WOOD CHIPS

Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association
Volume 28, Issue 8 August 2023

President's Corner

Greetings Fellow Woodworkers, how is your August going? This month has flown by and here we are preparing for the picnic. The Annual Picnic will be held at the **VFW** located at **2803 Monnier Street Portage IN**. Start time is 1:00 PM. The club will supply Chicken, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, & Brats also sodas and bottled water other beverages are available in the social quarters. Please bring a covered dish to share and or a dessert. Summer games will be available; Horseshoes, Bags, and Bingo. We need you to bring a wrapped gift or two for BINGO prizes. We need enough for everyone to receive a BINGO prize.

August program will be our own George Denton demonstrating dove tails.

Our club is once again manning a booth at this years Fall Harvest Festival And Antique Equipment Show, it is on Sept. 22nd, 23rd and 24th from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM each day. Set up is September 21st at 1 PM (exact time will be determined at this meeting) . If you can help at our booth sign up at the next club meeting what days and times you can help. We also are asking members to donate items they have made for the club to sell and raise funds for our programs. If you cannot attend the tractor show please bring items to our regular club meeting Thursday. August meeting is the last meeting before the show!

Our EDUCATIONAL RAFFLE time is here, get yours **NOW**. We need your help for the 2023 Raffle!

Date for the Picnic has been changed to Sunday August 27th 1:00 PM and the venue has been changed to VFW in **2803 Monnier Street** Portage this year.

Bill Schoech, reminds us that it is NOT too early to start making toys for our kids program.

Road Trip; 2023 JOHNSON'S WOOD EXPO is SEPTEMBER 8 & 9, 2023 | FRIDAY 9:00 - 5:00 | SATURDAY 9:00 - 4:00 | CHARLOTTE MI (theworkbench.com)

Consider scheduling a shop visit and get your 2023 dues paid by the club.

Enjoy this weather and Don't let your tools rust!

Your President, Kevin Sturgeon

SHOW AND TELL

Kevin Sturgeon

Norm Johnson

Jeff Snellgrove

Jon Robbins

Ken Woolard

PROGRAM

Member Jeff Snellgrove demonstrated carving a squirrel.

ITEMS FOR SALE

If you have any wood working related items that you wish to sell through the newsletter please contact John Hunter john.b.hunter@frontier.com **Include a description and the price you are selling them for, also how you may be contacted.**

If you are looking for a tool that another member would like to sell you can place a wanted ad in the newsletter, just contact John Hunter at john.b.hunter@frontier.com

2023

August 24th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN 7:00 PM

August 27th Club Picnic at VFW Post at 2803 Monnier Street, Portage IN 46368 12:00 Noon

September 20th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN 7:00 PM

September 21st Setup booth for Fall Harvest Festival And Antique Equipment Show

September 22nd – 24th Club Booth at Fall Harvest Festival And Antique Equipment Show

9:00 – 5:00

September 28th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN 7:00 PM Program Favorite/Least Favorite tools & Silent Auction

October 2nd Executive Board Meeting 5 PM at Portage Moose Lodge on County Line Road

October 18th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN 7:00 PM

October 26th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN 7:00 PM

November 8th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN 7:00 PM

November 16th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN 7:00 PM Toy Program

December 6th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN 7:00 PM

December 14th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN 6:00 PM Christmas Party, Installation and Awards

Woodworking Tips

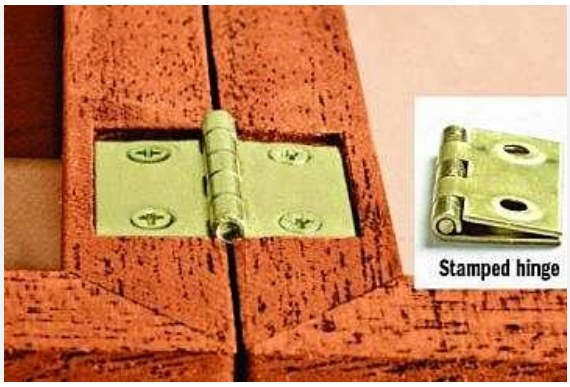
Mortising Perfect-fit Box Hinges

Watch a video of this process.

After painstakingly crafting a beautiful box, you want the hinge installation to provide a perfectly aligned lid with a gap-free fit. Accomplishing that involves careful layout and work, but lies within the grasp of any woodworker with sharp tools.

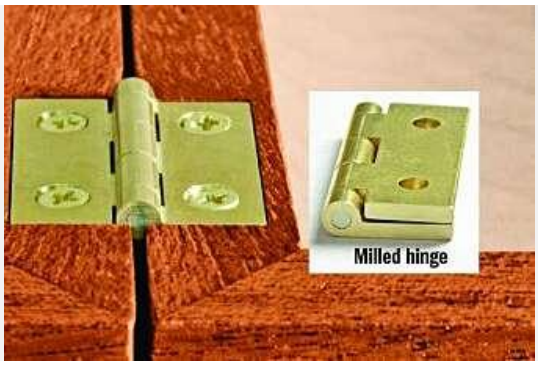
Practice these techniques on scrap first, including installing the hinges. In addition to building your confidence, you'll see how the depth of the mortise affects the gap between the closed test pieces, and how the position of the barrel determines the gap between them with the lid open.

Choose your hinge



The leaves of stamped hinges rest below the surface of the box and lid—a less-tidy appearance.

Box hinges come in two types: stamped **(*above*)**and milled **(*below*)**. While both work well, the difference in their prices reflects the difference in fit and finish. Stamped hinges sell for about $2 per pair at home centers and hardware stores, and the small amount of play between the leaves and hinge pin won't affect the lid operation. But because the combined leaves are thinner than the barrel, the leaves must sit below the surface for a gap-free fit between the closed lid and box.



Sturdy milled hinges sit flush with the box surface, providing a craftsman's touch to any box. Milled hinges cost $25 per pair and up. For this investment, you get beefier leaves, a more finished appearance, a better fitting hinge pin, and larger, longer screws.

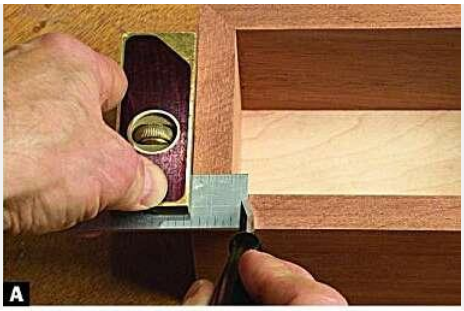
Start with layout

Make your own heirloom marking knife and gauge.

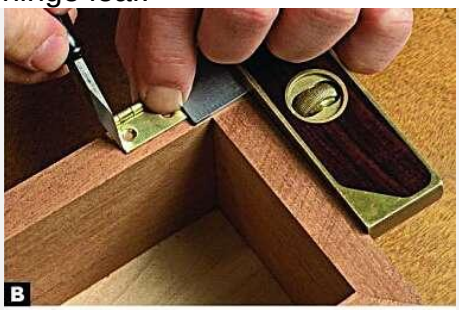
Each mating mortise in the lid and box must be ever-so-slightly shallower than half of the hinge's barrel thickness (the thickest portion of the hinge). This creates a gap-free fit between

the box and closed lid. And positioning the hinge so the barrel centerline sits just outside the box provides the smallest possible gap when the lid is open, without causing binding.

Mortises sized for precise fits begin with precise layout. A marking knife and marking gauge score clean, narrow lines, so we recommend them for marking the hinge locations. Follow the steps in **Photos A–D, *following,*** to score exact-size mortises.



Set your combination square to determine the outside end of a hinge. Score along the end of the square blade the width of a hinge leaf.

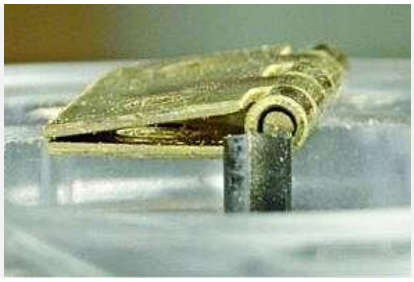


Leave the square in place, butt a hinge against it, and score along the end of the hinge. This spaces the knife marks the exact width of the hinge.

Set a marking gauge so the cutter falls just below the middle of the hinge barrel. The farther below the center, the larger the gap between lid and box with the lid open.

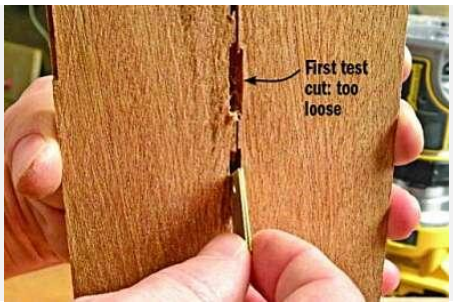
Strike along each hinge location, connecting the knife marks.

Rout away the bulk



Set the bit depth slightly less than half of the barrel thickness for a stamped hinge (shown); or the same as the thickness of a leaf for a milled hinge.

Test your setup on two pieces of scrap clamped together. Rout across both pieces, forming a recess along the mating edges.



For cleanest cuts, use a down-cut spiral router bit. A trim router with a ⅛ " straight bit quickly removes the bulk of the waste in each mortise [**Photos E–G, *above***]. The bit creates a flat bottom that serves as a reference when you chisel out the remaining waste. After completing the mortises on the box, use them to help lay out the mating mortises on the lid

A too-deep mortise causes the lid to bind, preventing it from closing. A too-shallow mortise creates a gap between the lid and box.

Mark, drill, and screw

After creating perfectly sized mortises, make sure the screws hold the hinges exactly where intended. Driving a screw into an off-center hole pulls the hinge out of alignment.

Brass hinges come with soft brass screws, so to prevent damaging them, drive steel screws of the same size while checking hinge placement. Drive the brass screws only for final assembly. And use a handheld screwdriver, which provides more control than a drill/driver.