The best basement shop ever!
Check it out on page 48

Great Projects
- Cyclone dust collector
- Mobile tool base
- Shop cabinet system
- Toddler bike
For the finest in woodworking machines, grab the Grizzly Z-Series. From the rugged G1023Z Table Saw with the innovative Shop Fox™ Fence to the newly-redesigned G1014Z, the Z-Series is just one of many examples of Grizzly’s continuing commitment to outstanding tools at outstanding prices.

10" Tilting Arbor Super Heavy-Duty Table Saw

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FREE hat and saw blade!

G1023Z

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Circle No. 860
Welcome to IDEA SHOP 3

48 IDEA SHOP 3 Tour
Check out the ultimate in basement shops as we outfit a 12x16 room with must-see ideas.

6 Stay-put tool holders
Try our three quick-and-easy storage solutions for hanging clamps, pliers, and other items.

14 How to apply Hammerite paint
Discover the secrets for applying the durable finish featured in IDEA SHOP 3.

54 Cyclone dust collector
Build this powerful, yet quiet, wall-hung unit at a highly affordable cost.

62 Modular to the max cabinet system
Equip your shop with versatile storage that makes the most of perforated hardboard.

66 Roll-around tool base
Do your back a favor and put your stationary tools on wheels. Our plans adjust as needed.

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Welcome one and all to issue 100 of WOOD magazine. To help celebrate, we've gone to great lengths to prepare for you an issue that is befitting this grand occasion. Here are some of the highlights:

Beginning on page 37, you will find an article titled “Commonsense Woodworking.” It's a collection of some great woodworking advice we've collected from the first 100 issues of this magazine. You'll read about how to get organized, which woodworking reference books we recommend, the best way to finish your projects, and lots of other helpful information.

And then starting on page 48, we present “IDEA SHOP™ 3, The Basement Shop.” As with IDEA SHOPS 1 and 2, this 12x16' space features a bucketful of inventive ideas that you can put to good use in your shop. Highlights include plans for our super-efficient, easy-to-build cyclone dust collector; a mobile tool base; and our roll-out, flip-top tool cabinets, to name just a few.

I think you'll also find interesting the article “The Amazing Evolution Of Woodworking Power Tools.” It will chronicle for you the advances that have been made during the 20th Century. For example, did you know that the first electric hand drill was a clunky contraption that weighed almost 17 lbs.? In contrast, today's cordless drills weigh in at less than 5 lbs. For the first time ever, you'll learn the fascinating origins of many of the tools you use in your very own woodworking shop.

And be sure to take a look at the article “WOOD Magazine’s Woodworking Hall of Fame™” beginning on page 43. The 10 people who have been inducted in this inaugural year all richly deserve the honor, and we couldn't be happier to be able to do this for them. Thanks to everyone who helped us in the selection process.

Each year, we plan to induct two or three more people into the Woodworking Hall of Fame. And we would like your help in making our selections. Please see page 84 for more information about WOOD Magazine’s Woodworking Hall of Fame and how you can contribute.

Thanks to all of you readers who have supported us so generously during our first 100 issues. Stay with us and we'll treat you to an endless supply of great woodworking information and inspiration geared to your every interest.
Rip It Up, Then Pack It Up.

On the job with Jack Rude Custom Trim & Rail, Dallas, Texas.

The new DeWALT 10" Portable Table Saw is the first to deliver big saw performance with the convenience of portability. The DW744's telescoping fence extends to a full 24-1/2" rip capacity. That's enough to tackle 4' x 8' sheets. And, the saw's rack and pinion system keeps the fence consistently parallel to the blade for accurate cuts without repeated measuring. Simply retract the fence to carry the 64-pound saw to the next job. The large tabletop has a durable coating that won't mar your work. The saw runs on a 13 amp, high-torque motor and has a dust collection port. It's not just a table saw. It's a DeWALT. For more information, call 1-800-4-DeWALT.
Bandsaw safety for the thumb

Congratulations on your “One Cool Catchall” box in the February 1997 issue. It’s a nice design and I plan to make several for gifts. However, your photo on page 32 makes it look like a left thumb is about to get a trim. I would like to suggest a safer way to bandsaw the lid and bottom.

Use double-faced tape to attach a 2 x 4 block to the backs of the lid and bottom. The block will give you something safe to grip and provide a steadier base for cutting.

—Vincent Clarke, Wilmington, Del.

Vincent, we certainly agree that you can’t place too high a priority on shop safety. Sometimes, a bandscrew clamp will help you shape small parts safely. But, in this case, your safe-cutting block works best because a clamp might break the piece. As a further refinement, we suggest routing the edges with an internal bullnose (fluting) bit to improve the grip.

Editorial position open at WOOD magazine

Do you have the skills necessary to join the world’s leading woodworking editorial team? If so, we would like to hear from you. We want to hire a creative writer to help plan, research, and produce articles on tool, technique, project, and feature articles.

You must have a college degree in journalism or English, and a minimum of 3 years writing experience at a magazine or newspaper. A knowledge of woodworking processes and an interest in woodworking tools is essential. We’re looking for a well-organized self-starter with an eye for accuracy and details, and the ability to translate technical information into easy-to-understand, lively copy. Also, the ability to conceive strong photographic approaches to articles is essential. Good public contact skills are a must.

Location: Des Moines, Iowa

Please send your resume, writing samples, and cover letter with salary history in confidence to: Ms. D. Neumann, Supervisor, Corp. Staffing Services/Dept. 291 Meredith Corporation 1716 Locust Street Des Moines, IA 50309-3023 Fax: (515) 284-2958 E-mail: dneumann@mdp.com

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Let us know what’s on your mind

We welcome your comments, criticisms, suggestions, and even complaints. We’ll do our best to respond, perhaps on this page! Write to us at: Talking Back, WOOD Magazine, 1912 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309-3379. Send e-mail to: woodmail@woodmagazine.com
Avoiding Snipe Is A Lock.

The exclusive four-column DeWALT Head Lock eliminates the movement that contributes to snipe. Simply push the handle to securely lock the cutterhead against four steel columns. With the cutterhead stabilized, the same amount of stock is removed from the entire length of the board. To further reduce snipe, the DW733 has large infeed and outfeed tables to stabilize and reduce movement of material passing through the planer. And, unlike other planers, the DW733 has the exclusive DeWALT turret depth stop to quickly and accurately return to pre-set thicknesses. The planer’s easy-to-read magnified depth scale measures to 1/32”, while a material removal scale measures to 1/64” and a calibrated depth crank measures to 1/16” per rotation. The DeWALT knife changing system features a magnetic gauge to accurately hold the knives in position and free both hands. It's not just a planer. It's a DeWALT. For more information, call 1-800-4-DeWALT.
Wall-mounted pegboard provides ideal tool storage—as long as you can get the hanger "pegs" to stay put. Faced with that challenge, we designed a number of tool holders for IDEA SHOP™ 3 that attach firmly, but take only a minute or two to move to a new, more convenient location on the pegboard.

To make the pliers holder, mark slots where shown on the drawing below, and drill ½" holes at each end of the marked slots. Drill slightly overlapping holes to remove the stock between the end holes, and smooth up the sides of the slots with a chisel. Then, attach the wrought steel desktop fasteners (available from Woodworker's Supply, 800/645-9292) to the holder as shown.

The 5/0 handscrew-clamp holder, shown at right, mounts to the pegboard with a short length of ¼×1" aluminum bar stock and a hex-head sheet-metal screw. For larger size handscrew clamps, make the wooden block longer, and wider.

By using varying lengths of all-thread rod, you can create multi-purpose hangers for bar clamps or individual tools, such as the adjustable wrenches in the photograph. We dipped the all-thread rod in plastic coating for protection from sharp edges and to provide a no-slip surface to keep tools in place.

**Note:** When you install the mounting screws in the pegboard, just snug them up; overtightening will easily strip out the holes in the pegboard.

Project Design: Jim Downing
Illustrations: Roxanne LeMoine
Photograph: Bill Hopkins
THE FIRST THING IT CUTS IS VIBRATION.

You won't find a smoother operating scroll saw than the new DeWALT 20" Variable Speed Scroll Saw. Vibration is dramatically reduced by a double parallel link arm design which has pivot points at the front of the saw. With the pivot points up front, less of the arm moves during cutting for a smoother and quieter operation. This design also keeps the blade perpendicular to the work, eliminating under- or overcutting. To make following a line easier, the DW788 has a fixed-position blade clamp to decrease deflection, while blade changing is made easy with the DeWALT tool-free blade change system. Conveniently, the on-off switch, electronic variable speed, flexible dust blower and blade tensioning lever are all located on the front upper arm so there is no need to reach around the saw for adjustments. An oversized cast iron table provides extensive material support and bevels 45° left and right for shadow boxes or inlays. It's not just a scroll saw. It's a DeWALT. For more information, call 1-800-4-DeWALT.
You’ll need a few things
You may have some of the tools required already: a portable drill, twist-drill bits, scratch awl, center punch, and measuring tools. For large-diameter curves, a trammel like the one in the photo above will come in handy.

You’ll also need snips for cutting the metal, along with pop rivets and a pop-rivet tool for joining the pieces of metal you cut. You can buy them at home centers or hardware stores.

Snips. For cutting sheet metal, we prefer aviation-style compound snips, shown above. Avoid the old-style tin snips with long handles and short jaws; it’s a hard tool to cut curves with.

Aviation snips cut in specific directions—straight, left curve, or right curve. Handle color signifies the direction.

Pop rivets. We like steel pop rivets ⅛" in diameter for light sheet-metal work. (The diameter indicates the size of the hole the rivet fits through.)

You’ll find these rivets available in three lengths—short, medium, and long, corresponding to grip lengths of ⅛", ⅜", or ½". Choose the nearest grip length longer than the thickness of the materials you’re joining.

As a woodworker, you may feel slightly lost venturing into the foreign territory of sheet-metal fabrication. Because you’ll need to wander in there a little ways when you build the cyclone dust collector on page 54, we’ve put together a few pointers to ease your trek.

Aviation snips cut curves or straight lines. Arrows indicate the direction we cut to make the curves with the snips shown. The trammel with scriber comes in handy for layout, and gloves will protect your hands.

Pop-rivet tool. You can’t install pop rivets without a special tool, shown in the photo on page 10. The tool is inexpensive, and any manufacturer’s tool works with any brand of rivets, as long as they’re the same diameter. Most pop-rivet tools feature interchangeable nosepieces, allowing one tool to set rivets of any diameter. A long nose like the one shown reaches into tight spots, making the tool easier to use and more versatile.

Continued on page 10
OK, Hold It.

Now Spread 'Em.

The innovative POWER PRESS™ Pipe Clamp, from the makers of QUICK-GRIP® Bar Clamps, is more than just a pipe clamp. By simply reversing the two movable clamping sections, it quickly becomes a spreader. Perfect for all kinds of woodworking applications, the POWER PRESS Pipe Clamp can do anything a regular pipe clamp can do, only faster. It works on both threaded and unthreaded pipe. And two rubber pads keep gripping surfaces from marring your work. The most versatile pipe clamp to hit the shelves, the POWER PRESS Pipe Clamp is going to revolutionize the way you work.

Look for it wherever quality tools are sold.

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FROM THE MAKERS OF QUICK-GRIP® BAR CLAMPS
**Safety gear.** Sheet metal has sharp edges. And because it’s springy, it sometimes seems to jump at you maliciously. Without protection, that can lead to a cut. Just as bad, tiny metal splinters can get under your skin, and they’re harder to get out than wood splinters.

So, wear gloves. The yellow Kevlar-fiber cutproof gloves shown afford great protection. But any kind of work glove, even cotton gardening gloves, can save you from a painful cut. Wear long sleeves to protect your arms, too, especially when cutting curves in metal with snips. And you should always wear eye protection.

**Laying out the lines**
You can’t count on your trusty sharp pencil for drawing layout lines on sheet metal. Pencil marks won’t show up well enough or last long enough to be of much help. Felt-tip pens and permanent markers write well on metal, but their wide lines hinder precision. Instead, scribe cutting lines with a scratch awl.

You’ll also need a straightedge with a nonskid back. If you can’t find one at a hardware store, try an art-supply store. Or, you can make a suitable substitute by sticking strips of double-faced tape to a steel ruler. Press the exposed face against your sleeve a few times to reduce the tape’s tack before use.

Straight-leg dividers or a trammel works well for scribing arcs or circles on metal. To prevent the pivot point from skidding off center, stick a piece of masking tape or duct tape at the center. If the inside of the circle will be waste, you can simply centerpunch the centerpoint to prevent skidding.

**Cutting and joining tips**
Before making the parts for your project, lay out some straight and curved practice lines on a piece of sheet metal. Then, cut along them to get the feel of your snips. Some snips, like the yellow-handled one shown in the opening photo, shear out a narrow strip to make a cut. (Often called duct snips, this one cuts straight or curves, and works well on stovepipe or other cylinders.) With this type, make sure you take the strip from the waste side of the cutting line.

When cutting with snips, closing the jaws all the way leaves a jagged-looking edge on the metal, which looks crude and is difficult to eliminate. Instead, close the jaws most of the way, release pressure on the handles to let the jaws open, then push the jaws forward to continue cutting.

A lap joint is the simplest way to join sheet metal. And pop rivets provide a quick, effective means of fastening a lap joint, as shown below.

To make the joint, simply overlap the parts by at least ¼” (or as specified by project instructions). Then, drill rivet holes through both pieces.

Mating holes must align exactly, so the best approach is to drill through both pieces at once. To do that, tape the pieces together or clamp them, using C-clamps or bar clamps and clamp blocks. Mark the hole positions, and centerpunch them. For a neat job, align the rivet holes and space them evenly. Drill the holes with a twist-drill bit the same diameter as the rivet. Drill the first hole through both parts, then insert a rivet (without setting it) to keep the parts from creeping out of alignment while drilling the remaining holes.

(Designer/builder Jan Svec used tape a little differently for the cyclone project. He cleaned the joint area on the top face of one piece with lacquer thinner, then applied a strip of double-faced tape to it. Next, he cleaned the underside of the piece on the other side of the joint, and brought the pieces together. The tape held both parts in position while he drilled the holes and helped seal the riveted joint.)

It’s easy to remove a pop rivet, too. Simply drill through the rivet head with the same size bit you used to drill the rivet hole.

Squeezing the handles of a pop-rivet tool expands the tail end of the rivet to make a tight joint. The mandrel that extends from the rivet breaks off when the rivet is pulled tight enough.

---

Written by Larry Johnston with Jan Svec
Photographs: John Hetherington
More power.
More torque.
More towing.
More payload.
More room.
More
The New Dodge

Yet another first from The New Dodge: seat belts that are integrated into the front seat. One less thing to trip over when you climb in back.

Quadr Cabs. And horsepower ratings on our two Magnum V-8 engines have been increased to 230 hp on our 5.2L V-8 and 245 hp on our 5.9L V-8.

Ram already had more available power, torque, towing and payload than other full-size pickups. And, now, Ram Quad Cab, the first four-door extended cab.¹

Our Magnum V-10 and Cummins Turbo Diesel are now available on short-wheelbase 2500 Club and
Building better bodies through super computers. Our four-door Ram Quad Cab has the same structural soundness and integrity as our two-door Ram Club Cab.

Dodge Ram is the only full-size pickup to be honored with the Strategic Vision Total Quality Award™ for "Best Ownership Experience." And it's won it for three straight years.² For more info, call 1-800-4-A-DODGE. Or visit us at our Web site at www.4adodge.com

¹Excludes Crew Cabs.
²Winner of Strategic Vision's 1995, 1996 and 1997 Total Quality Award™ for "Best Ownership Experience" in the Full-Size Pickup class, based on its 1995, 1996 and 1997 Vehicle Experience Studies™ of 31,440 (95), 35,652 (96) and 31,521 (97) Oct.-Nov. new vehicle buyers of 150+ (95) and 200+ (96 and 97) models after the first 90 days of ownership.
Always use seat belts. Remember a backseat is the safest place for children.
All comparisons based on data available at time of printing.

Ram-The New Dodge
HOW TO APPLY
HAMMERITE
The finish we used on the IDEA SHOP™ 3 cabinetry

When researching a finish for IDEA SHOP 3, we looked for a tough, durable product that hides filled nail holes and covers the textured surface of particleboard. At the same time, the finish had to look terrific and clean easily. Fortunately, we ran onto Hammerite, a paint that many machinery manufacturers use on their tools. It makes wood look and wear like metal. Here's our shop-tested method for applying this impressive product.

Prepping the project for the paint
After you complete a project, round over all edges possible. Even those you'd normally leave square will paint better with a ¼" round-over. Fill the cut edges of particleboard or voids in plywood with a putty such as Durham's Rock Hard Water Putty, and sand them smooth when dry.

Prime the surface next
Good ventilation is a must when working with this paint. The solvent used in Hammerite evaporates more quickly than regular mineral spirits (paint thinner). Observe normal precautions associated with open flames.

Prime all surfaces to be painted, taking special care to seal the porous edges of MDF (medium density fiberboard). Use either xylene-resistant oil-based primer or 100% acrylic latex primer. Since MDF edges are notorious for soaking up finishes, apply one coat of primer to just the edges, followed by a second coat to the edges and surfaces. Left unprimed, the light-colored sheet goods will show through. Also, we found it beneficial to tint the primer close to the finish color. After the primer dries, sand it lightly with 220-grit sandpaper.

It's time to apply the paint
Thin Hammerite with either the manufacturer's proprietary thinner or xylene, using four tablespoons of thinner to a quart of paint. Left unthinned, Hammerite is too thick to apply with a roller. Hammerite has a marbled appearance even in the can and does not blend to a uniform appearance like an ordinary enamel. Regardless, make sure to stir it well.

Apply Hammerite with a ¼" nap mohair paint roller. We prefer the mohair rollers with "cut pile" over fuzzy nap rollers. Hammerite tends to pull fibers out of fuzzy rollers and leave them in the finish. Mohair rollers also leave a more uniform paint texture on the wood.

Apply a fairly heavy coat of the Hammerite. Then, without applying more paint, go back over the surfaces, rolling in just one direction for a more uniform coverage. Minor lap marks will blend in as the paint dries.

The paint is very thick and will sag on a vertical surface. Since it dries to the touch in about 30 minutes, we suggest you paint a horizontal surface, let it set, turn the project, and paint the adjacent surface (now horizontal). Let the project with two painted adjacent surfaces sit overnight in a heated shop. Left in a cool area, it dries and hardens very slowly.

Next, paint the opposite adjacent surfaces. Don't set a painted surface on spacers until it's completely hardened. If you're waiting for a surface to dry, put the roller in the tray, and cover it with aluminum foil. When storing a roller overnight or for reuse later, roll out as much of the paint as possible. Remove the roller from the roller frame and wet with a small amount of thinner and put it in a Ziploc bag.

For more information about Hammerite paint or for the name of local retailers, call 800/733-4413.

Written by Marlen Kemmet with Jan Svec and Chuck Hedlund
Photograph: John Hetherington
"Freud's new Dial-A-Width Dado set is the most innovative dado set we've ever seen."

American Woodworker Magazine, December 1996

Spend your time being totally amazed with this incredible dado but don't spend a lot of time looking for shims . . . there aren't any. Now with a turn of the dial you can have the super fine adjustments that you have always needed in a stack dado. No more shimming and no more wasted time . . . a simple click of the dial is all that you need.

The new Dial-a-Width dado is the best dado that has come along in years. See for yourself how easy it is to use on your table saw or radial arm saw. Check out the precise joints. Look at the flat bottom groove. You will know immediately that it is not a wobble dado. Notice that the sharp, splinter-free cuts are those that you have come to expect from Freud. This dado produces the best finish and highest quality cuts of any dado available today.

The Dial-a-Width dado does perform like a stack dado but we have replaced the shims with a patented dial system. With our exclusive hub dial you can be totally sure of the accuracy of your adjustments. Each "click" of the dial adjusts the blade by .004". These are very precise adjustments. But if you need a closer adjustment . . . no problem. Simply stop the dial between "clicks".

The Dial-a-Width dado is easy to use, very precise and provides exceptional cuts. For the serious woodworker, there's nothing better.

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Includes arbor wrench and a sturdy storage case.

Always disconnect power before making adjustments. Red is a registered trademark of Freud, USA, Inc. U.S. Patent 5,368,079
RV hose fittings speed dust collector hookups

When I recently remodeled my shop, I installed a dust-collection system and enclosed the ductwork within my shop walls. But I soon had more equipment than outlets and no easy method of adding more collection ports.

To make my limited number of ports serve more machines, I bought some recreational vehicle (RV) sewer hose fittings, as shown below. With these, I can quickly disconnect the hose from one machine and connect it to another machine nearby. The crushproof rubber hose flexes easily, and extends to reach several machines. The fittings lock down tight—thanks to their waterproof rubber seals—yet release with a quick twist.

—John Hardy, Winston-Salem, N.C.

Triangular cutoffs come in handy for staining jig

After I stained one side of a paneled door, I was looking for a way to hold it so I could stain the other side. Since I had mitered the corners of the door frame, I had some triangular cutoffs in my scrap bin that were just what I needed.

The triangular scraps support the piece being stained only on their "peaks." Drilling holes in the cutoffs and inserting a dowel helps keep the blocks from tipping over. You can adjust this simple jig for any width project by sliding the blocks along the dowel. For larger pieces, simply use a longer dowel.

— Norman Croufoot, Tucson

Continued on page 18
WARNING
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2.0 Ah

18 Torque Settings

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Push Button Forward/Reverse Switch operates from both sides of tool

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CORDLESS FOR THE LONG-RUN

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Durable. Tremendous torque. Longest run time. Low weight. Most Comfortable. Makita's 14.4V drill is definitely built for the 'Long Run'.

For more information, call 1-800-4-MAKITA

Competitive models tested: Bosch 361/096109, DeWalt DW001/DW099TC, Porter-Cable 872-9672.

Model
6233DWAE

Makita
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Auxiliary top boosts router table's capacity

My benchtop router table works just fine for most of my projects. But I occasionally need more work surface area to help support large workpieces. To meet those needs and still work in my small shop, I built a laminate-covered auxiliary top that adds 1' of width and 2' of length to my existing router table.

I turned the metal benchtop unit upside down on the larger top to mark the table's location. Using a jigsaw, I cut out the hole for the router table. Right-angle brackets, bolted to the router table, support the auxiliary top and keep it flush with the regular tabletop. A couple of screws at opposite corners hold the top in place. When I don't need the larger top, it slips off and stores out of the way.

—Ann Clausen, Racine, Wis.

Continued on page 22

Traps five times more fine dust than ordinary wet/dry vac filters

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Buy CleanStream® Filters at your local home center or hardware store, or call 1-800-758-6755.
Beware of snipers.

Practical as they are, most portable planers are notorious snipers. If you're looking to minimize sniping without sacrificing portability, check out Delta's new 12½" Portable Planer (Model 22-560), with its exclusive snipe control lock. Call toll free for the name of your nearest Delta dealer. Delta International Machinery Corp., 800-438-2486. In Canada, 519-836-2840.

http://www.deltawoodworking.com/delta
INTRODUCING 18 VOLTS OF PURE ADRENALINE. HANG ON TIGHT.

This is the drill that will give you a boost. Check out the new 18-volt cordless from Craftsman. Our most powerful cordless ever. Capable of driving through brick and concrete. Fully equipped with 345 lbs. per inch of torque, a two-speed gearbox, a 24-position clutch, 1400 RPMs and two rechargeable batteries. It’s a drill you’re gonna want to hold on to. And it’s available only from Sears.
They hold ponytails or power cords

I like to keep my portable power tools out of their cases and on a shelf, where they're readily accessible. But I don't like dealing with all of those tangled power cords. I found a simple solution at the department store: elastic hair ties, the kind that girls use to hold ponytails in place. They're inexpensive, work great, and the bright colors make them easy to spot on a cluttered benchtop.

—Sonny Rains, Carbondale, Colo.

Hair dryer helps remove stickers

Adhesive-backed, bar-coded tags on lumber may speed up the checkout process, but it's tough to remove them later. I tried scraping, sanding, and solvents, but nothing worked very well until I tried a hair dryer. The heat softens the adhesive, and the tag usually peels off in one piece.

—Robert S. Hall, Scarborough, Maine

---

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Just because it's portable doesn't mean it's puny. A 15 amp, 5000 rpm motor delivers big power when you need it most. Combined with a 10" carbide blade, the C10RA will slice through any job, in a fraction of the time.

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Vacuum sawdust away to make holesawing easier

I used to struggle every time I mounted a holesaw in my drill press. The saw would quickly clog with sawdust and bind in the workpiece. To eliminate the problem, I built a simple hold-down, shown at right, that keeps my shop vacuum hose close to the holesaw. With the hose clamped in place and the vacuum running, I make a series of progressively deeper cuts, lifting the holesaw clear of the workpiece between plunges. This clears the sawdust from the saw's teeth and makes cutting holes much faster and less frustrating.

—Jim Downing, Design Editor, WOOD magazine

---

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(By Frank K. Wood)

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TIPS FROM YOUR SHOP (AND Ours)

Continued from page 24

Tracing its shadow makes duplicating a spindle easier

I recently tried unsuccessfully to duplicate a small spindle from an antique toy chair. Because of its small size, measuring the spindle with dividers and calipers just wasn’t accurate enough.

To make an accurate pattern, I taped the spindle to one side of a piece of glass, and taped some tracing paper to the other side. By shining a lamp on the spindle, I was able to trace the outline of its shadow on the tracing paper. Darkening the room makes the shadow easier to see.

—Jeff Geynor, Rootstown, Ohio

Flip your spindles for sanding

Sanding a spindle in the opposite direction that it was turned gives you a smoother finish. But since my lathe doesn’t run in reverse, I had to come up with another solution.

I made a small plywood disc with a 1⁄4” hole in its center. Next, I cut two saw kerfs at right angles to each other across the face of the disc. Then, I applied adhesive-backed cork or sandpaper to the other side of the disc to give the disc a better “grip” on the end of the spindle. To use the disc, I flip a spindle end-for-end, and insert the disc between my lathe's drive center and the spindle, then sand the spindle smooth.

—John Saggio, New York

Continued on page 28

26 WOOD MAGAZINE NOVEMBER 1997
THE NEW RYOBI DETAIL BISCUIT JOINER

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WOODWORKING AND WOODNOTWORKING.

Staples, dowels, and glue won't do. Standard-size biscuits won't fit.

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Standard biscuits stick out of small joints, and the mis-match shows, even after you trim the excess.

The new Ryobi Detail Biscuit Joiner uses miniature "Accu-biscuits" for neat, tight, professional joints.

This compact powerhouse cuts smaller slots and uses miniature "Accu-biscuits"™ to fit where standard biscuits don't. And its price is as small as its biscuits. But the Detail Biscuit Joiner is big on performance, from its beefy motor to its die-cast base and see-through fence. So see the new Ryobi Detail Biscuit Joiner at your local home center. It'll get your woodworking like never before.

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Ryobi "Accu-biscuits" (actual size).

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TIPS FROM YOUR SHOP (AND OURS)
Continued from page 26

Post-it glue keeps patterns in their place

I tried using spray adhesives to attach scrollsaw patterns to the wood blank, but I always found the aerosols messy and smelly to work with and hard to remove once I was done sawing. I recently found a great alternative that also lets me reposition the pattern—3M Post-It Removable Adhesive Glue Stick. I rub the glue stick on the back of the pattern and press it in place. It holds tight during sawing, but peels off easily and leaves no residue on the wood. Using the glue stick also means no sticky overspray or noxious fumes.

—Patrick W. Brown, Camp Zama, Japan

A FEW MORE TIPS FROM OUR WOODWORKING PROS

• If you want clean air in your shop, check out our IDEA SHOP™ 3 dust collector on page 54. It incorporates a diesel truck air filter to catch even the smallest dust particles.

• Building our cyclone dust collector doesn’t require a lot of metalworking skill. Using double-faced tape to hold pieces in position for riveting is just one of many sheet metal tips you’ll find on page 8.

• For an easy way to hang wall cabinets in your workspace, don’t miss our IDEA SHOP™ 3 cabinets on page 62.
KLINGSPOR'S

Sanding Catalogue

Klingspor's Sanding Catalogue uses only Klingspor Abrasives industrial sanding products that are known throughout the furniture and woodworking industries as the premium products for sanding and finishing. These materials will outlast, outperform and outsand any other abrasive product in this business. Check out these deals!

**DISCS**  Priced in packages of 5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lightweight Paper, Hook &amp; Loop</th>
<th>Stearate Hook &amp; Loop</th>
<th>Heavy E-weight Paper, Hook &amp; Loop</th>
<th>Cloth PSA Discs</th>
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<td><strong>Grit</strong></td>
<td><strong>Price</strong></td>
<td><strong>Size</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4 1/2&quot; x 5 holes</td>
<td>100 &amp; Finer</td>
<td>$1.20</td>
<td>4 1/2&quot; x 5 holes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>80 Grit</td>
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<td>60 Grit</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60 Grit</td>
<td>$2.30</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Assortment</td>
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<td>6 1/2&quot; x 8 holes</td>
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**SHEETS**  Priced in packages of 5.

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<tr>
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<th>Aluminum Oxide Paper</th>
<th>Aluminum Oxide Cloth</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Size</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grit</strong></td>
<td><strong>Price</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9&quot; x 11</td>
<td>220 &amp; Finer</td>
<td>$2.40</td>
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<td></td>
<td>180 Grit</td>
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<td>150 Grit</td>
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<td>90 Grit</td>
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<td>4 1/2&quot; x 5 1/2&quot;</td>
<td>220 &amp; Finer</td>
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<td>220 &amp; Finer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>80 Grit</td>
<td>$1.55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Jesada router bits perform impressively in our hands-on trial

There was a time when router bits came in one basic color: gray. Today, a brand of router bits is likely to be known as much by its distinctive color (yellow, orange, red, blue, etc.) as it is by its name. Now, there's a white router bit that goes by the brand name of Jesada. Although the name may sound foreign, the bits are made in Oldsmar, Florida. Unlike most router bit manufacturers that sell only through distributors (hardware stores, home centers, and the like), Jesada also markets its white bits directly to the consumer via mail order.

Carlo Venditto of Jesada recently invited me to visit his factory. He was anxious to show me his new, computerized machines that grind the carbide tips on router bits (see photos right). After taking in his entire operation, I returned with a variety of router bits that tool tester Bob McFarlin put through their paces.

At the Jesada plant I saw three Walter Helitronic Power 5-axis grinding centers like the one in the photos. Unlike human-controlled grinders, the CNC (computer numerically controlled) Walter machines consistently grind complex tool geometries. That's because the machine can move the bit and grinding wheels in all five axes at one time, imparting a consistent relief angle to the grind along the curved profile of the bit. Such accurate grinding helps a bit cut efficiently, smoothly, and coolly along its entire cutting edge.

As I watched bits emerge from the Walter machines, I noticed a mirrorlike finish on the face of the carbide—something I've not seen on other router bits.

Of course, this high technology doesn't mean much unless it yields bits that cut well. To find out, Bob tested these Jesada bits: 3/4" flushtrim, 3/4" cove, 3/4" dovetail, 1/2" round-over, 1/2" rabbeting, and a rail-and-stile set. He ran them through oak, pine, and maple, checking cut quality, ease of feed, and burning.

The Jesada router bits we tested performed as well as similar bits from the top-performing brands in our last major review of 18 makes of router bits in the December 1994 issue (pages 42-47). The Jesada cove bit especially impressed us. For example, although we normally don't recommend that you make a full 3/4" cove cut in oak in one pass, the Jesada bit made this cut with ease. Bob could hardly feel the bit enter the workpiece. The exceptionally sharp-edged bit removed large shavings of wood like those made by a thickness planer with fresh knives. The cut was smooth, burn-free, and with no grain tearout. If you demand high-quality router bits, you won't be disappointed with these Jesada products.

—Bill Krier, Assistant Managing Editor

**PRODUCT SCORECARD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jesada Tools router bits</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>★★★★★</td>
<td>★★★★</td>
<td>★★★★</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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As we reported on page 102 of the June 1997 issue, DeWalt recently entered the benchtop machinery business by unveiling four new products. Although DeWalt delayed the introduction of its tablesaw, we recently got our hands on the other three new machines and tested them in our shop. Here's what we discovered about each:

- **12½" thickness planer.** Although the totally snipe-free portable planer has yet to be invented, the DeWalt DW733 comes closer to this ideal than other machines in its price range of about $460. (Snipe refers to the slight dishing cuts made at both ends of a thicknessed workpiece.)

  Straight out of the box, the DW733 produced only .0005" of snipe when we planed ¾" of material from a 3¾"-wide oak board. When we increased the cut to ½" deep, the machine sniped to a depth of only .001".

  As the ultimate test, we planed ¾" of stock from the face of a 2×10" oak plank. The resulting snipe was only .0015" deep. Even in this deeper-than-recommended cut, the planer exhibited ample power. We were impressed. After all, you can hardly see or feel .0005"-deep snipe, and you can remove .001" snipe with a light sanding by hand or with a palm sander. Snipe .0015" deep requires a random-orbit sander for quick removal.

  Like the one on the new Delta model 22-560 portable planer, the elevating head on the DW733 locks on four steel posts. This, along with extra-long infeed and outfeed tables, contribute to the machine's low level of sniping.

  We also enjoyed convenient knife changes with this machine. To replace the reusable knives, you simply align them with a pair of provided magnetic gauges and secure them with a plate and eight bolts. The knives do not shift around as you tighten the bolts. One drawback: In the event you get tiny nicks in the knives, you cannot shift them slightly to offset the nicks and avoid ridges in your workpiece. A DeWalt representative says his company is looking into possible solutions.

  One unique feature we really liked about this planer: a three-position depth stop turret like those found on routers. With it you can set up the machine for repeatedly planing stock to any of three stock predetermined thicknesses. We adjusted the turret for three precise stock thicknesses—¼" , ½" , and ¾"—and returned to those settings time after time for consistently thick material. We would like to see this innovative feature on all planers.

  Unlike other portable planers, the DW733 directs shavings off the edges of planed boards rather than dumping them straight onto the workpiece. Even so, we recommend you use the planer with an optional dust hood ($29–$39). The hood has a 4" port for connection to a dust collector, and a 2½" adapter for shop vacuums.

- **12" double-bevel sliding compound mitersaw.** Here, too, it's obvious that the folks at DeWalt have done their homework. The DW708 competes admirably with the only other sliding miter saws that bevel both left and right, the 12" Makita LS1211 and 10" Hitachi C10FS. Priced at about $680, the DeWalt costs about $100 less than

Continued on page 33
the Makita and $60 less than the Hitachi. But, the DeWalt does not come with a dust bag ($14.95) or work clamp ($34.95), both standard on the other two saws.

Of these three saws, we rate the DeWalt the most bulletproof. That, and its well-placed carrying handle, makes it a top choice for job-site work. The Makita has a smoother slide action and comes with a better blade. For precision work in the woodshop we prefer the Hitachi. Its electronics package gives it soft starts and consistent power under varying loads.

**20" scroll saw.** This machine is manufactured by Somerville Design, the same company that makes the Excalibur line of scroll saws that earned top marks in our October 1996 review of scroll saws. The design and cutting action of the DeWalt DW788 closely matches that of Excalibur scrollsaws. And, at about $500, the DeWalt sells for hundreds of dollars less than an Excalibur.

We liked nearly everything about the DW788, especially its low vibration, generous 23 3/4" x 16" teardrop-shaped table, convenient controls, and the steady stream of power provided by its AC motor at all cutting speeds from 400 to 1750 strokes per minute. The convenient blade-tensioning mechanism and an upper arm that lifts straight up 3 1/2" combine to make blade changes easy. With proper adjustment and the right blade, the saw capably handled every cut we made in thin (1/8" hardwood plywood), thick (2" oak), and stacked materials. It doesn’t cut as fast as the Carver Delta Q3, but it delivers smoother results.

The thumbscrew-operated quick-change blade clamps hold blades securely, but the bottom clamp tends to bend the blade slightly when tightened. A drop of oil on the swivel end of the thumbscrew fixed the problem.

Written by Bill Kriner
Product Testing: Bob McFarlin
Photograph: John Hetherington
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Carbide Tipped RAISED PANEL DOOR SETS

<table>
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<th>SET#</th>
<th>BIT STYLE</th>
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<td>4-/5/8&quot;</td>
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Order 3 or more bits & deduct $1.00 each!

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Build a powerful reference library
Regardless of skill level, every woodworker needs a reliable resource of books, magazines, catalogs, patterns, and other printed materials to provide help. Here's a list of references we like (and use) at WOOD magazine.

BOOKS:
1. Understanding Wood Finishing by Bob Flexner, Rodale Press, Inc., 1994. (The best book we have found on covering every aspect of wood finishing.)
Tool talk that's on the level
Accurate, dependable tools lie at the center of every craftsman's woodworking efforts. Consider these points the next time you want to make quality improvements.

• Invest in some good layout and measuring tools.
We have Starrett 6" and 12" combination squares in our shop. Equip the 12" square with a center head. Every shop should have a set of stainless steel bench rules. We looked at everything and bought 6", 12", and 24" woodworking rules from Hartville Tool at 800/345-2396. When you consider the cost, keep in mind that not only are these the tools you will use for marking and measuring, but they are also the tools that you can depend on when you set up and calibrate your woodworking machinery.

Finally, get a good compass that will hold a common pencil. We have two—an 8" and a 16" Workshop Pencil Compass from The Garrett Wade Tool Catalog.

• Buy your tools wisely. Refer to magazine tool reviews, particularly those that do detailed analyses of tool features and performance. Keep your requirements, budget, and level of use in mind and never compromise on quality. To find WOOD® magazine's tool reviews, look for the nine-issue index published in each June issue, or check our most complete and up-to-date index on the Internet at http://woodmagazine.com.

• Tune up your tools. Never assume that you can use a tool right out of the box. This goes for hand tools and power tools alike. Hand tools usually come “factory sharp” and will need to be fine-sharpened and honed. For power tools, follow the setup instruc-
tions in the manual, and check all tolerances, clearances, and alignments. Ensure that hardware—screws, bolts, washers, and nuts—is in place and tightened.

• Don’t lose your edge. If you use your tools often, a second set of blades, knives, or cutters will eliminate downtime and make it easier to avoid working with dangerous dull edges. For most of us, it’s better to rely on a professional sharpening service. Clean the pitch off blades or cutters before sending them out. (We use oven cleaner for this.)

• Keep your crosscuts square. Get an extra miter gauge for your tablesaw and carefully set it at 90° to the blade. In fact, lock it into this position with an extra nut. Now, no matter what you do with your other miter gauge, you’ll always be able to come back to that perfect crosscut.

• Make a good tool better. Most drill presses are still not designed for woodworkers. Build an auxiliary table with an adjustable fence for yours. We featured one in February 1996, issue 86. Order the kit by calling 800/572-9350, or purchase the ready-to-assemble WOODKIT® by calling Schlabauge at 800/346-9663.

• A jointer is for more than edges. Face-jointing is the key to everything from flat tabletops to straight and true doors. Buy the longest bed and widest cutterhead you can afford.

• Run a clean operation. Periodically clean all the sawdust out of your tools. Blow out portable tools after each use with compressed air. Lubricate your stationary tools at least once a year and keep the tables waxed with a good-quality paste wax. If your shop is prone to dampness or high humidity, run a dehumidifier to ward off rust.

Shop organization: Get it right and keep it that way

Aside from being dangerous, a cluttered, poorly organized shop can cause you to lose hours—often days—of valuable woodworking time while you hunt around for tools or clear a space for a glue-up. That’s why thoughtful shop planning will serve you well for a lifetime of successful craftsmanship.

• Power up for performance. While a 15 amp circuit is adequate for lighting, you’ll need at least two 115 volt, 20 amp circuits for benchtop, small stationary, and portable power tools. Place outlets every 48” along the walls; we like to have them 48” off the floor. Large stationary tools need dedicated outlets. If any can be wired for 220V, we like to do so.

• Bright ideas for brilliant work. Figure shop lighting by keeping in mind that you need 20,000 lumens for every 100 square feet of floor space and that a standard 48” fluorescent tube puts out between 2,000 and 3,000 lumens. (See the bulb package for specific output.) Buy fixtures according to bulb needs, and consider adding task lighting at workstations or on tools—such as a scrollsaw—where the work requires maximum visibility.

• Arrange your primary tools (radial-arm saw, mitersaw, tablesaw, jointer, and planer) for efficient material handling. You should be able to move a piece of stock from cutoff through jointing, planing, and ripping within the same localized area in the shop. Park other machines (bandsaw, router table, drill press, lathe, etc.) away from this cutting and planing work area. Put them on mobile bases so you can easily and quickly pull them out when needed.

Note: See page 66 for our mobile base plan.

• Make room for storage and a sturdy workbench. Organize your storage in work centers so that tools and accessories that go together stay together and are within easy reach.

Make workshop safety priority one

Commonsense woodworking means taking all of the proper precautions before beginning any machining or finishing task. Here’s what we mean.

• Protection you can buy. Invest in a comfortable pair of safety glasses and wear them whenever
you enter the shop to work. Combat damaging machine noise by wearing hearing protection that has an NRR (noise reduction rating) of at least 25 decibels. (See the package.)

Keep two respirators on hand—a lightweight, comfortable one for common shop dust, and a heavy-duty model that employs organic vapor cartridges.

Finally, pick up several pairs of inexpensive disposable latex gloves for handling glues, solvents, stains, and finishes.

- **Dress down.** Remove rings and watches, and roll up loose sleeves when working around machinery. Tuck long hair into a hair net or a snug-fitting hat.
- **Keep a tidy shop.** Before any machining operation, sweep up sawdust and pick up scraps and sawcuts from the floor. Keep machine table surfaces free of cut-offs, hardware, hand tools, etc.
- **Conduct a no-nonsense hands-off policy.** Be sure to have at least two feather boards that fit your tablesaw, bandsaw, and router table. We like Universal feather boards (catalog #801-407) from Woodworker's Supply. (See page 38.)

Also, pick up a variety of pushsticks and pushblocks for different tools and tool operations.

- **Guard against danger.** Seriously consider buying an aftermarket tablesaw blade guard for convenience and added safety. While you’re at it, equip your tablesaw with a knee-operated panic switch. Get an outfeed table for better control of material after you machine it.
- **Be trigger happy.** We prefer routers with trigger switches, since you can shut them off instantly without having to take one hand off the tool during machining operations.

**Our finishing secrets**

Never rush finishing a project that you took precious time to make. Often, a quality finish will draw attention as much as a project’s design. Here’s what works for us.

- **Sanding solutions.** When sanding, use progressive sandpaper grades of 100-, 150-, and 220-grit. Don’t skip grades since each grade removes scratches left by the previous coarser grade. For a really fine finish, nothing beats sanding finer grades with a cork-faced block.
- **Testing, testing.** Test all stains and finishes on scrap of the same species prior to using them on the completed project. Projects to be stained should be sanded more carefully than clear finished projects since surface flaws tend to become accentuated. In general, we avoid using any stains.
- **Brush basics.** Use a natural bristle brush for oil-based finishes and a synthetic bristle brush for water-based finishes. Always cut in on the wet surface and avoid refreshing when the finished surface becomes tacky.
- **Show off with spray.** Spraying provides the most level finish; try a high-volume, low-pressure unit for less wasteful overspraying. Clean the sprayer well after using.
- **See what you’re doing.** When applying a finish, use low-angle task lighting to spot runs or sags.
- **Say no to dust.** Keep the finish, brush, and air as clean as possible. Since most of us (we in the WOOD® magazine shop included) don’t have a finishing room, dust will settle in the finish as it dries. If a less durable finish will do, use a Danish-oil finish. Using this lets you wipe down and buff the workpiece before the finish dries completely. A lacquer or polyurethane finish that gets dust in it while drying can be rubbed out with 400-grit or 600-grit wet-dry sandpaper, then you can buff back to a satin sheen with gray or white Scotch-Brite pads.

Written by Jim Harrold with the WOOD magazine staff; special thanks to Jan Syce and Chuck Hedlund
The check's in the mail.

Every tool you see here comes with a $50 check in the mail from Delta. Opportunities like this don't come along every day. So if you've been wishing you had Delta Quality in your shop—you might want to get shopping, now. (August 1 through December 31, 1997.)

You'll also find that we've snuck in a few extras on our 15" Planer and the Deluxe Editions of the Contractor's Saw and 14" Band Saw. Machines that will still be proving their worth for years to come.

Call for the name of your nearest participating Delta dealer. Delta International Machinery Corp., 800-438-2486. www.deltawoodworking.com
APART FROM BEING OUR MOST POWERFUL WET/DRY VAC, IT'S A PORTABLE BLOWER.

The Craftsman 16 Gallon Detachable Blower-Wet/Dry Vac is really two tools in one. First, its 6.0 peak horsepower gives you plenty of power for heavy-duty pickup of wet or dry debris. It picks up at the rate of 79 pounds of gravel or 60 gallons of water in just one minute! Then, the blower easily detaches from the vac and all that horsepower converts into a 200 mph blower. Perfect for leaf removal, gutter cleaning and many other yard jobs, it's equal to a stand-alone blower.

We've built in a lot of other features like a vac caddy with a wider, more stable stance and large, 5 1/4" rear wheels to help prevent tip-overs. The caddy also provides accessory storage. Additionally, there's an automatic suction shut-off to prevent liquid pickups from overflowing, removable drain plug for easy emptying of liquids and an extra-long 20 foot cord. When you think about it, we put just about everything anyone could want in this wet/dry vac. Including a portable blower.

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The field of woodworking represents the collective achievements of many people from a variety of pursuits and professions. We dedicate the Woodworking Hall of Fame as an ongoing tribute to these outstanding individuals.
Rude Osołnik (1915- ): For design, craftsmanship, and education in woodturning

In 1937, Rude Osołnik, fresh from college, began teaching industrial arts at Berea College, in Berea, Kentucky. Eventually, he founded the furnituremaking program there. Although an accomplished woodworker, Osołnik’s greatest impact has been in woodturning. A composer on the lathe, he first wedded classical form and proportion to modern simplicity. In so doing, he updated a long-practiced craft. His simple, hourglass candlesticks earned the Award of Good Design from the Furniture Association of America in 1955. The 1960s saw him working with plywood to make bowls, and experimenting with the natural-edge on green-wood turnings.

Alonzo G. Decker, Jr. (1908- ): For tool design and development

Alonzo Decker, Jr. began work with the Black & Decker Corporation at age 14. After college graduation in 1929, he joined B&D as an electrical engineer, focusing on engineering, research, and manufacturing. During the 1940s, when B&D sold electric drills to defense contractors, Decker was perplexed by reorders, thinking the drills were failing. When he instead found that the tools were being taken home by workers, he reacted: “When people take them home, we ought to be making tools for the home.” After the war, B&D became the first large power-tool company to focus on the do-it-yourself market. In the 1960s, Alonzo Decker was directly responsible for the first cordless drill.

Gifford Pinchot (1865-1946): For pioneering service in national forestry

Gifford Pinchot spent the summers of his early years wandering the forests and fishing the waters of his native Connecticut. Upon graduation from Yale University, he traveled to Europe to study forestry, a new science not then offered in the United States. After returning to the U.S. in 1891, he surveyed private forest lands, but soon undertook their management with his new knowledge. Driven by the belief that sound forestry practices could both produce timber for the nation’s needs and maintain the forest for future generations, the young Pinchot realized, however, that government intervention was necessary to stop the massive destruction of U.S. forests at the time. In 1898, he became head of the new federal Division of Forestry, then spearheaded the
establishment of the U.S. Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture and was named its first Chief Forester. In this leadership position, Pinchot set the initial multiple-use policy for national forest management.

During his tenure as Chief Forester, Pinchot increased the number of national forests from 32 to 149, for a total of 193 million acres. He became President Theodore Roosevelt's top conservation advisor. In 1910, to explore the most efficient and wise use of the wood resource, he set up the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Products Laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin, still the only research facility of its magnitude in the world:

**Silas Kopf (1949- ): For design and craftsmanship in marquetry**

Following an apprenticeship with renowned furnituremaker Wendell Castle from 1974 to 1976, Silas Kopf, an architecture graduate of Princeton University, set out on a mission to introduce the inlay and marquetry work of the European Renaissance to 20th-century America. After studying marquetry for a year at the Ecole Boulle, in Paris, Kopf's illusions created on the furniture and cabinetry of his design earned him a craftsman's fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1988.

His continuing work in applied marquetry of hundreds of native and exotic veneers has inspired other wood artisans to enhance their projects with the technique. Kopf, however, remains the master of this unique skill, his marquetry continuing to fool the eye of the beholder. Yet, he shares his techniques in workshops and seminars at selected facilities across the country.

**Gustav Stickley (1857-1942): For design and craftsmanship in furnituremaking**

In 1873, at age 16, Gustav moved with his family from Wisconsin to Pennsylvania where he found work in his uncle's factory making chairs. An accomplished woodworker by age 21, Stickley became the manager and foreman. Soon, though, spirited by thoughts of the English Arts and Crafts movement, he and two younger brothers set out in the retail furniture business selling simple chairs inspired by Shaker design.

In 1898, Stickley toured Europe and was impressed with Arts and Crafts furniture. Upon his return, he began designing basic, almost primitive, furniture featuring exposed joinery that became immediately popular with the American public as "craftsman." A true woodworker, Stickley was still experimenting with finishes in his eighties.

Continued
Judy Gale Roberts (1956-): For design, craftsmanship, and education in intarsia

Judy Gale Roberts was born in Houston, Texas. Following high school, she attended Houston’s Museum of Fine Arts School, but eventually elected to study art “hands-on” with her artist/sculptor father, Pat Dudley Roberts. Together, they created mosaic murals, etched glass, and sculptures in metals for architects and designers. Under her father’s tutelage, she learned to cut and fit wood as well as the basic elements of good design.

In 1984, Judy Gale Roberts moved to Florida with husband-to-be Jerry Booher. There she refined the design elements of her work in wood, which is a modern-day interpretation of a 15th-century Italian art form called intarsia.

The intarsia of Judy Gale Roberts differs from the original in that she sculpts each wooden piece to a third dimension by sanding. Only one species of wood—Western red cedar—provides the differing colors and tones.

The publication of Roberts’ work in a national woodworking magazine brought her widespread attention in 1988. The demand for her designs gradually prompted her to refocus on the drawing board, a move that fostered an intarsia video and three instructional books. In less than a decade, her name has become synonymous with intarsia.

Wharton Esherick (1887-1970): For pioneering effort in designer woodworking

Although urged to enter a profession, Wharton Esherick instead chose a manua training school. He later studied art and developed a passion for it. In 1919, his art work led him into woodworking, which enabled him to carve frames for his paintings. During the 1920s and 1930s, he combined his artistic talent with woodworking and turned to wood sculpture.

In the late thirties, Esherick concentrated on furniture. His work—as expressed in furniture and home interiors—went through several phases, but is best remembered as having flowing lines with no sharp edges. This “modern” style went against the design of the times, but was user-friendly and space-efficient, and built with simple techniques.

Esherick welcomed students into his shop and urged them to develop their own style, free from the tradition. His influence was felt by many of today’s top designer/craftsmen. The American Institute of Architects posthumously awarded him the gold medal for craftsmanship in 1971.
Frank Knox (1903-1987): For excellence and education in ornamental turning

Ornamental turning, the art of mechanically embellishing turned objects on a specialized lathe, was for all purposes a lost 19th-century art when Frank Knox managed to acquire an original Holtzapffel machine in 1963. Built in 1853, the complicated English lathe was one of only 300 known to exist.

Knox, a semi-retired management consultant who had studied cabinetry, spent the next three years applying himself to the art of ornamental turnery. After mastering most of the necessary skills, he began producing plates, cups, bowls, boxes, and other objects of his design. By 1983, he was recognized as a leading practitioner of the art by the Society of Ornamental Turners.

Believing that ornamental turning would strengthen an increasingly technical society’s respect for the craftsman’s manual skills, Knox decided to explain the mastery of the Holtzapffel in his book, *Ornamental Turning, a Practical and Historical Approach to a Centuries-Old Craft*. Published in 1986, it stands as the only in-depth guide to the art.


The Ward brothers began their decoy carving on Maryland’s Eastern Shore, making hunting decoys to aid in bagging birds for market or table. Working as a team to produce in volume, Lem Ward did most of the carving and Steve Ward did the painting. Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry Truman, and Lyndon Johnson were said to have hunted over the Ward brothers’ decoys.

Although Lem Ward is reported to have made a few ornamental decoys on special order as early as the 1920s, it was in the early 1950s that he decided to make ducks that looked like ducks. So began the popular art form of decorative wildfowl carving.

By 1965, Lem and Steve Ward were making highly decorative carvings of almost every species of American duck, Canada geese, game birds, and some shorebirds. Many Maryland area carvers that associated with them also began to produce collectible birds. The mecca of decorative wildlife carving, the Ward Foundation, in Salisbury, Maryland, was named in their honor. In 1974, Salisbury College awarded them honorary doctorates.

For more about the Woodworking Hall of Fame™ and how you can input, turn to page 84.
How many woodworkers do their woodworking in a basement shop? Plenty. But even if that's not where your shop is, you'll find all kinds of small-space solutions in the 12×16' room we call IDEA SHOP® 3. No doubt you'll want to adapt many of them to your home workshop. That's the idea.

We couldn't help doing it again. Creating a new shop is always fun, as well as challenging, and does it ever generate ideas.

The space that became IDEA SHOP 3 represents a room of the size that you'll find in many basements. Because of its location, an effective, yet quiet, dust-collection system was of prime importance. Then, of course, there was the limited space to deal with. But as you'll find out, our design team

Continued

A TRIBUTE TO THE BASEMENT WORKSHOP

IDEA SHOP® 3
FROM THE EDITORS OF WOOD® MAGAZINE

“The emphasis in this 12×16' basement shop was to squeeze in all the tools and machines needed for a complete workshop and still provide room to move around. Can you imagine how crowded the space would be if all the machines were on separate stands? The other challenge was to take care of the dust as quietly as possible.”

Editor Larry Clayton demonstrates the space-saving, flip-up storage of the router table beneath the workbench.
We outfitted a window with a fan designed for dusty conditions. It doesn't block light and the window still opens.

This custom-made, maple tool holder cradles a cordless drill, charger, and an assortment of driving bits. The design adapts to many portable power tools.

The tablesaw's extension table doubles as a sanding table. Holes lead to an airtight collection box beneath with a 4" dust-collection port.
All of the tool holders in the shop's many perforated hardboard panels are held in position with sturdy, yet easily removed, sheet-metal screws.

came up with doable solutions. In this and future issues, we'll share them with you by presenting plenty of plans and step-by-step instructions so that you can adapt them to your home workshop.

**Out-of-the-way storage**
Storage received more than a passing nod. And here, it consists of more than wall-mounted perforated hardboard (although there's plenty of that, with custom-made tool holders as well).

The Plexiglas-fronted cabinets hanging about let you see their contents at a glance. But, you're not stuck with their placement once they're up, as shown in the photo opposite page. Keeping the cabinets toward the top of the room also gives you more usable work space below, and that really counts in a small room.

A host of full-extension drawers in the workbench provide storage for hand tools, hardware, measuring devices, and all those items you need to keep track of. The tablesaw's extension table pro-
vides storage, too, with a recessed tray to keep pushsticks, tape measure, safety goggles, and whatever else you need within easy reach yet out of the way of the blade and your work.

The tablesaw takes advantage of the shop's longest diagonal to machine stock, as does the jointer tucked under the off-feed table. Closing in the tablesaw with a cabinet traps dust for the central system to collect.

We utilized joist space to accommodate the lighting fixtures and to run the dust-collection piping, too. If your shop headroom is limited to 8' or less, you'll want to consider open joists, also.

We even used one section of joist space to house a handy pull-down storage unit. Its balanced pulley system won't dump the contents.

A bevel-ripped support strip on the back of each cabinet allows them to be easily moved. A mating strip rides atop the wall panels.

Built of maple and heavy-duty fasteners for industrial strength, the mobile bases for each of the shop's woodworking machines have foot-operated locking mechanisms. The wooden lever uses a cam to rotate the stop against the castors. You'll find complete how-to instructions for building them on page 66.

Continued
The 1½-hp. cyclone dust collector operates quietly (62–82 dBA). Fitted with a cartridge-type air filter, it's 99.9 percent efficient at removing even the smallest dust particles from the air. Find out how to build one for your shop on page 54.

For a stationary machine that's not used all that much, a lathe takes up a lot of wall space. We found a solution that not only helps housekeeping, but makes cutting to length easier job in tight space.

A cyclone heads up shop dust collection

Dust is a problem in every woodworking shop. But in a basement shop, collection becomes top priority because wood dust can invade the house. So our criteria for power tools was that each had to have a dust-collection port and run as quietly as possible.

Traditional central dust-collection systems don't operate quietly, though. And the larger the horsepower, the louder the noise level. When your basement shop might be located under your family room or living room, noise becomes a real concern.
Long used in industrial and commercial applications, cyclone dust collectors operate more quietly than others. In fact, our 1½-hp. one operates below the 90 dBA danger level. And it clears the air at a rate of 760 cubic feet per minute (CFM).

Wherever possible, machines and workstations in the shop have dust-collection ports attached to the cyclone system. The motor of the contractor's style tablesaw, for instance, was boxed in to enclose a garbage bag that catches falling sawdust, and the lid acts as an outfeed extension. Then, there's a dust port attached to the saw guard that corrals sawdust off the top of the blade. And the saw's right-hand extension table doubles as a sanding table.

Miltersaws pose a problem in connecting to a central dust-collection system. So we built a cabinet for ours to stand on that features a dust-collecting hood. Sawdust falls through an opening directly into a garbage can that rests below.

Lathes also are a dust-collection headache. Our cabinet catches the dust and shavings behind the machine, where they're quickly gathered with a flexible hose connected to the central system. (We found that quick-disconnect fittings—the type used for recreational vehicle drain hoses—work well for the couplings of extension hoses.)

Finally, there's a floorsweep connected to the dust-collection system. With a broom, you sweep floor debris right into the floor-level take-up.
In designing and outfitting our IDEA SHOP® 3 basement shop with a cyclone dust collector, I had several objectives in mind. I wanted a space-efficient unit with minimal noise, dust-free emission, low-cost construction, and convenience of use. Hopefully, you'll agree that I met all these criteria with this wall-hung dust collector, which cost under $375 ($439 if you add the remote switch).

Jan Hale Svec
Assistant Design Editor

Note: See the Buying Guide at the end of the Bill of Materials for our source of the blowers, switch, and air filter we used for building this project. For more on dust collectors—how they work and why they’re so effective—see our tool-comparison article in the April 1997 issue, #96, of WOOD® magazine.

OK, let's start with the wooden framework
1 Cut the blower shelf (A), back (B), sides (C), cylinder head (D), cylinder base (E), and cone ring (F) from ¾" medium density fiberboard or birch plywood to the sizes listed in the Bill of Materials.

2 Using the Frame drawing and the Parts View drawing on the following pages, lay out the shapes for the blowershelf (A), cylinder head (D), cylinder base (E), and cone ring (F). (We found trammel points great for marking the large arcs. See the August 1997 issue of WOOD for our homemade trammel.) Cut the pieces to shape, and sand the exposed edges smooth.

3 Drill blade start holes on the waste side of the cutlines for the holes in the blowershelf (A), side (C), cylinder head (D), cylinder base (E), and cone ring (F). Cut the holes with a jigsaw.

4 Center the cylinder head (D) on the bottom side of the shelf (A), aligning the hole of one over the other. Clamp the two together. Drill four ¾" holes for securing the cylinder head to the shelf later. Now, do the same with the base (E) and cone ring (F).

5 Glue and screw the blowershelf (A) to the back (B) and sides (C).

6 To form the dolly (G) shown on the Exploded View drawing, measure the inside diameter on the bottom side of your garbage can (our 20-gallon can measures 14¾"). Cut the dolly disc to shape.

7 Prime and paint the parts A–G, except D. (We used Hammerite, a paint with a textured finish. See more on this in the Products That Perform section of this magazine. Then, read the article on page 14, to learn what we discovered when using this paint on the IDEA SHOP 3 cabinets.)

In a corner or against a wall, this highly efficient cyclone dust collector requires minimal space with easy access to the waste can.
Cartridge-type air filter (rated 99.9% efficient) to minimize dust emission. Hang it between joists to save space and reduce noise.

Simple-to-construct frame: all pieces from one 4x8 sheet of plywood.

A cyclone is the most efficient dust collector used in the industry.

Fits under a 7'6" ceiling or between floor joists located 7' above the shop floor.

Clear hose lets you see when the can is full.

20-gallon garbage can mounted on casters for mobility when disposing of sawdust.

760 CFM, 1 1/2 hp., 62-82 decibel dust collector, more than adequate for a small shop.

Cyclone captures 98% of dust before it passes through the blower.

System operates at peak performance since little dust reaches the filter to reduce airflow.

Easy-to-form sheet-metal parts

Radio-controlled switch and wireless transmitter
Cyclone

Bill of Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part</th>
<th>Finished Size</th>
<th>Matl.</th>
<th>Qty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CYCLONE FRAME</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A blower shell</td>
<td>3/4&quot; x 23&quot; x 23&quot;</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>B back</td>
<td>3/4&quot; x 23&quot; x 19 1/4&quot;</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>C sides</td>
<td>3/4&quot; x 10 1/4&quot; x 19 1/4&quot;</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D cylinder head</td>
<td>3/4&quot; x 18&quot; x 18&quot;</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E cylinder base</td>
<td>3/4&quot; x 23&quot; x 23&quot;</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F cone ring</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>SHEET-METAL PARTS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>H cylinder</td>
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<td>SM</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>I inlet</td>
<td>30GA 6&quot; dia. x 15 1/4&quot;</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J outlet</td>
<td>30GA 6&quot; dia. x 20&quot;</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>K cone</td>
<td>30GA 19 1/2&quot; x 20 1/2&quot;</td>
<td>SM</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>FILTER</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>O filter inlet</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>P filter housing</td>
<td>30GA 10&quot; dia. x 24&quot;</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Materials Key:

- C: choice of either medium density fiberboard or birch plywood, SM=30-gauge sheet metal (commonly sold as roof flashing), D=30-gauge galvanized steel, snap-lock, round duct.

Supplies:
- From the Frame drawing: 8 x 2" flathead wood screws; 4 x 3/4" lag screws 21/2" long with 4 x 3/4" flat washers. From the Cyclone Exploded View drawing: 14-3/4" hexhead bolts with 8 flat washers and 4-20 T-nuts; 6 x 8" hex head sheet-metal screws; 6 round duct 20" long; 1" wide double-faced tape; silicone sealant; 1/4" steel pop rivets with 3/8" to 1/2" grip range; 20"-wide by 10" long roll of 30-gauge roof flashing; sheet metal will be enough for H and K; 6" snap lock round duct 24" long (initially) for part (l). From the Exploded View drawing: 2-5/8" round duct starter collar; 2-7/8" hose clamps; 6" clear flexible hose 12" long; 2-1/4" hose clamps; 4" flexible hose 24" long; 20-gallon galvanized garbage can with lid; 2-1/2" utility handles; 4-1/4" flange machine screws with flat washers and nuts; 4-casters with 1/2" washers and nuts; silicone caulking; or butyl rubber seal in a squeeze tube; 1/4" thick by 1/4" wide self-adhesive, closed-cell, sponge rubber weather strip, 2-1/8" long rubber tie-down straps, 4-1/4" flange sheet-metal screws and flat washers. From the Filter drawing: 4" round duct, 4" long; 1/8"-thick flange 17" long with 2 x 1/8" flat washers and 2 x 1/2" nuts; 10" round snap-lock duct 24" long; air filter (cartridge type for diesel trucks, NAPA 5616 or Hastings AF69).

Buying Guide
- Portable dust collector, 1 1/2 horsepower, 760 cfm blower with four casters, nuts, and washers (use the casters on the bottom of the garbage can). Catalog no. DC9-CS, $21.95 ppd. Penn State Industries, 2850 Comly Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154. Or call 800/377-7237 to order.
- Remote switch, air filter, and hose. Radio-controlled switch and wireless transmitter, 110V, 1 amp, 24V DC, 5000 ft range.
- Add $59 for a 8"-diameter by 18"-long air filter, product no. CYH10. Add $19.95 for a 24" length of 6"-diam. clear flexible hose and clamps and a 5" length of 4"-diam. flexible hose and clamps, product no. CYKIT1W1. Penn State Industries, address and phone number listed above.
And now for a little sheet-metal work

**Note:** Don't have any experience with sheet metal? Not to worry. We've kept the sheet-metal work to a minimum and used off-the-shelf pieces where possible. For more insight on working with sheet metal, see the article on page 8.

1. Scribe the cutlines, and cut a piece of sheet metal to 20"x57½" for the cylinder blank (H). Using an aviation-style tin snips, we cut ours from 20"-wide, 30-gauge roof flashing, purchased from a local hardware store. A 10' section is enough for the cylinder H and the three cone segments K.

2. Copy or transfer the inlet-hole pattern from the pattern insert in the center of the magazine, and adhere it with spray adhesive to the cylinder blank (H) where shown on pattern insert. If your sheet metal came in a roll, place the curl side down on the workbench. The side facing up (what was the outside face of the roll) will be the outside of the cylinder.

3. Drill a ½" hole about ½" inside the inlet-hole pattern cutline. Staying about ½" inside the pattern line, cut out most of the waste with a metal snips. (We found it difficult to cut to the line without first removing most of the waste.) Cut along the pattern line to finish forming the opening. Remove the paper pattern.

4. Using a centerpunch, mark the hole centerpoints along both sides and one end of cylinder blank (H) for the sheet-metal screws and the rivets. Mark the centerpoint at the end of the teardrop-shaped cutout in H. Drill the holes. See the pattern insert for reference.

5. Test-fit the sheet-metal cylinder blank (H) around the cylinder head (D) to verify the 1" overlap. Use an awl to scribe the overlap line on the cylinder. Apply a 1"-wide strip of double-faced tape aligned with the overlap line, and adhere the other end of the blank, forming a cylinder.

6. Clamp a piece of 2x4 on edge to your workbench so that 22" extends out from the bench. Slide the cylinder (H) over the protruding 2x4, centering the overlapped taped seam on the 2x4. Drill ⅛" holes and pop-rivet the cylinder together, leaving the tape in place to seal the seam where shown on the Rivet detail accompanying the Cyclone Exploded View drawing.

7. Use a hammer and block of wood to seat the T-nuts in the ¼" holes in the cylinder head (D). Fit the cylinder head into the top of the cylinder (H). Drill pilot holes through the cylinder and into the edge of the cylinder head. Drive the screws to connect the two, making certain the top surface of the cylinder head is flush with the top edge of the metal cylinder.

8. Copy the pattern for the inlet (I) from the Full-Sized Patterns, and adhere it with spray adhesive to a piece of 6"-diameter snap-lock round duct 24" long. Do not snap the duct together until the end of the inlet has been cut. Align the straight end of the paper pattern with the uncrimped end of the duct. Using a metal snips, cut along the curved pattern lines, and then make the cuts to form the tabs at the same end.

9. Drill the ½" rivet holes in the end of the inlet and in every other tab where marked. Now, remove the paper pattern, and snap the seam together.

**Time to add the cone**

1. Lay out the three cone segments (K) on 30-gauge galvanized steel sheet metal. Mark the pop-rivet centerpoints with a punch. Use an awl to scribe the overlap lines. Cut the pieces to shape with the aviation-style tin snips, and cut along the lines to form the tabs at the top of each segment. Apply 1"-wide strips of double-faced tape, aligned with the scribed overlap lines. Stick the first two segments together as shown in Photo A.

2. As shown in Photo B, drill ⅛" holes at the marked centerpoints. Pop-rivet this first joint to join the first two cone segments. Repeat this process to fasten the third segment to the first two.
3 Clamp the 2\times4 flat on the workbench as shown in Photo C. Clamp the taped edge of the three joined cone segments to the 2\times4 using another board aligned with the overlap line to hold it flat. Using the clamping board as a guide, adhere the free end of the joined cone segments to the tape, forming a cone (K) as shown in Photo C. Drill \(\frac{3}{8}\)" holes at the marked centerpoints, unclamp the cone, and pop-rivet the overlapping edges together.

Add the starter collar and cone ring to the cone
1 Reclamp the 2\times4 on edge to the workbench. Mark the location of every other tab of the 6\" starter collar around the outside of the bottom opening of the cone. Insert the tabs of the starter collar into the cone, and slide the cone and starter collar over the 2\times4. Drill through the cone and the tabs as shown in Photo D. Pop-rivet the collar into place.
2 Support the edge of your cone ring (F) on the edge of your workbench as shown in Photo E. Drop the completed cone (K) into the ring and bend down the tabs as shown in the photo.
3 Place the cone on the workbench with the tabs down. Clamp the cone ring down tightly. Clean the metal with denatured alcohol, and apply sealant to the joint between the cone and the starter collar and in the gap between the cone and the cone ring where shown on the Cylinder Base detail.

It's time to connect the inlet and outlet
1 Position the inlet (I) in the tear-drop-shaped cutout in the cylinder (H) so that the ends of the tab cuts are flush with the surface of the cylinder. Align the rivet hole at the end of the tear-drop-shaped cutout in the cylinder with the rivet hole at the pointed end of the inlet. Pop-rivet them together.
2 Bend the tabs on the inlet (I) over so they are flat on the inside of the cylinder (H). Now, drilling from the inside and riveting from the outside, drill through every other tab and through the cylinder. Pop-rivet the inlet to the cylinder, checking to make sure that the inlet remains properly aligned in the hole in cylinder (H).
3 Cut the outlet (J) from a piece of 6\" round duct, cutting off the crimped end. Do not snap the duct together until the outlet has been cut. Snap the seam together, and insert the outlet into the hole in the center of the cylinder head (D). Make certain the top edge of the outlet is flush with the top surface of the cylinder head. Drill the pilot holes, and screw the outlet to the cylinder head. See the Shelf detail for reference.

Next, construct the main body of the cyclone
1 Position the shelf/back/side assembly (A,B,C) on its back on your workbench, and attach the cylinder head/cylinder/inlet/outlet assembly (D,H,I,J) to it with four \(\frac{1}{4}\times\frac{11}{8}\) hexhead bolts and flat washers where shown on the Cyclone Exploded View drawing and accompanying Shelf detail.
2 Clamp the cylinder base (E) to the open bottom end of the cylinder (H), and against the bottom ends of the back (B) and sides (C). Now, working from the inside of the metal cylinder, drill the holes and screw the cylinder to the base (E). See the Cylinder Base detail for reference.
3 Remove the clamps. Then, remove the bolts connecting the cylinder head (D) to the blower shelf (A). Set the D,E,H,I,J assembly on its base on the workbench, and seat the T-nuts in the \(\frac{5}{8}\)" holes in the cylinder base (E).

Note: Before applying sealant in the next step, clean the sheet-metal surfaces where the sealant is to be applied with denatured alcohol or lacquer thinner. For ease of application, particularly on the inside of the cylinder, use sealant in a squeeze tube rather than a caulking gun cartridge.

4 To further seal the project components, apply a fillet of sealant at the juncture of the cylinder (H) and the cylinder base (E) where shown on the Cylinder Base detail accompanying the Cyclone Exploded View drawing. Apply a fillet of sealant on the outside of the juncture of the cylinder and inlet (I). Turn the assembly over, and apply fillets of sealant at the juncture of the cylinder and cylinder head (D) and the outlet (J) and cylinder head where shown on the Shelf detail.

Continued
The dust bin comes next
1. Cut a 6" hole in the center of the lid of a 20-gallon galvanized steel garbage can. Insert the tabs of a 6" starter collar into the hole, and bend the tabs over on the inside of the lid.
2. Working from the bottom side of the lid, drill \( \frac{1}{8}" \) holes through every other tab and through the lid. Working from the top side of the lid, pop-rivet the lid to the starter collar.
3. Drill holes through the lid and attach a pair of metal handles to the lid where shown on the Exploded View drawing.
4. Clean the metal as before, and apply sealant to the joint between the starter collar and lid. Then, clean the metal around the inside rim of the lid, and adhere a ring of \( \frac{3}{8} \times \frac{3}{4}" \) self-adhesive, closed-cell sponge rubber weather strip.
5. Fit the dolly (G) inside the lip on the bottom side of the garbage can. Drill four \( \frac{3}{8}" \) holes through the dolly and through the bottom of the garbage can (the four casters and mating hardware come with the blower sourced in the Buying Guide). Secure the casters to the dolly and garbage can. Put the lid on the can and roll it aside.
6. Finish-sand the pieces, and paint parts L and N.
7. Cut a piece of 4" snap-lock duct for the filter inlet (O) to 4" long, snap it together, and insert it into the hole in the inlet ring (L). Drill the pilot holes and screw the pieces together.
8. Seat the T-nuts in the \( \frac{1}{8}" \) holes in the outlet ring (M). Snap a 24"-long section of 10" snap-lock duct together to form part (P). Fit the inlet ring (L) into the crimped end where shown on the Filter drawing. Drill pilot holes, and screw the duct to the inlet ring.
9. Fit the outlet ring (M) into the uncrimped end of P. Drill the pilot holes, and drive the screws.
10. Clean the metal, and apply sealant around the inside of the filter housing (P) where the duct meets the inlet and outlet rings and where the inlet (O) meets the inlet ring.
11. Fasten the cartridge filter to the filter holder (N) with a 17"-long piece of \( \frac{3}{8}" \) all-thread rod, washers, and nuts, making certain the cartridge is centered on the filter holder. Slide the cartridge/filter holder assembly into the filter housing, and fasten it into place.

An air filter keeps the fine dust in
1. Mark the outlines of the inlet ring (L), outlet ring (M), and filter holder (N) on \( \frac{3}{8}" \) medium density fiberboard or birch plywood to the shapes shown on the Filter Parts View drawing.
2. Drill \( \frac{3}{8}" \) holes in the interior waste portion of L, M, and N, and jigsaw to the lines.
3. Mark the centerpoints for the four \( \frac{3}{8}" \) holes on the outlet ring (M). Center the outlet ring on the filter holder (N), and clamp them together. Drill the \( \frac{3}{8}" \) holes through both pieces. Unclamp the pieces, and drill a \( \frac{3}{8}" \) hole through the center of N.

Final assembly
1. Drill holes through the back (B) for mounting the unit to the wall later. See the Frame drawing for reference. Position the holes so you hit at least one stud (and ideally two) in the wall. Fasten the bracket assembly (A,B,C) to the wall so that the top of the blower shelf (A) is level and 76" from the floor. The total height required for the dust collector is 90". If there is not sufficient clearance underneath the floor joists, position the assembly (A,B,C) so that the blower motor will be located between two floor joists. Allow for a minimum clearance of 1" over the top of the blower motor.
2. Fit the cylinder assembly (D,E,H,I,J) into the bracket assembly by rotating it enough to fit the inlet (I) through the hole in the side (C), and fasten it in place with the \( \frac{3}{8}" \) bolts. Then, secure the cylinder base (E) to the back (B) and the sides (C) with 2" wood screws.
3. Position the cone assembly (F,K) underneath the cylinder base (E), and fasten it in place with \( \frac{3}{8}" \) bolts, sandwiching the 1" tabs of the cone (K) between the...
cylinder base and the cone ring (F) where shown on the Cyclone Exploded View drawing.

4 Attach a 12" length of 6" flexible hose to the starter collar at the bottom of the cone with a hose clamp. Position the dust bin under the cone, and attach the other end of the hose to the starter collar on the can lid with a hose clamp where shown on the Exploded View drawing.

5 Adhere a piece of 2 1/2" weather strip to form a ring approximately 11" in diameter to the intake (bottom) side of the blower. Seal any unused bolt holes in the blower (the blower comes mounted to a frame). Set the blower in place on the blower shelf (A) with its intake flange inserted into the 4 1/8"-diameter hole. Hang the filter assembly (L,M,N,O,P) between two conveniently located floor joists, using a pair of rubber tie-down straps where shown on the Exploded View drawing. Connect the blower to the filter with a length of 4" flexible hose and two hose clamps.

6 Hook up the dust-collection piping to the inlet (I). If you’ve used plastic piping for the central dust-collection system in your shop, connect the grounding wire to the blower housing. (See the June 1991 issue, #43, of WOOD® for our shop-made dust-collection system using PVC pipe.)

7 For convenience, we plugged the blower into a radio frequency controlled switch so we can operate it from any location in the shop with a wireless transmitter.

8 Periodically you’ll need to remove the filter and blow it out. Also, by watching the clear hose above the garbage can, you’ll be able to tell when the can is full.

Written by Marlen Kemmet
Project Design: Jan Hale Veqc
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Illustrations: Kim Downing; Lorna Johnson
Photographs: John Hetherington; Bill Hopkins
MODULAR TO THE MAX

Cabinet System

The smaller your shop, the smarter you have to be when laying it out to meet your needs. That’s why for our 12x16' IDEA SHOPS 3, we decided to go with a cabinet package that can be anything you want it to be. Read the boxed material at the end of the article to customize the cabinets for your shop.

Let’s begin with the perforated hardboard tool board

1 Select the straightest 1x3’s available for the mounting strips (A, B, C). When purchasing these, make sure they’re ¾” thick, we ran across some furring strips that measured only ½” thick. Use the straightest of the bunch for the top strip. Now, bevel-rip the top mounting strip at 45° where shown on the Hanger detail accompanying the Side Section View drawing. Crosscut the mounting strips to length.

2 To position the top mounting strip A (the one with the beveled edge), temporarily screw or nail a 2x4 to the bottom side of the floor joists, assuming that you have 7’ ceilings in your basement. For basements with taller ceilings, simply snap a chalk line to establish where you want the top of the pegboard. Using the 2x4 as a spacer creates the necessary 1 ½” gap needed for hanging the cabinet(s) later. Make sure you locate the screws in the 2x4 where they can be easily removed after the perforate hardboard has been secured to the mounting strips.

3 Lay out and drill countersunk mounting holes through each mounting strip. Using the 2x4 as a spacer, screw the top mounting strip (A) in place where shown on the Side Section View and accompanying detail. The type of wall you’re screwing into will determine the size and type of fasteners required. Screw the other mounting strips (B, C) in place.
The bevel-ripped hanger strip on the cabinet fits onto the mating angled piece on the tool board, allowing you to position the cabinet wherever you want.

4 Drill mounting holes, and screw the perforated hardboard front (D) to the mounting strips. Remove the 2x4 spacer from the floor joists.

**Now, construct the wall cabinet**

1 Cut the cabinet top and bottom (E) and sides (F) to size.

2 Using a dado blade in your table saw, cut 5/8" dadoes 5/16" deep for the shelf standards on the inside face of the cabinet. The finished size should be according to the how-to instructions.

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**Bill of Materials**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part</th>
<th>Finished Size</th>
<th>Matl. Qty.</th>
<th>Part</th>
<th>Finished Size</th>
<th>Matl. Qty.</th>
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<td><strong>SUPPORTS AND HANGER</strong></td>
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<td>J hanger strip</td>
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<tr>
<td>H rails</td>
<td>3/4&quot; 1/2&quot; 21&quot;</td>
<td>M 2</td>
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</table>

*Cut parts marked with an * oversized. Trim to finished size according to the how-to instructions.

**Materials Key:** P-pine or fir, PH-perforated hardboard, BP-birch plywood, M-maple or birch

Supplies: #8x1" flathead wood screws, #6x2" flathead wood screws, #12x2" panhead wood screws, one pair of 3/8" offset self-closing hinges (we used Amerock hinges, #BP 7565-BB), 4" wire pull, shelf standards and clips, 1/4x1/8" diameter cushions, acrylic, clear finish.
the sides (F). Then, cut 3/4" rabbets 1/2" deep on each end of the sides to house the top and bottom (E) later.
3 Mark the screw-hole centerpoints on the top and bottom (E). We located ours 1 1/2" from each end and centered the middle screw. The screws are located 1/2" in from the outside edge. Now, cut a scrap block like that shown in the photo at right, with a 5° angle across one end. Glue and clamp the plywood panels (E, F) together, checking for square. Using the block as a drill guide, drill angled holes through the corner joints. Countersink the holes, and drive the screws. Remove the clamps, and wipe off any excess glue with damp cloth.

Add the face frame and supports next
1 Cut the face frame stiles and rails (G, H) to size, so the assembled face frame will overhang the plywood cabinet 1/4" on all edges.
2 Glue and clamp the face-frame pieces directly to the front of the plywood cabinet. If you own a biscuit cutter, you can further strengthen the joint with biscuits.
3 Sand the face frame. Then, rout a 1/4" round-over along the outside edges of the frame where shown on the Exploded View drawing.
4 Measure the cabinet opening, and cut the supports (I) to size. Drill mounting holes, and glue and screw the supports to the top and bottom (E) where shown on the Exploded View drawing. The back edges of the supports should be flush with the back edge of the cabinet.
5 Cut the hanger (J) to size. Follow the two-step drawing on the previous page to form the angled bottom edge. Now, screw the hanger to the back of the cabinet where shown on the Hanger detail accompanying the Side Section View drawing.

Next, let's add the shelves
1 Cut the plywood shelves (K) and banding strips (L) to size plus 1" in length. Glue and clamp the banding strips to the front edge of the plywood shelves. Later, remove the clamps, and cut the shelves/banding to final length.
2 Rout 1/8" round-overs along the front, banded edge of each shelf.

Tips on Customizing Your Tool Board and Cabinets

Because all shop walls are not created equal, start by carefully determining where you want to position your tool boards and cabinets. And, in our opinion, you never can have too much perforated hardboard from which to hang tools and such. That's why we covered as much wall space in IDEA SHOP® with it as we could.

Then, determine the size you'll need your tool boards. Since most basements have 7' ceilings, we designed this system to hang 1 1/2" below the bottom edge of the floor joists. You'll need this 1 1/2" clearance for hanging the cabinets on the tool
And now for a half-lapped door for the cabinet

1. Cut the door stiles (M) and rails (N) to size. Using the Door drawing for reference, cut half-lap joints on the ends of each.
2. Cut or rout a 3/8" rabbet 3/8" deep along the inside edge of each door member.
3. Glue and clamp the door frame together, checking for square and flatness. Later, remove the clamps, and sand the door frame.
4. Rout a 1/8" round-over along the front inside and outside edge of the door frame. Switch bits or use a dado blade in your tablesaw to cut a 3/8" rabbet 3/8" deep along the back outside edge of the frame.
5. Mark the hinge locations on the doors. Drill pilot holes and screw hinges in place.
6. Position the door centered in the opening, and mark the hinge-hole locations on the face frame. Position the door to open on the left or right, depending on what's most convenient. Drill the pilot holes, and screw the door/hinges to the face frame. Drill the mounting holes for the wire pull.

Finishing it all up

1. Remove the hardware from the cabinet. Finish-sand, and apply a clear finish to the cabinet, door, and shelves. Leave, the pegboard unfinished.
2. Cut the shelf standards to length, and then screw in place.
3. Measure the opening, and cut the acrylic for the door. Run a fine bead of clear silicone to secure the acrylic in place. Later, reattach the hinges, and secure the door to the cabinet.
4. Hang the cabinet on the tool board. Leave the cabinet movable, or drive a couple of screws through the bottom support (I), the perforated hardboard, and into the bottom mounting strip (B) where shown on the Side Section View drawing.

Written by Marlen Kemnet

Project Design: Chuck Hedlund
Illustrations: Roxanne LeMoine
Photographs: Bill Hopkins

boards. See the Side Section View for details. If your shop has more wall space, or if you already have a cabinet or workbench anchored to the wall where you want the tool board, create the tool board to fit the opening minus the 1 1/2" gap needed at the top. If the wall is obstacle free, consider making the tool board 96" long, enabling you to use a full 4x8' sheet of perforated hardboard.

Customize your cabinets, too. Although we built ours all the same size, you may want to make your cabinets longer, shallower, or whatever. Be creative. And, if you really do something special with them, send me a photo; I’ll show some of our readers’ versions in a later issue.
Tired of muscling your tools around the shop when you need to use them or clean around them? If so, try this money- and back-saving solution—a four-wheeled tool base for moving heavy woodworking machines quickly and easily. Once you build one (or more), you'll wonder how you got by without it.

**Tips on sizing your tool base**

To determine the size of the mobile tool base, start by measuring the outside length and width of your tool base. Then, add 8¾" to the length to determine the length of the sides (A), and add ¾" to the width to determine the length of the ends (B). Next, adjust the other pieces according to the instructions. The mobile base we built fits the base of our Sears 17¾x27" bandsaw.

See the Buying Guide at the end of the Bill of Materials for a hardware kit. The kit contains everything except the angle iron. Due to the cost of cutting and shipping, and the ease of availability, you're better off purchasing angle iron locally.
The basic wood frame comes first
1 From ¾" hardwood stock (we used maple), cut the base sides (A) and ends (B) to the lengths determined using the information in the box at left and to the width listed in the Bill of Materials.
2 Clamp the ends (B) between the sides (A) in the configuration shown on the Exploded View drawing and where dimensioned on the Parts View on the WOOD PATTERNS® insert in the center of the magazine. Check for square. The opening should measure ½" longer than your tool base and ⅜" wider. Verify this, then drill countersunk holes through the sides (A) and centered into the ends of the ends (B). Drive the screws, but do not glue the joint yet. For extra holding power, we used sheet-metal screws. For ease in driving the screws, add beeswax to the screw threads.
3 Measure from the outside face of one A to the outside face of the opposite A to determine the length of the end caps (C). Cut the end caps to length from stock ripped to 4" wide.
4 Laminate stock to form the 1"-thick caster blocks (D), then cut them to size. Temporarily clamp the end cap (C) for the fixed casters in place, and glue the caster blocks to the bottom side of the

SEE THE WOOD PATTERNS® INSERT FOR FULL-SIZED PATTERNS

Continued on page 96
PORTABLE BELT

No handheld power tool can hold a candle to a portable belt sander when it comes to leveling out a rough panel, shaping a curved edge profile, and downright heavy-duty sanding. But as we discovered, some models perform these tasks better than others. Read on and we’ll share with you what we found out when we looked at 14 popular models of 3×21" and 3×24" belt sanders.

A few words about our test

To evaluate the 14 belt sanders listed here, we began with a careful inspection of each one to check the quality and type of components used, the fit of critical components, and the overall construction. Once we were familiar with the machines, we fired them up and sanded some polyester-coated particleboard. We chose this material since variations in a sander’s base flatness show up quickly in the form of uneven sanding patterns. To get a better feel for their handling characteristics and sanding performance, we used the sanders on a laminated maple benchtop, trying different grit belts and different hand pressure. This provided us with information on a number of other aspects such as belt tracking and dust control. We also checked out their performance in edge sanding and their ability to sand flush to a 90° edge.

Why own a belt sander?

If you own a random-orbit sander, you may wonder if you really need a belt sander. Well, you probably own a shovel, but if you had a really big hole to dig, you’d hire someone with a backhoe.

When it comes to removing lots
of stock in a hurry, you want a portable belt sander in your hands. With a 3"-wide abrasive belt, spinning at up to 1,500 feet per minute, it takes quite a bite, even in hardwoods. And, its portability lets you carry that raw power to the job.

But when it comes to leaving a smooth, flat surface, the models we tested varied greatly. We found a number of contributing factors—detailed here and in the following pages—that separate the good belt sanders from the rest of the pack.

What matters most when looking for a belt sander

- A flat platen. For a belt sander to sand flat, the base that supports the sanding belt where it contacts the workpiece—the platen and its slip plate—must be flat, as indicated in the drawing, below. Ridges or deflections in the platen or slip plate show up when you sand.

To test the flatness of platens, we held each sander in place while sanding a piece of polyether-coated particleboard. An even pattern, as shown in the photo below left, was the mark of a flat platen and earned an excellent rating in the chart on page 72. An uneven pattern, or one that showed sanding in several spots, as shown below right, indicated the platen had high spots, most typically on the front and back edges.

The sanders with cast-aluminum platens produced the most even sanding patterns— the Bosch 1274DVS and Metabo 0775 turned in excellent results right out of the box. However, by filing down minor high spots on the other platens, we brought even fair performers into acceptable limits.

Rigid, stable, and durable, cast-aluminum platens stand up to abuse. The same can’t be said for stamped steel platens. Even the stamping process warps the bases, as does welding or machining done for mounting hardware, as shown in the photo above.

However, if you use a belt sander for fast and rough removal of stock only, and precise flatness doesn’t matter to you, disregard the “flatness of base” column on page 73. All of the sanders have bases flat enough for rough work.

- A graphite slip plate. To prevent the belt from wearing down the platen, manufacturers install a slip plate between the platen and the belt. As the name implies, the slip plate allows the belt to slide smoothly over the platen.

Ideally, the slip plate should conform to the platen to provide a flat sanding base. However, the material used and the way it attaches to the platen affect a slip plate’s ability to conform.

Cloth-backed graphite slip plates conform perfectly to the platen. The lubricating properties of the graphite also help reduce belt friction and heat buildup.

Most manufacturers install a thin, tempered-steel plate backed by a cork or rubber pad. Though it provides a slick surface and lasts about three times longer than graphite, a steel slip plate doesn’t always conform to the platen.

A flat platen created an even pattern (left) when sanding polyester-coated particleboard. Uneven marks (right) show the platen had ridges and low spots.
Most steel slip plates bend along the leading edge where they attach to the platen, as shown in the photo above. We found that every plate of this type cut harder at the bend line than along the rest of the plate.

In some cases, the problem was compounded when the cork pad compressed under the mounting screws. This causes the sharp bend line to pull even farther away from the platen.

Though you can rebind, file, and sand a steel slip plate flat, we recommend spending that time fine-tuning the platen, if it needs it, and installing a graphite slip plate. If the maker of your sander doesn’t carry a graphite plate, mail-order outlets such as Klingspor’s Sanding Catalogue (800/228-0000) offer cloth-backed graphite padding material from which you can make your own slip plates. It comes in various widths and is sold by the yard.

Of the machines we tested, only the Bosch 1274DVS and the Metabo 0775 come with graphite slip plates as standard equipment. Among those with pad-backed steel plates, the DeWalt DW431 produced the best finish without rebending or fine-tuning.

- **A large sanding surface.** The size of the platen determines how much sandpaper you put in contact with the workpiece at any one time. The bigger the contact area, the more stock a sander will remove, regardless of belt size, although longer belts will outlast shorter ones. For example, among the sanders we tested, the 3×21” Bosch 1274DVS had the third largest platen (3×5½”), topped only by the two of the 3×24” models. See the chart on page 72 for a comparison of the different platen sizes.

- **Good balance and handling.** How a belt sander feels in your hands directly impacts your success in using it. Weight, balance, and even handle placement all factor into the comfort equation.

*Editor’s Note:* To test this theory, we had product tester Bob McFarlin, project builders Jan Svec and Chuck Hedlund, and general-interest editor Kerry Gibson “test-drive” and rate each sander’s handling characteristics. While each had his individual favorite, the ratings in the chart represent an “average” score.

Motor configuration plays a key role in the balance of a belt sander. Transverse machines, such as the Porter-Cable 360VS shown opposite page, top left, have universal motors mounted across the width of the body. The motor arbor turns in the same direction as the rollers with power transferred via a drive belt.

The sideways motor and drive belt make transverse machines tall and wide. This higher center of gravity makes them slightly top-heavy and prone to tip toward the side with the drive belt.

In-line machines, like the Ryobi BE-321 shown opposite page, top right, have a motor that runs parallel to the length of the sander. Since the arbor rotates at 90° to the rollers, in-line sanders use a right-angle speed reduction transmission to shift the power to a drive belt and the rollers.

The in-line configuration results in a narrower machine, with a low center of gravity. While less prone to tipping, most in-line machines require two hands due to the placement of the rear handle behind the machine.

Generally, the larger size of most transverse machines makes them heavier than in-line machines, with the exception of the Porter-Cable 503. This heavy-duty classic weighs in at nearly 15½ pounds, due to its cast-aluminum body, worm-gear transmission, and
chain-drive mechanism. Yet the 503's weight and balance let you run it with one hand on flat surfaces, as do some of the other heavier models.

Lightweight models like the DeWalt DW431 require more hand pressure on flat surfaces, but provide excellent control when edge-sanding stock. Consider what type of sanding you'll be doing most when you buy.

- **Sanding frame compatible.** If you plan to do much panel work, seriously consider buying a model that you can equip with a sanding frame, such as those shown at left below. Even models that did only a fair job of sanding flat on their own did much better with a frame attached. And, like platen size, the bigger the frame, the better.

None of the sanders tested come with sanding frames, but the chart lists those for which frames are available. The optional frames range in price from $60 to $120.

**Other factors to consider**

Besides the key points mentioned previously, we also took a look at the sanders' performance in the following areas:

- **Dust control.** You can't use a belt sander without generating huge amounts of fine dust, so how well a sander picks up the dust deserves serious consideration. We found the DeWalt DW431, Metabo 0775, Bosch 1275DVS, and Porter-Cable 503 excellent at picking up dust. Others left varying amounts of dust on the work surface, and a few actually blew dust around the shop. Only the Sears 117120 comes without a dust bag.

You can connect a vacuum hose to several models, but we found this option a mixed blessing. The slight increase in dust collection wasn't worth the added noise of the vacuum and trying to sand with a vac hose flopping around.

- **Power.** The machines all have the power to do the job, but those with higher amperage motors have the muscle to do it quicker. If you plan to do some heavy-duty sanding, such as large panels for doors or tabletops, choose a model that draws 8 amps or more.

- **Speed control.** A number of models offer variable-speed control (see the photos on the next page, top), and we recommend it for most home woodworkers. Slower speeds give you more control on veneer and edge-sanding tasks, and help prevent burning or gumming up a belt on plastics, particleboard, and during paint removal. If you're only interested in removing wood quickly, one speed will handle the job.

- **Noise.** Belt sanders roar. To find out how much, we measured the noise level from a distance of 24". As noted in the chart, only six registered under 100 decibels, a tolerable level for runs of a minute or two, although we suggest wearing hearing protection when using any belt sander for extended periods of time.

- **Bearings.** Nothing wears out bearings quicker than fine dust and grit, so look for a sander with
PORTABLE BELT SANDERS

Placement of the variable-speed controls varied. Our favorite was on the Bosch 1274DVS (top left), which has it built into the trigger switch. We also found the handle-mounted speed dials convenient on the Ryobi BE-321 (left) and the Porter-Cable 360VS (above).

- **Belt release and tracking.** A good belt-release system makes changing belts quick and painless—an important point since the belt tensioning springs can deliver quite a pinch. The belt tracking adjustment should quickly align the belt and keep it there.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRAND</th>
<th>MODEL</th>
<th>BELT SIZE (IN.)</th>
<th>NUMBER OF SPEEDS</th>
<th>BELT SPEED PER MINUTE (RPM)</th>
<th>PLATEN SIZE (IN.)</th>
<th>PLATEN MATERIAL</th>
<th>SUP. PLATE (ID)</th>
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</table>

**NOTES:**
1. (CA) Coat aluminum
2. (CM) Cast magnesium
3. (SS) Stamped steel
4. (C) Cork pad, steel plate
5. (G) Graphite pad
6. (PG) Rubber pad, steel plate
7. (G) Steel plate, no pad
8. (T) Torsion
9. (H) In-line
10. (B) Brass bushings
11. (O) Open bolt bearings
12. (S) Sealed bolt bearings
13. (O) Starved ball bearings
14. (C) Push front roller

**Which “beast” would we buy?**
Among the 3x21" models, we chose the Bosch 1274DVS among the sanders priced over $150. Its large, flat platen, standard graphite slip plate, good handling, and a
# Wood-Hungry Portable Belt Sanders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOTOR POSITION (6)</th>
<th>MOTOR BEARINGS (6)</th>
<th>LOWER DRIVE BEARINGS (6)</th>
<th>BELT RELEASE (8)</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE (8)</th>
<th>WEIGHT (Pounds)</th>
<th>NOISE LEVEL (DECIBELS)</th>
<th>COUNTRY OF ASSEMBLY (14)</th>
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</table>

### Manufacturing Listings

- **Bosch (S & B Power Tools)**: 800/919-5665
- **Metabo**: 800/636-2264
- **Dirtkat**: 800/143-9258
- **Porter-Cable**: 800/636-1665
- **Hitachi**: 800/760-7297
- **Sears**: 800/948-5482
- **Makita**: 800/948-5482

**Manufaturers' Listing**

- Bosch (S & B Power Tools)
- Metabo
- Dirtkat
- Porter-Cable
- Hitachi
- Makita
- Sears

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If you're not worried about a legacy, then consider the Bosch 1275DVS. Our choice among models priced $200-$250, it still will last even a serious home woodworker a lifetime.®

**Written by** Kerry Gibson  **Technical consultant:** Bob McFarlin  **Illustration:** Roxanne LeMoine  **Photographs:** Bill Hopkins Jr.

**WOOD MAGAZINE  NOVEMBER 1997**
We’re not just guessing that preschoolers will love this high-style sidewalk bike. We know it. We turned ours over to a group of 4½-year-olds for road testing, and had a hard time getting it back for photography.

The frame comes first
1 Cut stock for part A (we used pine) to the size shown in the Bill of Materials. Cut out the frame pattern (it’s in the WOOD PATTERNS® insert in the middle of the magazine) along the rectangular outline. Adhere the pattern to the stock with spray adhesive.
2 Bandsaw the lower part of the frame, leaving the top edge of the stock straight.
3 Stand the partially cut part on its top edge on your drill-press table. Chuck a ½" bit in the drill press, and drill a hole through the front of the frame where shown. Center the hole side-to-side.
4 Finish bandsawing the frame. Drum-sand the curves smooth where necessary.
5 Transfer the start and stop points for the round-overs and the locations for the seat-screw pilot holes from the pattern to the edge of the part. Remove the pattern, then mark the round-over start and stop points on both faces of the frame. Mark the screw holes at the center of the piece.
6 Install a ¾" round-over bit in your table-mounted router. Rout the round-overs on both sides of the frame.
7 Cut two blanks for the fender (B) to the size shown, and temporarily laminate them with double-faced tape. Cut out the pattern for the fender, and adhere it to the stacked blanks.
8 Bandsaw the stacked blanks, leaving the line. Sand to the line. (We sanded the outer edge with a disc sander, the inside one with a drum sander.)
9 Transfer the round-over stop point to the edge, remove the pattern, and mark the two outer faces of the stack. Rout the two outer faces as you did the frame, then separate the parts. (We pried them apart with a putty knife.)
10 Referring to the Exploded View drawing, glue the two parts to the frame, with the unrouted face of each against the frame.

Continued on page 76
WHEELS
for kids on the move

HANDLEBAR ROUND-OVER DETAIL

5/16" round-over bit
Handlebar blank

Router table

9/16"-dia. wooden ball

1 1/2" hole 1/2" deep
No round-over on ends of handlebar

3/4" button plug

FORM

5/16" round-overs

3/16" shank hole 1/2" deep

1/2" flat washer

#10 x 1 1/2" panhead sheet-metal screw

3/4" hole

1/2" axle cap

#10-24 acorn nuts with a #8 flat washer

EXPLODED VIEW

5/32" shank hole, countersunk

3/8" round-over (top edge only)

1/2" flat washer

Rear wheel

1/2" axle rod 4" long

Fender

1/2" flat washer

1/2" holes

Fender skirt

1/2" hole

1/2" flat washer

1/2" flat washer

7/64" pilot hole

8 x 1 1/4" F.H. wood screw

1/4" round-over, stopped where it meets fender cover

D Skirt trim

1/2" axle cap

1/4"-hole

#8 x 1 1/4" F.H. wood screws

3/8" shank hole, countersunk

7/64" pilot hole

3/8" round-over, stopped where shown

#10-24 acorn nuts with #8 flat washers

C Frame

1/2" hole

3/8" holes

Front wheel

Bearing support

SEE THE WOOD PATTERNS® INSERT FOR FULL-SIZED PATTERNS

WOOD MAGAZINE NOVEMBER 1997
Add the fender skirts
1 Cut three blanks to the size shown for the fender skirts (C), and laminate them with double-faced tape. (The piece in the middle acts only as a filler to make the stack thick enough for routing. It could be cut from scrapwood.)
2 Apply the pattern, then bandsaw just outside the pattern line. Sand to the line.
3 With your drill press, drill a ½” hole through the stack where shown on the pattern. Drill ⅝” holes where shown, and countersink them on both outside faces. Note the edge specified for rounding over, then remove the pattern.
4 Change to a ⅛” round-over bit in your table-mounted router. Rout the round-over on each outer face. Separate the parts.
5 Glue and clamp the skirts in place, putting the unrouterd faces against the fender. Drill pilot holes, and drive in the two screws on each side.
6 Cut three blanks for the skirt trim (D). Again, the third piece serves as a filler for routing. Stack, cut, drill, and rout the pieces as you did the skirts. Glue and clamp in place, aligning the holes by inserting a length of ½” rod through them.

Build the fork blocks
1 Cut the fork blocks (E) to the size shown. Laminate the two blanks with double-faced tape, apply the pattern, and bandsaw the pieces to shape. Saw slightly outside the line, then sand down to it.
2 With the drill press, drill the ½” hole through the middle. Change to a ⅛” bit, and bore the two larger holes where shown.
3 Mark the location for the ¼” holes, but do not drill them yet. (If you drill the holes before routing, the router-bit bearing will drop into the holes, wrinkling the round-overs.) Remove the pattern.
4 With a ⅛” round-over bit and table-mounted router, rout both outside faces of the stack. Separate the parts, then drill the ¾” holes. Sand the parts, breaking the sharp edges on the unrouterd side.

Laminate the handlebar
1 From straight-grained ¾” stock, rip six ½”-wide handlebar strips (F). For safety, start with stock about 6” wide, and cut the strips on the outside of the blade (not between the blade and the fence). Install a zero-clearance table insert for this.
2 Cut the handlebar form (G) to size. Adhere the handlebar pattern to the blank, and bandsaw the piece to shape. Disc-sand the curved front edge smooth. Remove the pattern carefully, and save it for use again later.
3 Draw a pencil mark at the center on the top edge of each handlebar strip (F) and on the top face of part G, adjacent to the front edge. Align the marks on the strips with the one on the form, and clamp the pieces together at the center.
4 Working out from the center, bend the strips down to the form, and clamp them without gluing, as shown right. Choose clamp types and positions that allow you to pull the lamination strips solidly together. Note your clamping setup, then undo it.

5 Now, spread glue on the front edge of the form (G) in the area shown on the pattern. Position the first strip (F) against the form, then glue on the remaining strips. Align the center marks, and clamp the center. Using the clamping setup from the dry-clamping exercise, pull the lamination to the form. Clamp overnight.

6 Unclamp the lamination. Scrape off any dried glue squeeze-out. Replace the pattern on part G, and bandsaw the inside curve to shape. Drum-sand the handlebar's inside curve, and disc-sand the outside one.

7 Mark the centers for the 3/8" holes on the middle of the handlebar's front edge. Place a fork block (E) on the handlebar, positioning it over the centers for the 3/4" holes. Adjust the block so its front edge lies flush with the front of the handlebar, then fasten the block in that position with double-faced tape. Using the fork block as a guide, bore two 3/4" holes through the handlebar.

8 Install a 5/8" round-over bit in your table-mounted router. Rout all edges of the handlebar, taking four or five light cuts to prevent tearout. Drill the 3/8" holes where shown. Cut the handlebar ends to the length indicated on the pattern. Remove the pattern, and sand the handlebar.

9 Bore a 3/4" hole 3/8" deep in each of two 1 1/2" wooden balls. Grip each ball in a handscrew clamp, and bore the hole with a drill press. File or sand the handlebar ends to fit into the holes, if necessary. Sand the balls, but do not glue them to the handlebar ends.

Dry-clamp the handlebar strips (F) to the form (G) before gluing. This allows you to work out your clamping scheme ahead of time.

Make the seat next

1 Cut the blank for the seat (H) to the size shown. Adhere the full-sized pattern to the blank.

2 Bandsaw the seat. Sand the edge and faces smooth.

3 Drill and countersink the 3/8" holes where shown. Install a 3/8" round-over bit in your table-mounted router, and rout around the top edge of the seat. Sand the seat for finishing.

Paint the small parts

1 Fill the screw holes in the fender skirts. (We used Durham's Rock Hard Water Putty.) Once the filler dries, sand it flush. Finish-sand all parts. Ensure that the fender and skirts are flush. Remove all sanding dust.

2 Mask off the seat-attachment surface on the frame, the stems on two 3/4" button plugs, and the holes in the handlebar-end balls. (We stuck the balls on the ends of a 3/4" dowel.) Then, prime-paint the frame assembly, the fork blocks, the balls, and the plugs. (We sprayed on Krylon no. 1315 sandable, all-purpose white primer.) Allow the primer to dry thoroughly. Sand any rough or uneven spots, then apply another primer coat, if necessary.

3 Apply a durable clear finish to the handlebar and seat. (We used Krylon no. 1301 clear acrylic coating.) First, mask off the area on the bottom of the seat that mates with the frame and 3/8" at the handlebar ends. Also stuff paper into the 3/4" holes through the handlebar to keep finish out of them.

4 Paint the fork blocks, buttons, and balls red. (We applied Krylon no. 2108 banner red.)

Continued
Construct the front fork
1 Cut two 18¼" lengths of ¾" (actual outside diameter) aluminum tubing. (We bought ours at a homecenter.) A tubing cutter or hacksaw and miter box will help ensure square cuts. Remove any burrs left by cutting, and sand the tubes with 220-grit abrasive to give them a brushed look.
2 Measure the thickness of two ½" washers. Add 2¼" to the measurement. Then, cut two pieces equal to that total length from ¾×2" scrapwood. These will serve as spacers when assembling the fork. Also cut three ¾×2×7½" scrapwood pieces.
3 Place the two fork blocks on a flat surface, the screw holes facing up and the faces without round-overrs together. Insert the two short spacers between the blocks (see the photo below). Arrange the three longer pieces as shown, then clamp.
4 Slide the aluminum tubes through the holes in the fork blocks. Push them in until they stop on the crosspiece at the bottom. Chuck a ½" bit in your portable drill, and drill through the tubes, guiding through the holes in the blocks.
5 Slip a #8 flat washer on a #10-24×2¾" roundhead machine screw. Insert the screw through the holes in the fork block and tube, and install a washer and acorn nut on the other end. Do this for all four holes.
6 Grip the front wheel assembly in a vise or handscrew clamp to stand it up. Fit the bottom ends of the fork tubes (the long ends) into the bearing supports on the wheel. Press them in until they bottom. Guiding through the holes in the bearing supports, drill ¾" holes through the tubes. Remove the wheel after drilling the holes. 

Give the bike a flashy finish
1 Now, paint the frame. Our method for painting the yellow-striped red frame begins with a coat of yellow over the entire frame. (We chose Krylon no. 1813 daisy yellow.) For easy painting, pass a dowel through the axle holes, and tie a rope or wire around it between the fender skirts to hang the frame. Allow this coat to dry at least 24 hours.
2 Mask off the area that will be the yellow stripe. Here's how:
- First, establish a reference line ¾" up from and parallel to the bottom edge of the frame. To do so easily, lay on a strip of ¾"-wide masking tape flush with the edge, as shown above left. Instead of ordinary crepe-backed masking tape, we masked with Scotch no. 471 tape, bought from an automotive-paint supplier. Paint won't bleed under this masking tape, employed by auto painters for two-toning, so you'll get a crisp separation between the red body and yellow stripe. We used three tape widths in painting the bike—¾" (no. 06405), ½" (no. 06408), and ¾" (no. 06409).
- Next, carefully cut out the stripe patterns (one on the frame pat-tern, one on the skirt pattern). With a sharp knife, cut out the diamond windows in the patterns. Position the patterns on the bike, aligning the lower edge of the pattern with the top edge of the tape line. Fasten the pattern in place by pressing a piece of tape over each window, shown above.
- Then, tape around the patterns, shown above right, forming a guideline around the stripe. The ¾" tape works well for this. Stretch it on the outside for a smooth curve as you follow the rounded end of the stripe. Connect the guidelines on the
frame with those on the skirt, using strips of tape. Once you have outlined the pattern on the frame and fender skirt, remove the patterns. Repeat the taping procedure on the other side of the bike. To affix the patterns, just peel the tape from the diamond windows, and put it on the other side. Once you have taped both sides, connect the guidelines across the fender to continue the stripe across the back.

- Lay ¼" tape along the inside of the guidelines, in the area where the patterns were. Do not overlap this tape onto the guidelines—you will be removing the taped guidelines later. Press the tape firmly into the corners (we used a putty knife), as shown above. Fill in the entire area inside the guidelines, then remove the guidelines, leaving a taped stripe.

4 Allow the paint to dry, then carefully peel off the masking tape. You can lift a corner of the tape with a knife point to start, but be careful not to poke the point into the paint.
5 Dust off the surface. Spray on two coats of clear finish, following the can label's recommendation for time between coats. Clear-coat the wooden balls, the buttons, and the fork blocks, too.
6 Add accent stripes to the wheels, if desired. (We decorated ours with ¼" yellow striping tape, also purchased from an automotive-paint dealer.)

7 Install the handlebar on the fork, with the acorn nuts pointing toward the rear. The tops of the tubes should be ¾" below the top surface of the handlebar.
8 Guiding through the ¾" holes in the handlebar, drill ¾" holes through the tubes. Drive in #10×1½" sheet-metal screws to secure the handlebar to the fork.
9 Glue the buttons into the holes atop the handlebar, then glue the balls to the ends. Clean off the dust, and clear-coat the assembly. Allow to dry overnight.

Assemble the bike
1 For the fork pivot pin, cut a 4½" length of ¼" steel rod (we bought ours at a homecenter). Drive a ½" axle cap onto one end.
2 Clamp the bottom end of the fork tubes in your vise, then position the front of the fork between the fork blocks. Slide the end of the steel rod into the hole in the bottom fork block. Place a ¼" washer between the bottom of the frame and the top of the block, then push the rod on into the hole in the frame. Place another washer between the top of the frame and the upper fork block, and push the rod on through the upper fork block. Place an axle cap onto the top of the rod, then press it home with a handscrew clamp.
3 Cut a 4" length of ¼" steel rod for the rear axle. Drive an axle cap on one end. Insert the rod through the axle hole on one side of the frame, through a ½" washer, the back wheel, another washer, and out the other frame hole. Press an axle cap on the end.
4 Insert the ends of the fork tubes into the axle supports on the front wheel. Fasten with #10-24×1½" roundhead machine screws, #8 washers, and #10-24 acorn nuts.
5 Finally, spread some glue on the frame where the seat will attach. Position the seat, and drive in two #8×1½" flathead wood screws.

Buying Guide
Wheels. Front wheel and bearing assembly (PW339R) and rear wheel (PW334R), $80.30 ppd. in U.S. Angeles Group, 9 Capper Drive, Dailey Industrial Park, Pacific, MO 63069.
Lumber. Kit containing lumber and marine-grade plywood for one bike, kit W100, $44.95 ppd. in U.S. Heritage Building Specialties, 205 N. Cascade, Fergus Falls, MN 56537, or call 800/524-4184.

Project Design: James R. Downing  Illustrations: Kim Downing; Lorna Johnson  Photographs: John Hetherington; Dean Tanner
The amazing evolution of woodworking
In just a little over 100 years, we’ve gone

Machines began replacing individual handwork in the 19th century. In the new American factories, mechanical power—produced first by water, then steam, and finally electricity—took over from traditional muscle power.

It was a logical step to mechanize hand tools. At the turn of the century, powering them with electric current made sense.

But the first power tools were made for professionals—those who used them the most could best afford their price. However, the Great Depression made the public cost conscious, and reluc-

1895
In Germany, C.E. Fein invents the world’s first electric hand drill. With a DC motor, it weighs 16.5 pounds and drills 9/16" into steel with its 1/2" bit.

1919
Syracuse, New York, patternmaker R.L. Carter founds the R.L. Carter Company to manufacture the first electric routers, a tool he invented by reworking a barber’s clipper.

1923
Delta Specialty Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, offers a hand-operated, benchtop scrollsaw capable of small motorization.

1926
Porter-Cable introduces the world’s first portable belt sander, "The Takeabout." Five years later, dust collection is added to the tool.

1929
Delta markets a combination jointer and tablesaw.
Stanley Tools enters the electric tool business.

Porter-Cable debuts a helical-gear circular saw.

1916
Black and Decker markets the first portable, 1/4" electric drill with pistol grip, trigger switch, and universal motor.

1922
Raymond E. DeWalt perfects the first radial-arm saw and forms a company to produce the DeWalt Wonder-Worker.

1924
In Chicago, theichel Electric Handsaw Company builds the first portable electric circular handsaw. The worm-drive Skil Model E, 8"-blade, 1-hp. saw weighs 10 pounds, and sells for $160. Two years later, its name becomes Skilsaw.

A.F. Seibert establishes Milwaukee Electric Tool and sells the Hole-Shooter, the industry’s first lightweight, one-handed electric drill capable of heavy-duty workloads.

1928
Delta advertises the Handi-Shop, a combination 6" circular saw, lathe, disc sander, and scrollsaw.

Power tools appear for the first time in Sears Roebuck and Company’s mail-order catalog.

Skilsaw Incorporated pioneers diecast aluminum motor housings.
POWER TOOLS
from water power to battery packs

tance to trade a day’s meager pay for a carpenter’s rate encouraged a trend to do-it-yourself.

The postwar building boom of the late 1940s and 1950s inspired manufacturers to refocus tool pro-
duction on the consumer, and more and more power tools became available at affordable prices. Today, there's hardly a household without some type of power tool. And what home woodworker has only one to look to in the shop?

The development of power tools is a fascinating story. Like a chess game, it unfolds with the pieces as important as the players.

1931
Sears Roebuck and Company introduces its first Craftsman power tool catalog.

1936
Delta offers a ball-bearing, reversible wood shaper.

1937
Delta develops the first tilting-arbor table saw, the Unisaw.

1949
Skillsaw Incorporated enters consumer market with 6” circular saw, ¼” drill, and for the first time begins distri-bution through hardware stores.

Milwaukee Electric Tool introduces the industry's first right-angle drill, allowing plumbers and electricians to work in tight quarters.

1930
Delta first markets a 12” bandsaw and combination lathe, routing, boring, and mortising machine.

1932
A.J. Dremel, a Racine, Wisconsin, engineer and inventor, launches the Dremel Manufacturing Company to sell his electric Moto-Tool to woodworking hobbyists.

1942
Black and Decker uses plastic for the first time in portable drill housings.

1946
Black and Decker introduces the first portable electric drill made for do-it-yourselfers, the Home Utility line.

German Albert Kaufmann equips his wife's sewing machine with a saw blade to cut curves, and invents the jigsaw.

Hans Goldschmidt of Dayton, Ohio, invents a combination woodworking machine that becomes the Shopsmith.
1950
Porter-Cable first offers its Model 100 router, a portable power tool still in production.

1953
Black and Decker produces the first finishing sander and jigsaws for the consumer market.

1956
Porter-Cable introduces first portable reciprocating saw with orbital blade.

1957
Black and Decker unveils first heavy-duty routers.
Swiss cabinetmaker Herman Steiner patents the world's first plate (biscuit) joiner and forms the Steiner-Lamello company.
Skil debuts portable oscillating sander, router, and jigsaw.

1961
Black and Decker introduces world's first cordless drill, powered by self-contained, nickel-cadmium batteries.

1963
Sears Craftsman adds the silicon-controlled rectifier on the switch of its 3/8" drill, allowing it to operate at different speeds without losing power.
Porter-Cable patents their first high-speed, small-orbit finishing sander. (The Sterling sander was first offered by them in 1949.)

1951
Milwaukee Electric Tool presents the first portable electric reciprocating saw, still referred to as the Sawzall.

1959
Sears Craftsman offers the 5-in-1 Power Workshop: 8" bench saw, disc sander, sabresaw, and jointer-planer in one unit.

1955
Skil perfects method of brazing carbide tungsten to metal.

1962
Skil markets the first double-insulated electric tool in U.S., the Model 1706 Roto Hammer for professionals. Also develops, patents, and produces the first variable-speed drill with a trigger speed-control switch.

1966
Black and Decker debuts the new DeWalt line of industrial radial-arm saws.

1967
Rockwell produces the world's first motorized miter box, a 9" model.

1974
Milwaukee Electric Tool presents the first 1/2" professional pistol drill.
1978
Advanced Machinery Imports offers Hegner's West German-designed parallel-arm, walking-beam scrollsaw to the U.S. and stimulates resurgence of scrollsawing.

1980
The Stanley Works sells its portable power tool division to Robert Bosch Company.

1982
R.B. Industries first markets its American-made, constant-tension, C-frame scrollsaw, called the Eagle.

Working in his garage shop, Michigan patternmaker and inventor Jim Clayton creates the first oscillating spindle sander for the home wood shop.

1983
Sears Craftsman introduces three portable electric tools—a drill, jigsaw, and sander driven by the same interchangeable power pack.

1985
Delta International introduces benchtop tools and the C-arm electronic variable-speed high-performance, scrollsaw, benchtop tablesaw.

1986
Performax Products, Incorporated introduces pro-style drum sander for the home shop that adapts to a radial-arm saw.

1987
Makita launches major cordless power tool campaign offering 15 different 7.2-volt tools that share the same battery pack.

1988
Black and Decker advances cordless technology with the introduction of Univoit Universal Voltage Charger System featuring interchangeable energy packs.

1992
DeWalt comes out with full line of professional-quality portable power tools.

Porter-Cable markets first palm-grip orbital sander.

1995
Porter-Cable produces the first sander developed specifically for sanding profiles, moldings, and odd angles.

1993
Fein markets the first triangle head electric sander.

1997
Sears Craftsman reintroduces a 1952-design benchtop radial drill press with 360° head rotation.

Powermatic debuts its special 2-hp. lathe designed with the input of professional woodturner Rude Oslonik.

Editor's note: The information contained in this power tool time line was gathered with the aid of cooperating manufacturers as well as independent research. Space limitations prevent all-inclusive information. Historical reader input would be appreciated.

Written by Peter J. Stephano Photographs and advertisements courtesy of the manufacturers Illustrations: Brian Jenson
How you can get involved in the WOODWORKING HALL OF FAME™

To be considered for induction into WOOD Magazine’s Woodworking Hall of Fame, nominees must:

- Have made (need not be living) or be making a significant impact in the North American woodworking field through one (or more) of the following areas: design, craftsmanship, education, research, product development, and public service.
- Have made or be making their contribution(s) in the 20th century.

To submit a candidate for nomination, please include a short biography of the person and a statement regarding his/her accomplishments and impact on woodworking. Send submissions to WOOD Magazine’s Woodworking Hall of Fame, 1912 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309-3379.

Receipt cannot be acknowledged. A selection committee will select the nominees and vote in each year's inductees. Names will be announced in the October issue.

Find out more about our Hall of Fame members

- Visit Grey Towers, the former family home of forester Gifford Pinchot at Milford, Pennsylvania. The USDA Forest Service maintains the estate as a national historic landmark open to the public from April through November.
- If you’re in the vicinity, view Rude Osolnik’s work in the collections of Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts at Gatlinburg, Tennessee; the Smithsonian Museum’s Renwick Gallery in Washington, D.C.; Chicago’s Museum of Science and Industry; and the High Museum of Art in Atlanta. Rude’s studio is in the hills outside Berea, Kentucky.
- See Judy Gale Roberts’ largest intarsia panel to date (14x20”) at Dow Chemical’s Oyster Creek, Texas, office, and other pieces at her working studio in Sevierville, Tennessee, near Gatlinburg.
- You’ll find Wharton Esherick’s furniture and sculpture in the collections of New York City’s Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City. You can see his handcrafted home and studio at The Wharton Esherick Museum, in rural Malvern (near Valley Forge), Pennsylvania, open to the public Saturday and Sunday from March through December.
- You’ll view many items from Frank Knox’s legacy of ornamental turnings at the Wood Turning Center in Philadelphia.
- Marvel at Silas Kopf’s unparalleled artistry in wood in the permanent collections of the Yale University Art Gallery and the Springfield, Massachusetts Museum of Fine Arts. Silas lives and works in Northampton, Massachusetts, but teaches at workshops and seminars around the nation.
- See the beautiful decorative decoys done by Len and Steve Ward in the public displays of the Ward Foundation Museum in Salisbury, Maryland; the American Folk Art Museum in New York City; Birmingham, Alabama’s Museum of Art; and the Shelburne Museum, in Burlington, Vermont.

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Circle No. 46
Unlocking the mystery of the lock miter bit

I recently purchased one of the lock miter bits you discussed in the February 1996 issue. However, the shape of the bit presents a few unique problems. First, the bit height and the fence position must remain fixed, making multiple passes difficult. Second, I need to hold the workpiece stable during vertical end cuts. Is there a jig, or a pair of jigs, that would help with the horizontal and vertical end cuts?

—David Swick, Accokeek, Md.

David, we agree that it’s a good idea to make multiple passes with large bits like the lock miter bit. You can make multiple passes for horizontal cuts with a miter gauge and extension (see illustration at right). Instead of moving the fence, simply move the workpiece toward the fence in increments.

To make vertical end cuts, the auxiliary fence and sliding T-square jig (shown below) will help you confidently make accurate, multiple-pass cuts. The auxiliary fence adds height to the original fence, providing a more stable surface for vertical end or edge cuts. It also provides a rail on which the T-square jig can ride, and keeps the workpiece from dropping into the bit opening.

First, make the auxiliary fence at least 8" high and as long as the table. Next, cut an opening for the bit. Then, screw or bolt the auxiliary fence to the existing fence, countersink the heads, and check the fence for square with the table. Finally, construct the sliding T-square jig (see illustration on page 88) to stabilize the workpiece for vertical end cuts.

To make multiple passes in a vertical cut without adjusting the fence, use spacers between the carrier board and the workpiece. For instance, to make the joint for ¾" material in three passes, use a ¾"-thick spacer for the first pass, ⅛" for the second, and none for the last.

Our project builder, Chuck Hedlund, also suggests that when working with the lock miter bit, you hang onto sample pieces of both horizontal and vertical cuts. Saving the samples will help you adjust the fence and bit height the next time you work with your lock miter bit.

Have a question for our woodworking experts?

No matter how simple or perplexing your woodworking problem, we would love to hear from you. We’ll do our level best to solve your mystery, and you might even find your question and our reply on this page.

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Continued on page 88
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Circle No. 965

Circle No. 230
But my saw just won't do it

Several projects I've attempted call for a 60° cut, but my tablesaw and bandsaw only go to 45°. Do you know of a technique that will help me?

—Ron Guidici, ronaldggi.com

With the help of fences, Ron, both your tablesaw and bandsaw can make cuts greater than 45° if you go to a vertical cut. To provide a stable surface for the vertical cut, construct an auxiliary fence like the one right. Make the fence 8” high and at least as long as your rip fence. Check for square between the fence and the table. For short cuts on workpiece ends, simply clamp the auxiliary fence to your existing rip fence and put the sliding T-square jig to work. For longer cuts, secure the fence with countersunk screws.

To calculate your setting for a cut greater than 45°, subtract the cut angle from 90° to determine where to set the blade (tablesaw) or the table (bandsaw). In your case, 90 minus 60 equals 30. To make the 60° vertical cut on your tablesaw, set the blade at 30°. To make the cut on your bandsaw, tilt the table 30°. In either case, the result will be a 60° cut.
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When carbide goes bad

Over the years, WOOD Magazine has answered every question about carbide saw blades except one. How do you tell when a carbide blade needs resharpening or replacement? And, how do you go about getting it sharpened?

—Merrin Willman, Schertz, Texas

Merwin, here are a few clues to help you diagnose the condition of your blade. First, burn spots and the need to slow feed rates indicate a dulling blade. Second, crosscutting with a dull blade will burnish or polish the cut end instead of leaving the pores open. Third, look for a buildup of pitch on the teeth. Pitch will gather on the teeth because a dull blade will build up more heat than a sharp one. Finally, look for chips in the teeth and even for missing teeth.

Our expert tool testers offer these hints about selecting someone to sharpen your favorite blades. Find a sharpener with a good reputation by consulting some of the professional woodworkers in your area. And, make sure they wet-grind with computer-controlled equipment. This method helps maintain the blade's balance and the carbide's temper. Finally, ask if they can offer some versatility in the coarseness of the grind. A coarser grind, like a serrated knife edge, will not cut as cleanly but will hold its edge longer. If you often work with expensive veneers, a finer grind for cleaner cuts might be a better choice.
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Tooling Up for IDEA SHOP 3

Value, compactness, noise suppression, and efficient dust collection guided our choices

Have you ever wondered what tools the editors of WOOD® magazine choose for their own shops? Well, like you, our woodworking interests vary, so each staffer prefers different tools. But, we did manage to put our heads together and agree on a selection of tools and accessories that suit the requirements of IDEA SHOP 3.

First and foremost, we chose quality equipment that performs well and stands up to workshop rigors. But, we didn’t throw our budget to the wind. Instead, we kept a close watch on price tags and selected items that we feel are good values.

We also considered the special requirements of our basement space. When it made sense, we chose benchtop machines to save on floor space.

And, we favored products with effective dust collection or noise suppression. For example, the Porter-Cable shop vacuum is quieter than most vacs and has a filter that captures fine dust particles.

To keep down the roar from our saws, we outfitted them with “quiet” circular blades such as the Freud miter saw blade with noise-dampening features. We muffled the Forrest Woodworker II blade in our tablesaw by sandwiching it between a pair of 4” blade stiffeners.

In the list on page 94 we break down the IDEA SHOP 3 tools into four categories for quick reference. Perhaps you’ll find a tool or two perfectly suited to your shop!

Bill Krier
Assistant Managing Editor

Continued on page 94
Earn $1,000 a Week in Your Spare Time.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Calls</th>
<th>Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 service calls</td>
<td>$180 Mon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 service calls</td>
<td>$250 Wed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 service calls</td>
<td>$200 Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 service calls</td>
<td>$380 Sat</td>
</tr>
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Circle No. 1312

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end cap, flush against the end (B) and sides (A). Do not glue the blocks to A and B.

5 Cut the swivel-caster mount (E) to the length of the opening minus ½". Bevel-rip one edge at 15° where shown on the Exploded View drawing. Mark and cut a pair of 1" radiuses on opposite corners. Drill the mounting holes, and bolt a pair of 2" swivel casters to the bottom side of the mount (E).

6 Mount a pair of 1½" butt hinges 2½" long to the bottom side of the caster mount (E). (After twisting off several of the screws supplied with the hinges, we used #10×½" panhead sheet-metal screws to secure the hinges to the caster mount.) Then, drill the pilot holes and screw the hinges to the end (B) where dimensioned on the Swivel Caster drawing.

Add the angle iron and leveling glides next

1 Hacksaw a pair of ¼×1½" angle iron pieces cut to the length of the opening minus ¼". With a cloth and paint thinner, thoroughly clean the angle iron before bringing it in contact with your wood.

2 Drill equally spaced mounting holes through the angle iron. See the side (A) on the Parts View for spacing. Next, transfer the hole centerpoints to the inside face of the sides (A). Using a high-speed steel countersink bit, countersink the holes on the inside face of each piece of angle iron.

3 Disassemble the tool base, and drill the mounting holes through the sides (A) for attaching the angle iron. Counterbore the holes on the outside face of the sides (A) for housing the T-nuts.

4 Cut a 1½" radius on the bottom corners of the sides (A) where shown on the drawings.

5 Mark the centerpoints, and drill the mounting holes for the ¾" threaded inserts on the bottom edge of the sides, 2½" in from the ends where shown on the Swivel Caster drawing.

6 For ease in driving the inserts into the sides (A), cut the head off a ¾×3" bolt. Double-nut the bolt and thread the insert onto the bottom of the bolt below the nuts. Chuck the assembly into your drill press, and turn the chuck by hand to drive the insert squarely into the mounting hole. Repeat for the second insert.

Add the cam-action foot lever

1 Transfer the patterns from the cam lever (F) to the full-sized lever (G) and the toekick (H) to ¾" stock, and bandsaw them to shape. Sand the edges to remove the saw marks.

2 Drill a ¼" hole through the cam lever for attaching it to the end cap (C) later. Mark the centerpoint, and drill a mating pilot hole in the end cap used at the swivel caster end of the base.

3 Drill a pair of mounting holes through the cam lever and into the toekick. Glue and screw the toekick to the cam lever.

Final assembly and finishing

1 Remove the casters from the base. Remove the hinges from parts B and E.

2 Glue and screw the base ends (B) between the sides (A), checking for square. Screw the end caps (C) in place.

3 Add a clear finish or paint the pieces the same color as the machine it will support. Be careful not to get any finish in the threaded inserts used to house the levelers. Paint the angle iron.

4 Drive the panhead sheet-metal screws to hinge the caster mount (E) to the end (B).

5 Use a wrench to drive the ½" lag screw connecting the cam lever (F) to the end cap (C).

6 Tap the T-nuts in place, and secure the angle iron to the base sides. Bolt the casters in place.

7 Add the levelers. Raise the levelers so the base rests on the levelers when the cam lever is flipped to the right side, raising the caster mount and swivel casters. When you want to move the tool, flip the cam lever to the left to lower the casters.
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Hammerite finish ideal for shop fixtures

Wouldn’t it be nice to put a finish on your shop cabinets that’s tough enough to stand up to everyday dings and gouges? I recently tried a paint that many machine manufacturers have used for years to protect tools from wear and tear.

Hammerite Hammered Metal Finish produces a glossy, pebbled finish, and comes in a dozen metallic colors. Originally designed as a one-step, anti-rust coating for metal, it contains tiny particles of tempered glass and aluminum that give the paint a super-tough finish when it cures completely.

I used Hammerite finish on several IDEA SHOP™ 3 cabinets and fixtures that were made from inexpensive medium-density fiberboard (MDF) and particleboard. After sealing the edges with oil-based primer, I applied the paint with a short-napped, cutpile roller. Hammerite goes on thick enough in one coat to hide minor imperfections in the wood, and lap marks easily blend together.

While it dries to the touch in 30 minutes and can be handled after drying overnight, it takes six weeks for Hammerite to cure fully. But the custom appearance and extreme durability make it worth the wait.

—Tested by Jan Hale Seco

PRODUCT SCORECARD

Hammerite Hammered Metal Finish
Performance ★★★★★
Price About $12.50 per quart
Value ★★★★★
Hammerite Products, P.O. Box 11047, Tacoma, WA 98409. Call 800/733-4413.

Put disposable knives in any jointer or planer

Have you ever put off changing the knives in your planer or jointer because of the struggle it takes to get them reset perfectly? Have you wished for a disposable knife system like those available on some of the newer 12" portable planers? Well, your wish—and mine—has been granted.

Esta-USA offers a disposable knife system that enables you to retrofit virtually any planer or jointer, from the smallest benchtop units to 36" industrial models. With the Dispos-A-Blade system, you replace the original knives with two-piece units comprised of a knife holder and a twin-edged, disposable knife.

You adjust the knife height for the system only once. For subsequent knife changes, you simply loosen the gib, slide the holders out, flip the knives over or replace them with a new set. Then, you reinstall the holders in the cutterhead, and tighten down the gibs. The knives fit over two alignment pins on the holder, and two small magnets in the face of the holder keep the knives in position.

You should be able to change knives and be back up and running in 10-15 minutes. Just try doing that with your regular knives!

The knives, available in high-speed steel and cobalt, come with an unbelievably sharp edge. The high-speed steel set I installed in my 12" Belsaw planer produced the finest cut of any knives I’ve used. Such a fine edge nicks easily, but if you do nick the knives, simply shift them slightly to offset the nicks and maintain a smooth cut. Deep nicks require switching edges or buying new knives, since they can’t be resharpened.

The cost to retrofit my planer with three holders and knives was $173, including shipping and handling. A three-piece set of twin-edged replacement knives runs only $60—what original equipment knives cost. That’s also about what I’d expect to pay to have the three 12" original knives resharpened twice, at a cost of $10 per knife. But even if they cost more, the Dispos-A-Blade knives would be worth it in the time they save you if you mill a lot of lumber.

—Tested by Dave Henderson

PRODUCT SCORECARD

Esta-USA Dispos-A-Blade jointer and planer knife retrofit system
Performance ★★★★★
Price $173 as tested
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Esta-USA, Hillside Road, Barryville, NY 12719. Call 914/557-8092.

Continued on page 114
Performax Drum Sanders continue to make those once-difficult sanding jobs easy.

New, solid-steel in-feed and out-feed tables are now available for all 16-32 models at a Special Introductory Price of $79.95. Multiple craft pieces, as short as 2 1/4", and veneers as thin as 1/64" can be sanded more efficiently with an additional 3 sq. ft. of workspace. The in-feed and out-feed support is also a real advantage for easier handling of longer, rough-sawn boards.

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Molded sanding blocks

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To mix the putty, you knead equal pieces of the two parts together and place the mixture on a mounting block. Press the putty onto the molding you want to sand, and leave it to harden for 15 minutes. A grid pattern on the bottom of the mounting block holds the sanding block in place.

The putty conforms so well on sharp inside corners that it doesn't always allow for the thickness of the sandpaper, resulting in a flimsy edge. However, I found that placing a couple of layers of masking tape on the molding prior to applying the putty compensated for this, and gave me better-fitting blocks. The SandForm kit should yield 7-10, 1/4 x 2 1/4" reusable blocks.

—Tested by Bob McFarlin

PRODUCT SCORECARD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SandForm</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<td>★★★★☆☆☆</td>
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Storehorse Folding Sawhorse not a one-trick pony

If you're like me, you probably consider sawhorses a necessary evil—handy, but usually just in the way. However, a folding sawhorse with a host of accessories could change the way you feel about "old paint."

The Storehorse XL Folding Sawhorse, a strong but lightweight sawhorse made from recycled plastic, stands 30" high, has a built-in shelf between the legs, and folds to 2" thick. Weighing only 12 pounds, it will support 500 pounds. You'll definitely want the "optional" Top Protector ($4.99), but I found the Storehorse's ease of use and storage worth the $25 total price tag.

But the folks at Storehorse have added a number of slick accessories that expand this sawhorse's capabilities. The Hobbyte ($19.99) attaches as shown at right, to give you a 20x30" horizontal worktop, and tilts to serve as drafting table. I loaded various benchtop tools onto the top, and it provided a stable and handy work surface.

The Cord 'N Plug ($15.99), a six-outlet powerstrip with a circuit breaker, clips to the Storehorse's leg near the top or below the shelf. V-notched SawBucks ($9.99) snap on to hold round or odd-shaped materials, as well as a 2x10.

The only option I didn't care for was the Outfeed Roller ($15.99). Although it adjusts easily to various heights, the roller doesn't spin freely, and it's just too small to handle heavy sheet goods.

—Tested by Bob McFarlin

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— The WOOD magazine gang
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*Overstrike test conducted by striking hammer handle against metal object. © 1974 The Stanley Works.