



“Barn door” headboard opens on rollers to reveal a window that would have been partially covered by a standard headboard.

Bed’s Headboard Made From Vintage Barn Door

Lance Seltun repurposed a vintage hay mow barn door into a queen size headboard. He mounted it on the original track and attached it to a wall. The door is split in the middle and opens on rollers to reveal a window that would’ve been partially covered by a normal headboard.

The big 6-ft. wide by 8-ft. tall hay mow barn door was salvaged from a 100-year-old barn. None of the boards were cracked and it had a weathered red on the outside with gray on the inside.

He cut the door in half to produce two pieces 3 ft. wide by 6 ft. tall, then added a center trim board on each panel. He mounted

the original guide rail on the wall and left the original wheels on top of the doors. A trip to the local home improvement store produced two antiquish-looking lights that he positioned just inside the frame of each door.

The decorating project was complete when Seltun built a smaller 32-in. wide mini barn door to cover a narrow window on another wall. Both doors roll open on old wheels and are preserved with polyurethane to bring out the natural color of the weathered wood.

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Each man only had to carry 70 to 80 lbs. while moving the building.

250 Men Moved Pole Barn 200 Ft.

In March, more than 250 Amish men lifted and moved a large pole barn on the Hochstetler farm near Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

“The Amish are famous for collectively helping each other build large wooden barns, often in just a day. But moving a steel-clad pole building in just 5 minutes was extraordinary,” said one observer.

A bystander noted that a moving foreman shouted instructions to the “lifters” as they grabbed onto handholds around the perimeter of the building and carried it nearly 200 ft. to

a new location. Once positioned, they raised, shifted and leveled the structure so the doors would open and close without jamming.

A building engineer explained that it’s possible for just 250 people to carry such a large building because each person is lifting about 70 to 80 pounds. He calculated that amount by estimating the weight of the wood frame, metal walls and roof of the building to be about 8 to 9 tons. “It’s not about muscle, it’s about coordination, timing and moving in small steps,” the engineer says.

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IHC no. 14 baler was built in 1940. It required a driver and a worker with a pitchfork to move the picked-up hay into the bale chamber.

Rare Baler Required A 4-Man Team

Loren Myran has a beautiful collection of 20 Farmall tractors with matching implements but it’s his rare IHC #14 baler - which required a 4-man team to operate - that gets all the attention.

Described as a labor-saving device when it came out in 1940, the baler needed plenty of hand labor to operate. While it did pick up hay and packed it into a chamber, everything else was done by hand.

“In addition to a driver, the baler required one worker with a pitchfork to move the picked-up hay into the bale chamber,” says Myran. “Workers also rode on either side of the bale chamber to tie off the bales with baling wire.”

When enough hay for one bale had been packed, a small bell would ring. A worker would then drop a block of wood into the chamber. It separated the bale to be tied off from the next bale to be packed. As the new bale pushed through, the block of wood had to be retrieved.

Myran, a dedicated auction-goer, kept the old baler from going to a salvage yard. “The

only other bidder was a scrap dealer,” he recalls. “I hate to see these old and unique pieces of equipment go for scrap.”

The baler had some missing parts, including the engine and a carrier for the baling wires. He had to replace all the wooden parts, such as seats for the workers. While finding an engine wasn’t hard, the carrier was more difficult. Myran finally ran across a rusty downspout in a Minneapolis, Minn., salvage yard.

“It looked just like the carrier in a brochure for the baler,” he says. “I had to cut it in two to fit it in my car for the trip home.”

The baler sits with the rest of his IH collection at the intersection of his driveway and a public road.

“The collection is about half a mile from my house, and we enjoy watching people stop to take pictures or just walk around the equipment,” says Myran.

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Workers rode on either side of the bale chamber to tie off the bales with wire.

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