

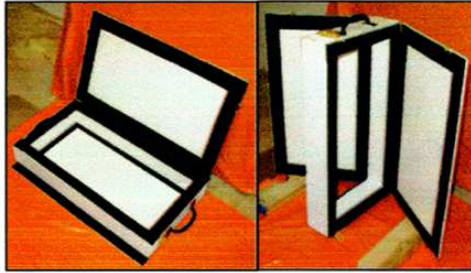
# DUPLICATING PLASTER CASTS

In about the year 2002 I was faced with a bit of a dilemma—how do you duplicate very old plaster casts with minimum fear of breaking them? Plaster gets extremely brittle after just a few years and I was looking at casts that were decades old. Traditionally, you gently simply push the cast into sand as far as you can. You then remove the cast and fill the impression with plaster. The problem is that you must push down on the center of the

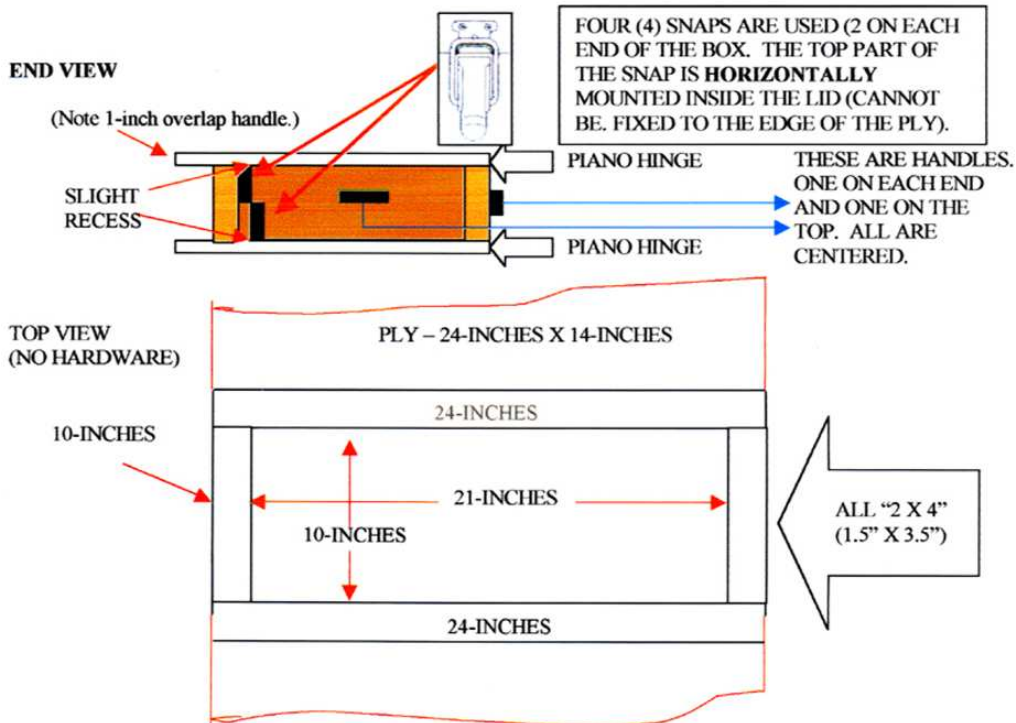
cast and that often causes them to break right through the middle. When you see a cast with a center break that has been glued together, this is the reason—it was broken in the duplication process.

I solved the problem by designing and making what I called a Cast-Making Box as detailed in the following explanation and specifications.

## MAKING DUPLICATE CASTS



This is a cast-making box designed by Chris Murphy to safely reproduce footprint casts. The box opens on both sides (top and bottom). The cast to be duplicated is placed in the box “right side up” or flat side down. Sand is then piled on top of the cast, packing it firmly and filling the box right to the top. The box is then inverted and the other side opened. The cast is then removed, leaving a perfect print for plaster. The process works extremely well with no risk of accidentally cracking the cast to be duplicated.



### REQUIREMENTS:

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 2 – “2X4” BOARDS (1.5” X 3.5”)  | 24-INCHES LONG                   |
| 2 – “2X4” BOARDS (1.5”X3.5”)  | 10-INCHES LONG                   |
| 2 – PLY BOARDS  | 24 -INCHES LONG X 14-INCHES WIDE |
| 2 – PIANO HINGES  | 12-INCHES LONG.                  |
| 8 – WOOD SCREWS   | 2.5” LONG                        |
| 4 – SNAPS   |                                  |
| 3 – HANDLES   |                                  |
| 1 – BAG (50 POUNDS) CLEANED PLAYGROUND SAND (AVAILABLE AT HOME DEPOTS.) |                                  |

**NOTE:** AN ALTERNATIVE TO SNAPS IS USE OF SCREWS. (WIDE THREAD FOR EASY INSERTION AND REMOVAL.) DRILL HOLES FOR BACK-UP INCASE OF PROBLEMS WITH THE SNAPS.



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