

WOOD CHIPS



Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association

Volume 30, Issue 2 February 2025

WOODEN YOU LIKE TO KNOW

Greetings fellow woodworkers,

I hope that this cold and snowy weather hasn't gotten the best of anyone, and that February finds you well and be pursuing the art that we all love. I saw this little joke on the internet the other day and I thought it was worth passing along....

Employment Standards determined a small woodworking shop owner was not paying proper wages for his help and sent an agent out to interview him. "I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them," demanded the agent. "Well, there's Jake my finisher who's been with me for 3 years, I pay him \$900 a week. The apprentice Tom has been here for 6 months, and I pay him \$500 a week. Then there's the half-wit that works here about 18 hours a day. He makes \$10 a week and I buy him a case of beer every Friday," replied the owner. "That's the guy I want to talk to; the half-wit," says the agent."

The owner says, "That would be me.

The things that we create in our shops are art. We do it strictly for the love of the art. Please bring your favorite pieces to share with the other artists in the club.

REMINDERS:

Beginning in March the committee meetings will also begin at 6:00 PM.

This month's meeting will be on February 27th @ 6 pm at Hobart Moose

This month's program will be Jigs and Fixtures.

See you at the next meeting,

Jeff Snellgrove

President NIWA

“VICE PRESIDENTS CORNER”

Fellow Woodworkers and Woodcrafters,

As a NIWA member for four years, I've seen our association improve through group toy builds, committee participation, successful tractor shows sales, and on our charity toy event. I've enjoyed working with everyone involved.

We would appreciate more participation and input from members on what they expect from our club. To assist with this, our President will distribute a questionnaire this month. It's a chance for the leadership team to hear your thoughts. Please participate.

Your Vice President,

George Denton

“FROM THE TREASURER”

Money talks,

Welcome to 2025. We have entered the year in very good financial shape. Thanks to our concerted efforts by our members in selling raffle tickets and donating items at the 3 shows we attended last year. This year's raffle prizes have increased. The 1st prize is now \$500, 2nd prize is \$300 and 3rd prize is \$100. Contact John Fluck for new tickets.

We are also growing our membership. We have signed up 3 new members so far this year, putting us at 56. Welcome aboard to Tom Neuffer, Matt Siebert and Mike Szewczyk.

Did you know you can pay for your membership early. If you pay before May, you will achieve 1 point towards your awards total.

Let's make this another great year.

SHOW AND TELL



Don Miller



Dennis Byron



Norm Johnson



Kevin Sturgeon



George Denton



Susan Bunce



Kevin Klebs

PROGRAM

This month's program was put on by member Bryant Mitol, unfortunately the pictures did not come out.

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

2025

February 27th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM Shop Jigs

March 19th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

March 27th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

April 7th Executive Board Meeting 5:00 PM at Portage Moose Lodge on County Line Road

April 16th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

April 24th Membership Meeting at at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM 2 x 4 Challenge

May 14th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

May 23rd Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

June 18th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

June 26th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

July 7th Executive Board Meeting 5 PM at Portage Moose Lodge on County Line Road

July 10th Set Up Club Booth at Steam Show 3 PM at Lake County Fair Grounds

July 11th – 13th Club Booth at the Steam Show at Lake County Fair Grounds

July 16th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

July 24th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

July 31st Set up booth for Lake County Fair **Time to be announced**

August 1st – 4th Work booth at Lake County Fair

August 20th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

August 28th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

August 31st Club Picnic at the Portage VFW at 2803 Monnier St. In Portage IN

12:00 Noon

September 17th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

September 25th Setup booth for Fall Harvest Festival And Antique Equipment Show

September 26th – 28th Work both at Harvest Festival and Equipment Show 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

September 25th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM Program Favorite/Least Favorite tools & Silent Auction

October 6th Executive Board Meeting 5 PM at Portage Moose Lodge on County Line Road

October 15th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

October 23rd Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

November 12th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

November 20th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM Toy Program

December 10th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

December 18th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM Christmas Party, Installation and Awards

WOODWORKING TIPS

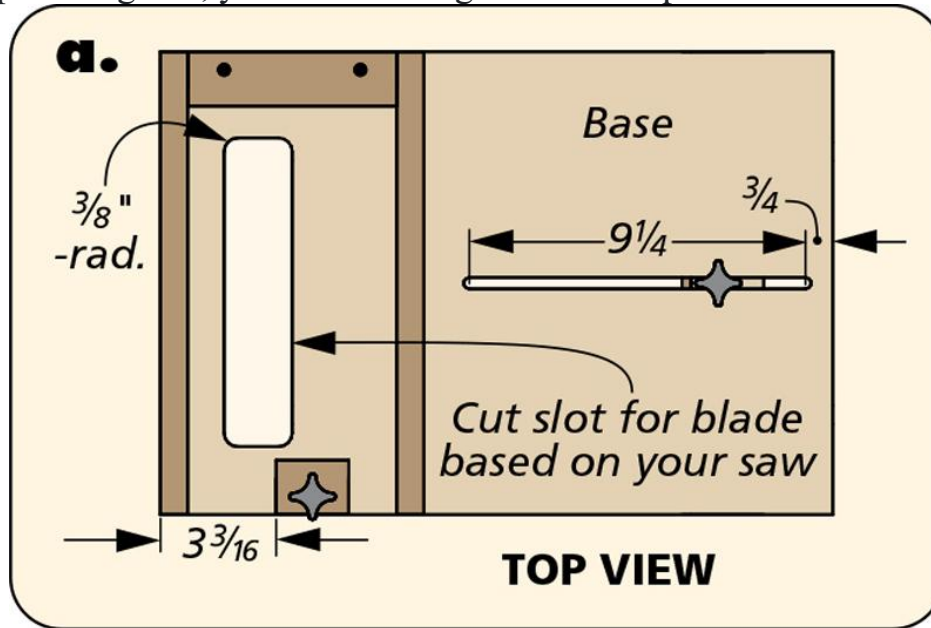
Circular Saw Edge Guide

By: Erich Lage & Rob Petrie

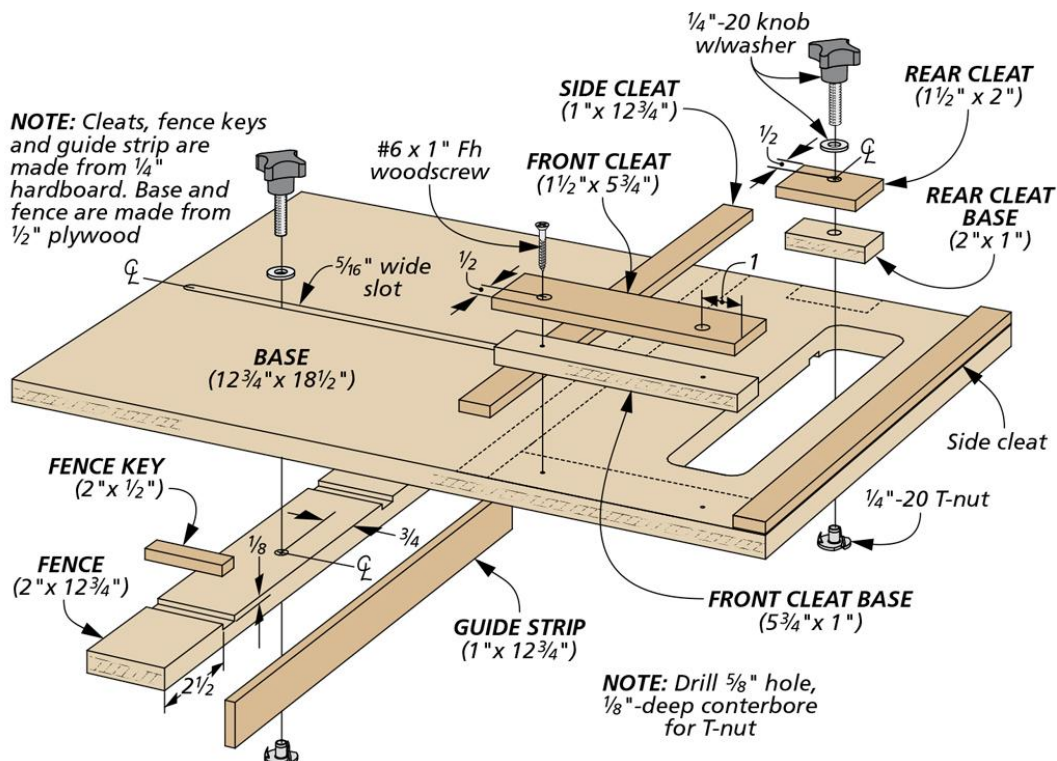
Making Rip Cuts with Your Circular Saw is Easy with this Jig.



It's not always easy to get a straight cut with a circular saw by hand. After building this shop-made guide, you'll be making consistent rips and crosscuts easily.



Plywood Base. This guide starts with a 1/2" thick plywood sheet for the base. The base should be 2" wider than your saw's base, and the cutout in the plywood base should match your saw's cutout. A long slot in the base allows a fence underneath to be adjusted depending on how wide you need your cut to be. To finish the base, cut two 1/8" deep grooves in the bottom for the fence keys. These grooves will span from the end of the base to the cutout.



Securing Cleats. The cleats here frame the saw, keeping it in place while you make your cut. Measure out where the two side cleats need to be for your saw's base and attach them. The front of your saw base will slip underneath the hardboard lip of the front cleat while the rear cleat, held in place with a threaded knob and T-nut, can then be tightened down to secure the back of the saw. The base of each cleat is simply made from scrap to match the height of the saw base.

Fence Guide. Finally, add a 2" plywood fence with two grooves in the bottom for the fence keys. A guide strip is added for a smoother surface to ride against the piece while cutting. The keys keep the fence parallel to the blade, and as long as the fence stays flat against the workpiece, your cuts will stay straight.



The only limit on cutting capacity is the size of the base. This version can make up to 10" rip cuts.