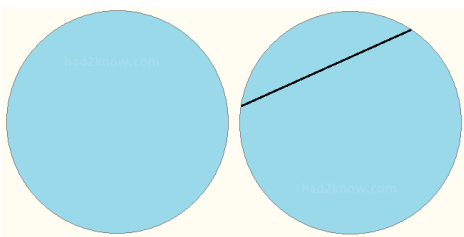# Finding the Center of a Round, Square, or Rectangular Table Top
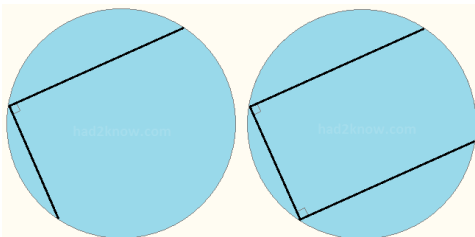
Round Table Tops

You can use simple geometry to find two intersecting diameters of a circle. And where the two diameter lines cross is the exact center of the circle. All you need is a straight edge, a right angle, and either a pencil or string and tape to mark the lines.

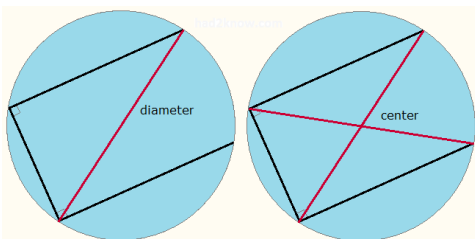**Step 1:** Draw a chord across the circle, somewhere away from the center.

Step 2: Draw a second chord perpendicular to the first chord.

Step 3: Draw a third chord perpendicular to the second and parallel to the first.

Step 4: Draw a line connecting the ends of the first and second chords. This line is the diameter of the circle.

Step 5: Draw a line connecting the ends of the second and third chords. This forms another diameter. The intersection of the two diameters is the center of the circle.

Square and Rectangular Tops

Squares and rectangles are pretty easy, you simply draw two diagonal lines from the opposite corners and the point where they cross is the center of your material. You can even use the side of the box it came in as the straight edge!