Custom Home Bar Designer™

User Guide 3.1



Overview:

The CHBD is a web based 3D calculator application that allows individual users to load our core bar projects for the purpose of modifying the standard dimensions to create an easily customized design.

The program consists of two main parts, the Project Manager and the Print Manager.

While the CHBD will generate modified dimensions, we still recommend that you use the standard plans set *along with* your modified cut and material list to get the full assembly instructions. When modifying the core plan set using the CHBD, the assembly instructions DO NOT change, only the cut and material lists change.

Browser Compatibility:

Version 2 did not support Mozilla Firefox, but version 3 now supports Microsoft Internet Explorer ver. 6 or 7 and Mozilla Firefox. We will not support the bloated IE 8 at this time. We recommend Firefox over all other browsers. Get it FREE at http://www.firefox.com

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Overview:

The CHBD is designed to make re-sizing of our core plans sets an easy task. The system is scalable to allow for virtually an unlimited number of plan sets to be entered by the administrator and made selectable by the end user. The user then modifies the overall section sizes and save the new cut & material list for printing.

Once you have the new cut & material list, you simply replace the standard set lists and use the original plan set as your assembly guide. It's as simple as that!

The CHBD does not allow you to "Pick & Choose" options. Rather, the administrator will assemble pre-packaged designs and make them available.

A later revision will allow for more options to be selected, but for now whatever is in the drop down list is all that can be modified.

Registration / Login:

All paid users must register for a new CHBD account. This is a free registration. The registration is required to keep track of your personal saved projects. We recommend you simply register your assigned username, password, name and email. Use the "New Users – Register" area on the right side of the page to create your account.



Figure 1: CHBD Login / Registration Page

If you ever forget your login info, just use the "Forgot your password?" link. All you need to remember is the email address you used for registration.

Project Selection:

Opening Projects

There are two types of files you can load.

- 1. The Standard Core Designs from the data base...
- Your Saved Modified Versions of the core designs.

If this is your first use, you will have no saved files.

Use the pull down menu to scroll to the desired plans set.

Each set uses its catalog number, ie: EHBP-01, etc...

3. **Print Manager:** Skip editing & take you directly to the Print Manager.

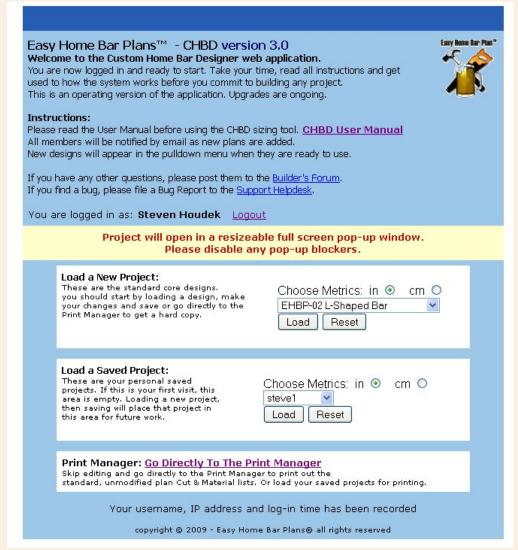


Figure 2: CHBD Project Selection Screen

There are also two "metrics" options for loading plans. English and Metric. Metric is not supported for editing mode. Editing is only allowed in English units. Projects may be loaded in Metric for Reviewing or Printing purposes. Always edit in the "inch" setting.

Project Manager:

Project Editor / Paging

Once a project is loaded, you are taken directly into the Project Manager.

It is suggested that you first get used to the HIDE / UNHIDE paging functions by clicking the **Red and Green Up and Down Arrows**. These arrows open and close (or minimize) the three work areas or work panes. The Red Up Arrow = Close and the Green Down Arrow = Open. The entire page is arranged as follows:

Top: Project Manager - Overall Project Image.

Middle: Section Selector – Select a Section to Edit.

Bottom: Section Editor Panel - Modify Dimension Control, Dynamic Parts Cut & Material

Listing and Section Comments.

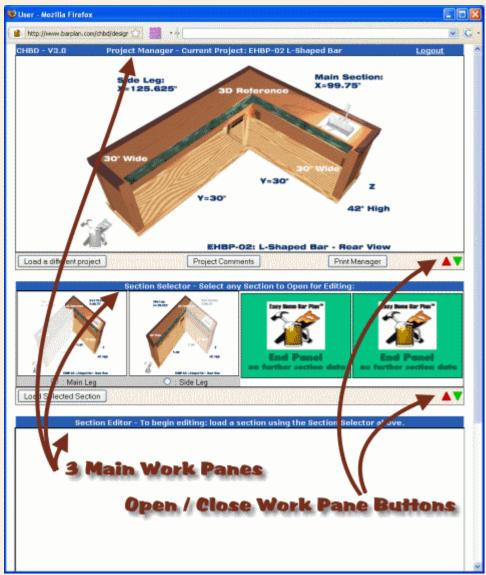


Figure 3: Project Manager Controls

Play around to familiarize yourself with the navigation links and work pane buttons.

Project Manager Continued...

You can also navigate to the **Print Manager** or go back to the Main CHBD page by clicking on the **Load a Different Project** button. You can also log out using the **Logout** link at the top of the page. For your purposes, you will be working mostly with the BOTTOM area of the Project Manager, the Section Editor Panel. This area will be blank when you first enter the Project Manager. Loading a Section will enable the **Section Editor** Panel area.

Section Selector:

Section Thumbnails are arranged in rows of four by as many rows as required for the project. The thumbnails correspond to individual project sections or steps, but do not always contain editable parameters. In some cases the image is simply included with comments as an intermediate step to offer assembly details. If a section contains no parts information, the Section Editor cut list and materials lists will not be visible.



Figure 4: Selecting a Section for Editing

Loading Sections

When you load a project and enter the Project Manager area, you should see a number of small thumbnail images, these images are the individual Sections (or Steps for some projects). The idea here is to reduce the project into single manageable steps with one drawing and its associates cut and material list. Each section is related to the others in the project by its layout orientation.

The possible **Section Orientations** are North, South, East and West.

For Example: A Straight Bar Project would be all North sections (or it could be all south, east or west). An L-shaped Project would contain one North section and East or West sections, depending upon whether it was a left or right handed layout.

To **Edit a Section**, it must be selected and loaded.

To load a section, click on the radio button just below the **Section Thumbnails** then click the "**Load Selected Section**" button. The detailed parts & material list will now appear in the Section Editor area along with the "**Modify Standard Dimension**" Controller.



Figure 5: Section Selection

The **Section Comments** area located at the bottom of the loaded section will describe any important assembly details or construction tips as needed.

Once a section is loaded, the **Sections Details** will appear below, with a full image of that Section, as well as details about the section's standard dimensions, the "**Modify Standard Dimensions**" control and the **Cut list**, **Material list** and **Comments** for that section.

At this point all active frames should be open.

You may close or re-open any of the work panes using the up and down arrows located on the right side of the tables. Try it!

Remember, the Up Arrow = Close and the Down Arrow = Open.

Editing Sections

You must use this feature carefully and with the understanding that it will change the final appearance of your project.

Refer to Figure 6:

The Editor allows you to modify the Standard Dimensions of the Core Designs. Once you make a change, you will notice items in the Cut List text turn red, for any parts that have been modified. The program highlights the changes in red to alert you and then does the calculation based on each parts orientation to that section. Your changes only affect the Overall Dimensions of that section, but translate to each associated part. To make changes to the **Overall Dimensions** of a Section:

Select a Step - Use the radio buttons to select either 10", 1", .5", .25" or .125" as your step increment. This is the amount of change per each click on the **- or + icons**. Start with a large step, and then choose smaller steps for fine adjustments.



Figure 6: Modifying & Saving a Section

Making Changes - Use the **green - and + icons** to increase or decrease dimensions for any of the three axis, X, Y and Z. You will see all parts change dynamically and highlighted in red, including Material list Totals, Qty. Required and Prices.

Match Function:

This is perhaps the most important feature and needs to be understood fully before you use it. We currently recommend that you DO NOT use it unless the Project or Section Comments area recommend its use. Read on for a detailed description...

Once a change is made, you will see the "Warn: Match Length" (or width or height) button appear to the right of the adjustment controls. When you click on the button, you will see a pop up box that says "Length size was matched for all related North sections". (Note the word Length would be replaced with Width or Height if you were working on those dimensions and the word North would be replaced with South, East or West if applicable for the current project.)

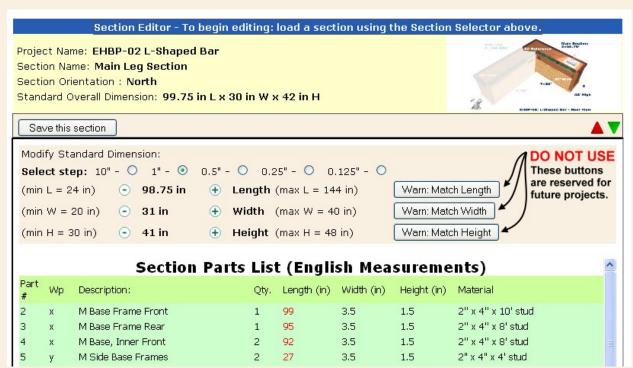


Figure 7: Match Function

The Match Function PRE-LOADS the same changes to the associated axis in all related sections. However, YOU MUST load all the related sections and save each to make the changes permanent. This will come into play fully after you read the next topic on Saving Sections. If you do NOT click on the Match text, your changes will only be applied to the current section. **Unless otherwise instructed, DO NOT use the Match buttons!**

Limits: To the left and right of the Section Dimensions (bold text), you will notice "min" and "max" numbers. These cannot be changed by the user. The admin sets these limits to prevent the dimensions from being set to extremes that would make the project impractical or unsafe. If you are at or close to the min or max and you select a step that is too large, the green - and + icons will disappear to prevent exceeding the limits.

If you want to **Reset** and start over for the current section, just scroll up to the Section Editor pane and click the "**Load Selected Section**" button again, this will reload the current section, removing any changes. See the next section for saving changes.

Tip: The Section Comments at the bottom of the page are not changeable and may include some hints regarding each section. Read them before you proceed with any save functions. The comments are also included in the standard Print Manager printout.

Saving Sections

This may be the most complicated part of the process, but it's easier than you think. They key is to understand what is being saved and what is not being saved.

This is how the Save function works.

When you make a change and the use the Match Button to match all related sections, those changes are Pre-loaded as a "delta value" for each section. The delta is the amount of change that will be equally applied to all related sections. At this point no permanent changes have been saved, only pre-loaded.

Leaving the current section and moving to a different section will result is a warning message in a pop up window as you enter the new section. The warning states "DDDDD size was modified by XX from the default value - but not yet saved."

DDDDD will be Length, Width or Height and XX will be the value of the change. This message will only appear for a section of parts have actually been modified. You should see that the dimension you changed in the previous section has now also changed in the newly loaded section. They should be "matched".

You will also see that any parts dimensions that required a change have also turned RED.

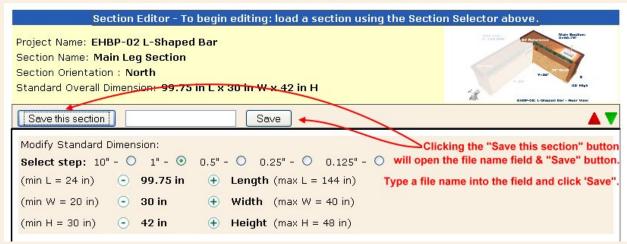


Figure 8: Section & Project Saving

When you decide to Save your changes, you scroll up (if needed) to the bottom of the **Section Selector** pane. There you will see the **Save this Project** button.

When you click the button, a field will appear where you enter a short project name. Please don't use a long description, just a 8 to 20 character file name. No "dots" please, then click the Save button.

You will see a pop-up that says "**The changes have been saved XXX**" where XXX is a sequential index number that you do not really need to concern yourself with. But if you must, the number represents the total of saved operations that have been performed. All subsequent saves for this project should be the same number.

Saving Sections continued...

What just happened after you saved was that the system assigned a copy of this project to you. It also saved the changes for the current section; HOWEVER it did NOT save the changes in the dimensions of any associated sections.

As you recall, IF YOU USED THE MATCH FUNCTION then the changes were pre-loaded into the associated or "related" sections, (those with the same orientation) but here's the kicker, you now need to go to each section individually to verify that you want that section permanently changed and saved.

This becomes a useful feature if you want to bypass a section to perhaps make it longer, wider or taller that the rest of a length of bar. For the standard designs, this will not be practical, but for the upcoming modular designs it will be very usefully if for example, you want a larger keg box section along one length of a bar section. If this feature is needed, there is a very useful aid for determining which sections have been saved and which have not...here's how it works:

Do your first save, then go to the section thumbnail area. You will notice that the designator text below each thumbnail has changed color. The RED sections have NOT been saved, and the GREEN sections HAVE been saved.

Load the RED sections and hit the "Save this section" button, then go back to the thumbnails and notice the text has changed to GREEN indicating that it has been saved. Do the same with all the rest or leave the ones you want unsaved RED.

Ver. 3.1 will provide a "summary report" to show the delta applied to each section. At present, only the administrator can view the delta summary report.

For now, go to the Print Manager, and then review the final results to verify.

SAVE ALL Function:

Of course if this sounds too complicated, just use the SAVE ALL function which will save all related sections, North South East or West orientations with one click.

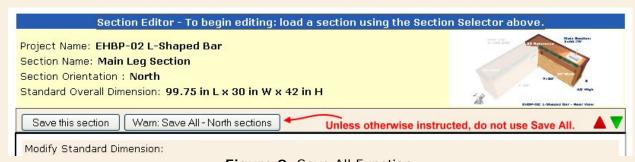


Figure 9: Save All Function

Unless otherwise instructed, DO NOT use any buttons with "Warn:" text displayed.

Column Definitions:

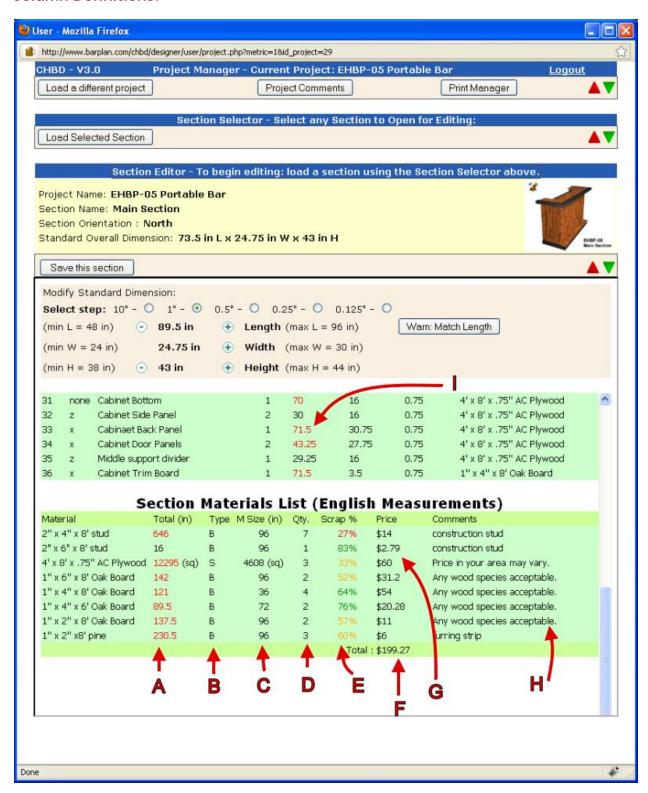


Figure 10 – Column Definitions

Please refer to Figure 10 for Column Definitions on the following page...

Column Definitions:

The Project Editor contains a scrolling window below the Modify Panel. In this window are the dynamic Section Parts List and the Section Material Lists. As you adjust the sizes, these numbers change dynamically.

Section Parts and Section Material Lists:

The Section Parts list is pretty much self explanatory. Part # is the Part Reference Number that can be found on the assembly diagrams. Wp is the work plane in 3D space and is only used by the administrator for verifying the proper work plane. Description is the Part Description. Qty. is the number of that part required. Length is the Part Length, Width is the Part Width and Height is the Part Height. Material is the type of material used for that part. NOTICE: If you cut ten 12" parts from an 8 foot board, it does not mean you require ten 8 foot boards! The material list will tell you how many to buy.

The Material list is a bit more complex, please refer to figure 10...

A: Total (in) – This is the total board inches for the entire project for a specific material type. If the text is red, that means it has changed from the stock size. If it is followed by (sq) it means total square inches.

B: Type – This is either B for "board" or S for "sheet" meaning board or sheet stock. Sheet stock is calculated in total square inches.

C: M Size (in) – This is the standard total size in inches for one unit of the specified stock material. Example: one eight foot long 2 x 4 would be listed as 96".

D: Qty. – This is the total number of each type of stock material required.

E: Scrap % (referred to as SF% in the Print Manager) – This is the Scrap Factor. It is simply a calculation of the total length or area required divided by the M Size. If the text is red, it is a low scrap factor and you may want to add one more board or sheet. If text is Yellow, you are close, if the text is Green, you should have ample material.

F: Total Price - This is a ballpark figure for calculating total project material costs. Remember, it's just an estimate and not subject to material pricing volatility.

G: Price: - This is a ballpark figure for calculating individual material costs. Remember, it's just an estimate and not subject to material pricing volatility.

H: Comments – Just a short comment regarding variations in materials or common material names.

I: Red Text – Any time you see red text, it means that the value for this part / item has changed either up or down from the standard stock value.

More Help -

If you have specific questions, you may post them to the Builder's Forum topic for the CHBD. This will allow the administrator to answer them once rather than multiple times in the ticket system.

Print Manager:

The Print Manager allows the user to load a standard or saved project for hard copy.

Loading Project into the Print Manager:

Loading projects for printing is the same procedure as loading for editing.

Printing Projects:

The Print Manager allows several printing options for those cases when you just need text and not the images. It is recommended that you print the entire project by selecting the "Generate Project Preview" with all check boxes selected.

Or, you may select individual sections using the "Print this section" checkbox for all project sections listed under the **Section List**.

To print the project, just hit check the **Print Project I mage** Check Box and hit the **Print Entire Project** button. The resulting page is "printer friendly". If you would like a preview of how it will look on your printer, use the **File > Print Preview...** functions of Internet Explorer. Otherwise you can use the Print button on the page or the **File > Print...** browser function.

If you do not want to print at this time, select the **Back to the Print Manager** button. Using the **Back** button of the browser is not recommended since it breaks the session. If you do accidentally hit the Back button, just hit **Refresh** to restore the session.

Development Notes:

This manual is subject to revision.

For immediate feedback of any bugs, known issues or for your general comments, please <u>CLICK HERE</u>. Or file a support ticket in the <u>http://www.barplan.com/helpdesk</u> area.

- January 2009 Version 2.0 released. Data entry, create to do task list for upgrades.
- December 2008 Beta Completed Database entry begins.
- April 6th 2007- version 1.50 released. Manual updated.
- March 30 2007: Initial release of script to beta testers begin writing manual.

Note: It is not recommended that you save new projects until they are fully entered in to the system. The administrator has the ability to view your projects and to edit or delete them for you. If you come up with a nice clean edit for a longer, shorter or special function bar, the admin can copy your project and make it public. In this way future users can eventually share projects. **This program and manual is an original work and is protected by copyright. Any attempt to duplicate or reverse engineer this application or its operation is prohibited.**