

SAFETY

- Never place your fingers near the cutter. Always use a brush or similar to clear shavings from around the cutter.
- Always wear eye protection whenever operating power tools. Use of a dust mask and ear muffs is also recommended.
- Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery when operating power tools. Tie back long hair.
- Ensure power is disconnected before replacing cutters or making any adjustments near the cutter.
- Always start and finish with the Finger Jointer fully forward, with the cutter hidden by the fixed fence.

PRACTICE JOINT (2 Workpieces) Fig 6

1. Cut two practice pieces of the same width and thickness as the intended workpieces. Ensure they are cut squarely.
2. Release the adjustable fence and insert the practice pieces between the fences at one end, then lock the fence at that end and repeat at the opposite end. The pieces should fit neatly between the MDF faces, with just room to slide.
3. Slide the Finger Jointer to the starting position at the front (switch box) end of the Router Table.
4. Fit the Initial cut stop as shown in **Fig 5a & b**. Slide it forward or backward until the stop is approximately halfway between the fences.
5. Slide the practice pieces against the stop and use a G-clamp, or similar, to hold them in this offset position as shown in in **Fig 6**.



Fig. 6

6. Turn on the vacuum and start the router. Hold the practice pieces against the stop and down onto the table while pushing the Finger Jointer slowly forward until it stops, then slide it slowly back to the start position.
7. Lift the pieces out and blow any shavings from between the fences. **Note:** It is only from the first and last cut that some shavings will escape.
8. Remove the initial cut stop and replace the practice pieces with the first cut locating onto the finger.

Make the second cut and follow this procedure for all remaining cuts. For each cut, ensure the previous cut locates fully onto the finger and that there is no build-up of shavings beneath the work. **Note:** Feed the work slowly through the cutter for best quality of cuts and to avoid breakage of the more fragile $\frac{1}{4}$ " cutters.

ADJUSTING FOR AN OPTIMUM JOINT

1. Test the fit of the joint. Ideally the pieces should fit closely with a small clearance for glue. If too loose or too tight adjust the position of the finger as detailed below. This adjustment is critical as less than 0.5mm can be the difference between too tight and too loose.

Check there is no gap between the finger (**31** or **32**) and the stop (**33**). If necessary loosen the stop and re-tighten it against the finger.

$\frac{1}{2}$ " JOINTS

IF THE JOINT IS TOO TIGHT - reposition the finger towards the cutter.

Loosen the finger, use a spacer (eg. a few pieces of paper) to move the finger away from the stop, then re-lock. Relocate the stop up against the finger, to store the position.

IF THE JOINT IS TOO LOOSE - reposition the finger away from the cutter.

Loosen the stop, use a spacer (eg. a few pieces of paper) to move the stop away from the finger, then re-lock. Relocate the finger up against the stop.

$\frac{1}{4}$ " JOINTS

IF THE JOINT IS TOO TIGHT - reposition the finger toward the cutter.

Loosen the stop, use a spacer (eg. a few pieces of paper) to move the stop away from the finger, then re-lock. Relocate the finger up against the stop.

IF THE JOINT IS TOO LOOSE - reposition the finger away from the cutter.

Loosen the finger, use a spacer (eg. a few pieces of paper) to move the finger away from the stop, then re-lock. Relocate the stop up against the finger, to store the position.

2. The set up described will result in a half width first finger. The width of the first and last fingers can be adjusted by re-positioning the initial cut stop and its' supports. Move the initial cut stop away from the slider to increase the width of the first finger, or towards the slider to reduce it. Keep the stop within the range marked "X" in **Fig. 7a & b**.
3. The fingers should protrude about 0.5mm past the face of the mating workpiece. This allows them to be sanded (or trimmed, using a flush trim cutter) to a perfectly matched joint.

If the fingers are below the face of the mating workpiece, increase the cutter depth as required.