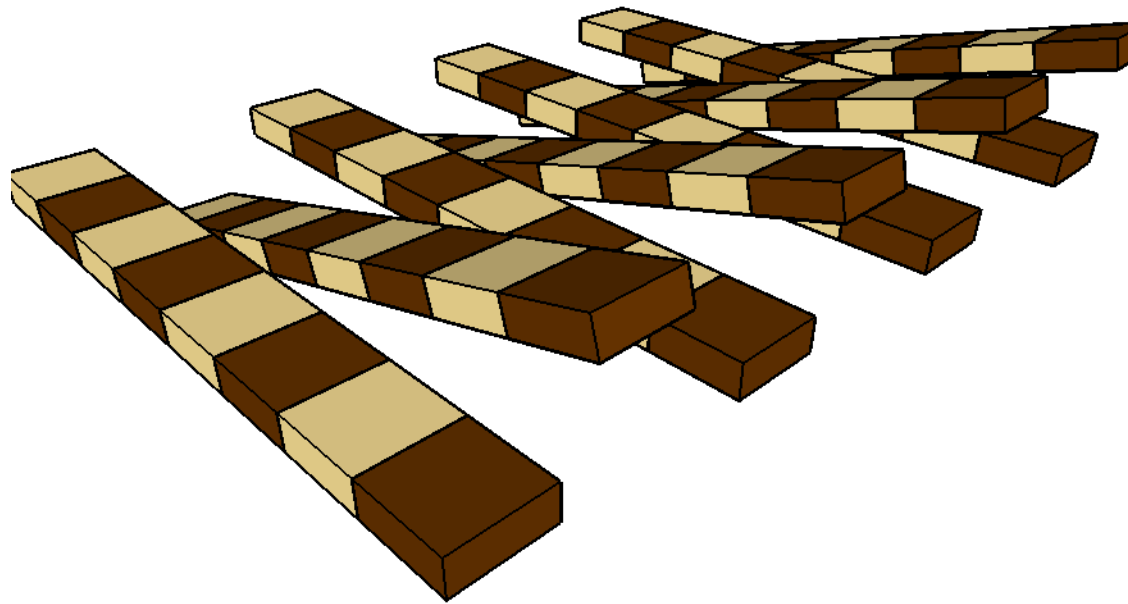






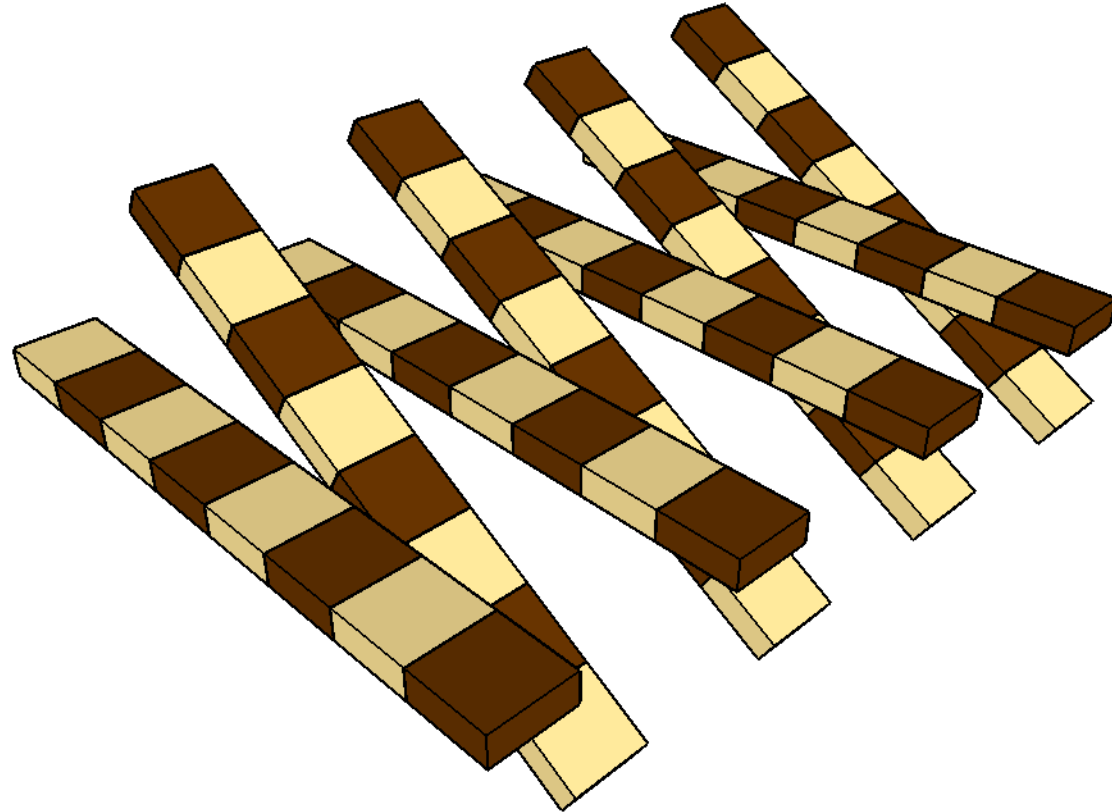
## Step #5: Flip every other strip

Flip every other strip end over end



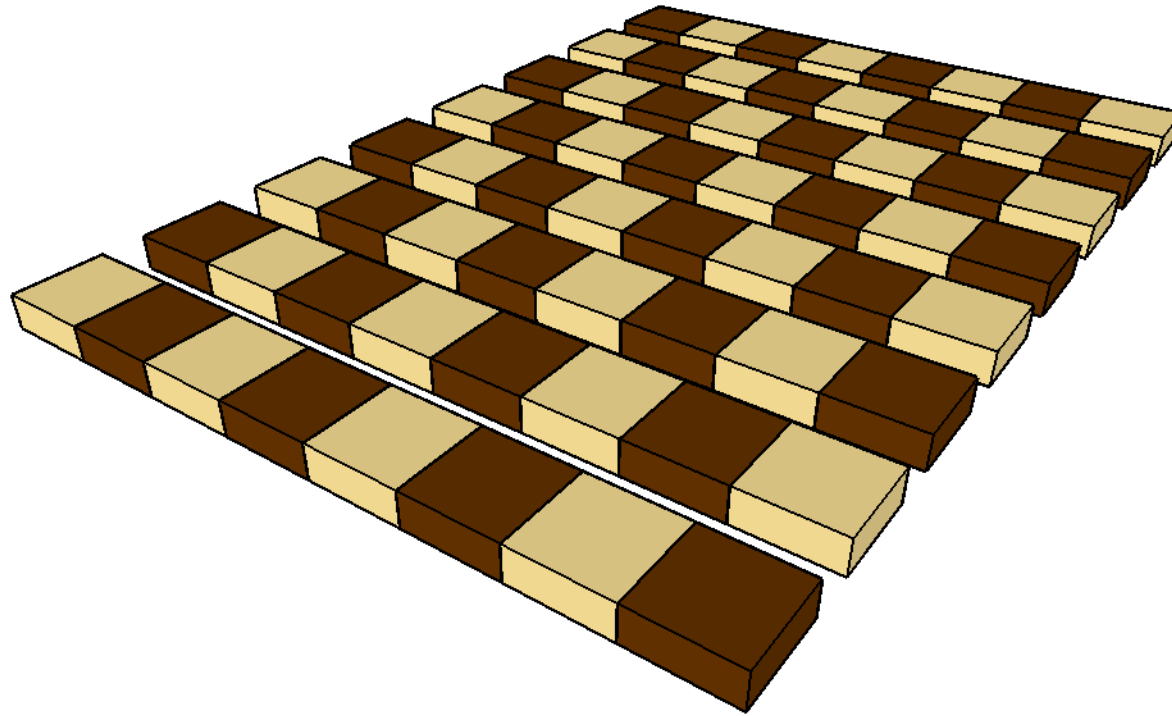
## Step #5: Continued

Flipping the strips



## Step #5: Continued

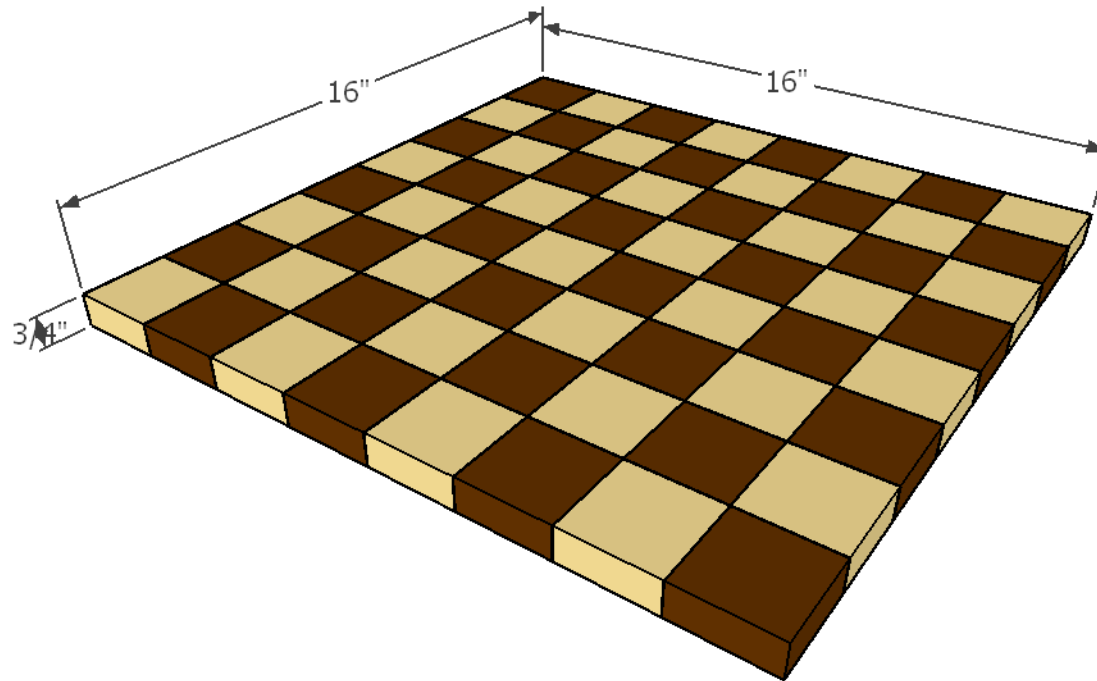
Here are the strips look after the flipping exercise



## Step #6: Second glue-up

Glue the eight new strips into a new panel

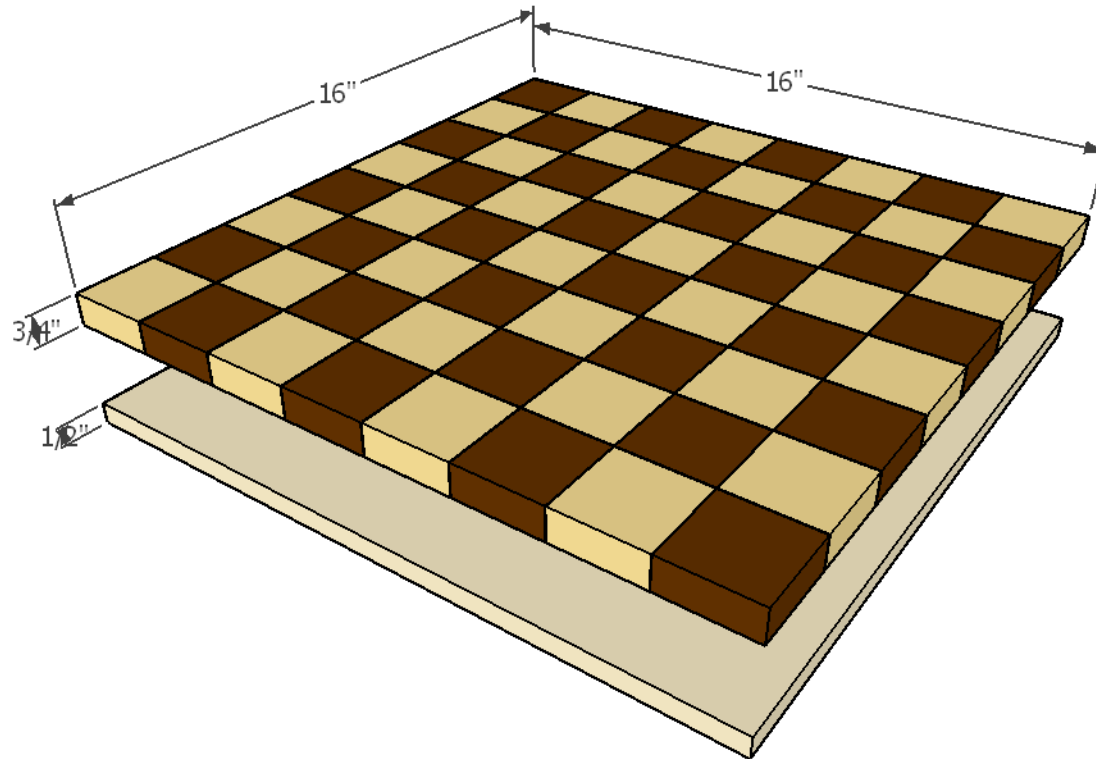
This second panel is 16" x 16" x 3/4"





## Step #7: Backing board (optional)

You can add a piece of 1/2" Baltic birch plywood for backing and to prevent post-glue warping  
Cut the piece large at first (17" x 17") and trim with a router



The chessboard panel will serve as a template to get the plywood to the right size  
You can use a flush-cut router bit with a bearing to trim the plywood down to 16" x 16"



## Step #9 : Final product

The playing surface is 16" x 16"

The total dimensions are 18" x 18" x 1.50"

