

Balancing Bench



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Communicating across
distance

Sharing weight and
physicality without
direct touch

Some Thoughts I Had

Active engagement with a
typically passive action (such
as sitting)

Wanted to build big and dig into
the ground



Started with a ~8ft piece of fallen oak from the Reed College Campus

Used an axel grinder to smooth down surface and remove spiny bumps and bark

Covered with 4 coats of water-based polyurethane to weatherproof and add some gloss



I used 2"x2" aluminum rods to create a ladder like support underneath the plank, upon which was attached the hardware needed to connect a crossbeam

This support was joined using pop rivets, L-brackets, and epoxy



The support itself was affixed to the plank via lag bolts





Pressure treated 4"x4" posts were fastened to cement pylons, creating the standing base for the bench

The posts each had a 2" hole drilled partially through the top in which the steel cross beam was secured



The bench was placed on the path just East of the top entrance of the Art Building, semi-secluded but relatively accessible via a flat dirt path

The pylons were sunk ~8" into the ground, and were packed in with gravel and dirt from the cleared holes

2 support braces were added between the poles to decrease the the individual instability of each post

At this point however, the weight and movement of the structure was being limited by only the ~1" steel beam connecting the 4"x4" posts to the cement

^ This led to some rotational instability when the weight was placed and moved upon the plank

^ This led to some required problem solving the day before the critique...



Four 24" support legs were added in an attempt to cut down on the unwanted rotation

Luckily it worked pretty well

Peep Pix and Cleo giving it a whirl →

