7. Attaching the horse

You will need the wrestplank horse, the bottom, 35mm steel screws, screwdriver, hammer, drill with ϕ 3.8mm bit, clamps, glue and glue brush.

General principles

Your harpsichord is rapidly taking shape when you get the horse attached to the bottom. Locate it precisely, and use two screw clamps on each side to stop it sliding around.

Flip the assembly upside down so you can drill through the bottom for additional clamping with screws. Evenly space four screws up through the bottom into the lower bellyrail, and perhaps two or three into the oak wrestplank supports either side.

Remove the parts, glue, and reassemble.

8. The bottom braces

You will need the three bottom braces, 40mm nails, hammer, drill with ϕ 1.6mm bit, clamps, glue and glue brush.

General principles

We will use nails to clamp the glue for the bottom braces. Evenly space two holes on the smallest brace, three on the medium and four on the longest, and drill for them with the long ø 1.6mm bit. Don't break this willowy bit, because you will need it later to drill for the hitchpins.

Work on the smallest brace at the tail end first. Run a bead of glue, then insert a 40mm nail in each of the two holes. Position the brace with equal space at either end because we do not want it touch the spine or bentside later. Hammer the nails home, and use a screw clamp at either end.

Proceed in the same way for the two longer braces.

9. The bellyrail knees

You will need the two bellyrail knees, drill with ϕ 3.8mm bit, 35mm screws, screwdriver, clamps, glue and glue brush.

General principles

Make sure there are no traces of dried glue that will prevent you getting the bellyrail knees exactly where they belong.

Position them and trace their outline on the bottom. Remove the parts and bore two holes down through the bottom, though which your clamping screws will insert.

Do a knee at a time. Glue the contacting areas, insert the knee, and tighten the screws through the bottom. Then do the final, second knee.