

to shape the chamfer; that is, if you're cutting chamfers all the way around a workpiece, start with an end grain pass; then work your way around the stock. Make one pass; turn the stock 90°; and so on. Continue until the chamfer is as pronounced as you want it and you've made the same number of passes on all sides of the stock. This way each edge will be cut to the same depth and the chamfer will be even at all points.

OCTAGONAL SHAPES

Octagons are formed by making bevel cuts on the four corners of a square piece of stock that has been sawn and jointed (Figure 6-18). Warning: If you work with the fence at an open angle, work with extreme caution. Use push blocks to move the stock. Make the cuts as diagrammed in Figure 6-19 to remove the corners of the square and form four new faces. When you must make more than one pass, don't change the depth of cut. Make the same number of passes on each corner.

TAPERING

Special jointer techniques allow you to form tapers like those shown in Figure 6-20.

Almost always, the procedure calls for a stop block that is used to position the stock for the start of the cut. The stop block can be clamped directly to the jointer fence.

Use an extra-long fence extension with stop blocks like the one shown in Figure 6-21 when a tapered cut must start and stop on the stock being cut. The extension, which is diagrammed in Figure 6-22, is made long enough to provide extra support for the stock and the blocks are held in place with clamps so their position can be adjusted to suit the taper being cut.

To cut a taper that is, for example, 10" long and 1/4" deep, set the infeed table for a 1/4" depth of cut, and clamp the stop block 10" away from the topmost point of the knives' cutting circle. Brace the end of the stock against the stop block, pivot the guard, and then slowly lower the stock to make contact with

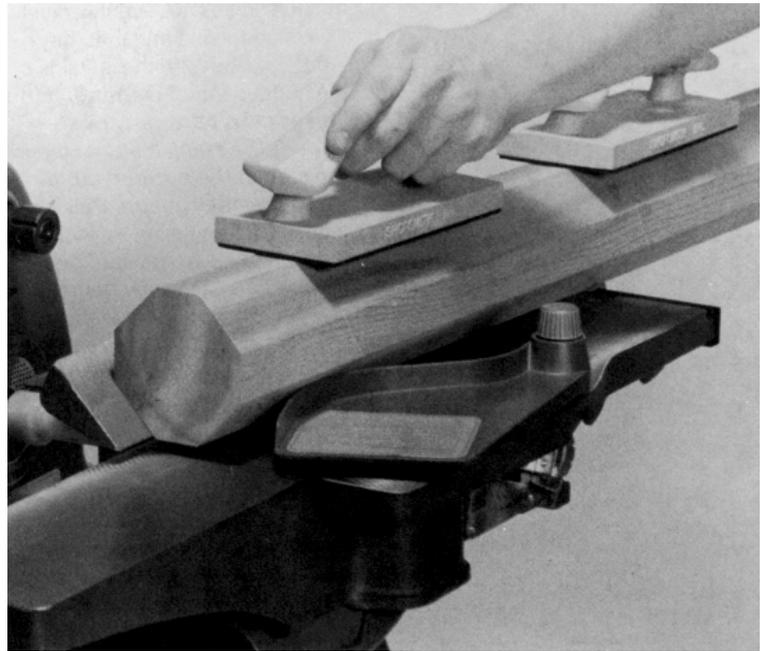


Figure 6-18. Octagons are formed by making repeat passes on all four corners of square stock.

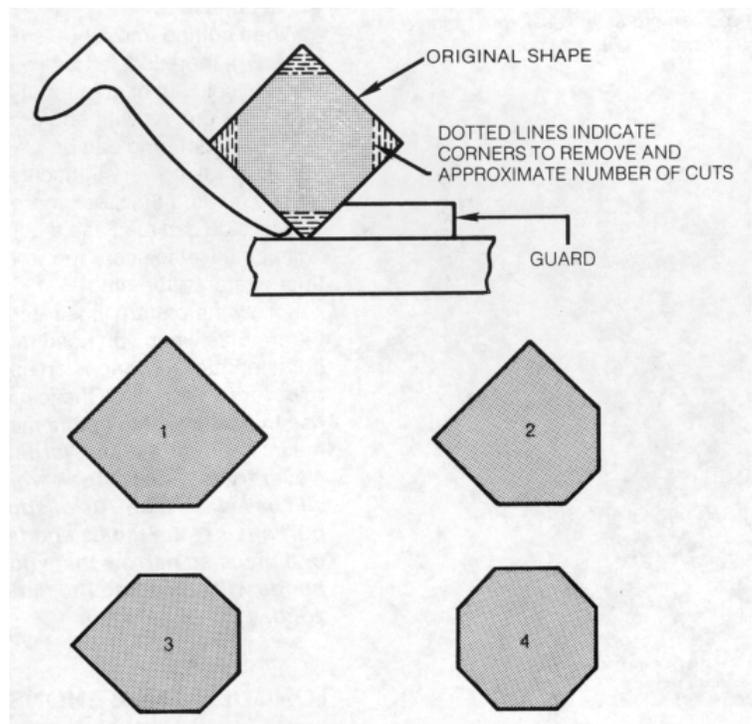


Figure 6-19. To form an octagon, start with a square piece of stock. When you must make more than one pass, don't change the depth-of-cut setting.

the outfeed table. Turn the machine on. Use a push block and push stick to gradually feed the stock while you maintain contact between the stock and the infeed and outfeed tables.

Tapers that are longer than the infeed table must be handled differently. If, for example, the taper is to be 20" long and 1/4" deep on all four sides, mark the stock into two 10" divisions and set the depth of cut at 1/8". Place the stock so the line indicating the first 10" division is at the uppermost point of the knives' cutting circle and make two passes on all four sides. This will result in a taper 10" long and 1/4" deep. Reposition the stock at the 20" mark. Then make two passes on all four sides. You will then have a taper- 20" long and 1/4" deep.

EDGE RABBETING

Edge rabbeting is the process of removing part of the thickness of the stock along an edge to produce a lip or tongue. It's a fast and accurate way of making strong, interlocking corner joints or for recessing a panel into a frame.

To set up to cut an edge rabbet, first unplug the machine. Check that the knives are evenly adjusted from side-to-side and that they extend 1/32" beyond the left side of the outfeed table. Warning: If the knives aren't properly positioned, the stock may not clear the side of the outfeed table when the cut is made. Pull the fence lock handle out, unlock the fence, and move it toward the left side of the table (away from the drive shaft). The width of the rabbet will be the distance from the outer corner of the knives to the fence (Figure 6-23). When you're satisfied that the setup is correct, lock the fence in place.

Your jointer will cut rabbets up to 3/8" deep, but never try to remove more than 1/8" of stock in a single pass. For deeper cuts, begin with the depth of cut set at 1/8"; then increase it after each pass. If you're making several rabbets to match, machine all pieces at each setting before changing the depth of cut.

When cutting end rabbets (Figure 6-24), there is a tendency for wood to split out or splinter at the end of the cut. As with end grain jointing, splintering can be reduced by taking very light cuts and by feeding

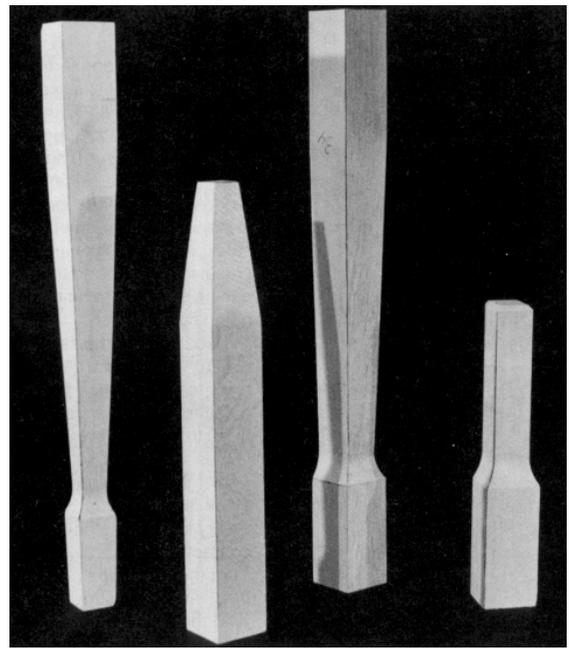


Figure 6-20. These are examples of forms you can produce by using the jointer for tapering. They can be used as legs for tables, chairs, and so on.

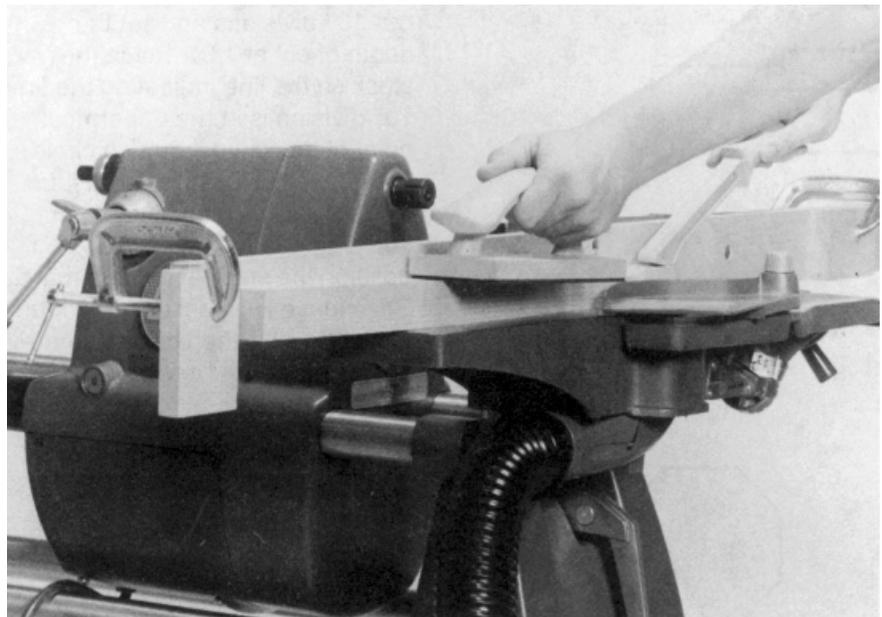


Figure 6-21. Tapering cuts are easier to do when you work with an extra-long fence extension that has its own soft blocks.