

Router Tips;

At-A-glance profile of router bits



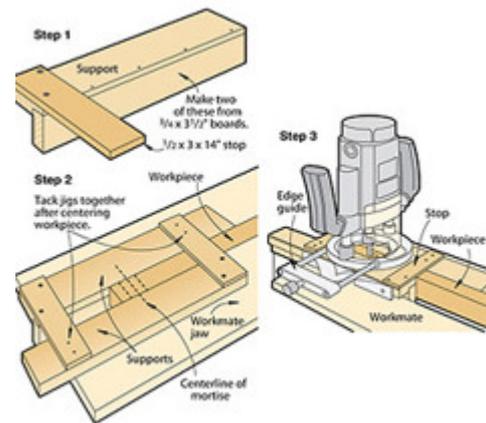
It often requires a second glance at a router bit to select the correct cutter for the desired shape. For a reference of the bit profile, rout an 8" length of scrap material with each bit. Crosscut the profile to a shorter length. With hook-and-loop material, hang the profile

near the respective bit. Then hold the profile to the end of your workpiece before you make any cuts. Always return the profiles and bits to the correct storage spots.

-- From the WOOD® magazine shop

A speedy way to rout multiple mortises

If you cut a lot of mortises but you don't own a mortising attachment for your drill press, don't spend hours chopping the mor-



tises by hand. Here's a solution: Use a plunge router with these simple jigs, and you can cut mortises

as fast as you can rout them. Glue and nail together two jigs as shown in Step 1. Make them about 4" longer than your router base plus the length of the mortise.

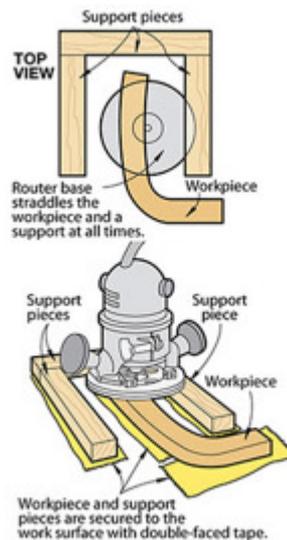
Turn the jigs so the stops face in opposite directions and loosely position them in a bench vice or Workmate. Slide the board to be mortised between the jigs, with the centreline of the mortise as shown in Step 2.

Align the two stops so that the distance from the mortise centreline to each stop measures half the length of the mortise plus half the width of your router base minus half the diameter of your bit.

Tighten the vice or Workmate, extend the mortise centreline across the supports, and tack each stop to the opposite support. Attach an edge guide to your router, centre the bit on the workpiece, and then rout the mortise. The centreline markings on the supports enable you to quickly align the next workpiece.

-- Ronan Cambridge, Ottawa, O

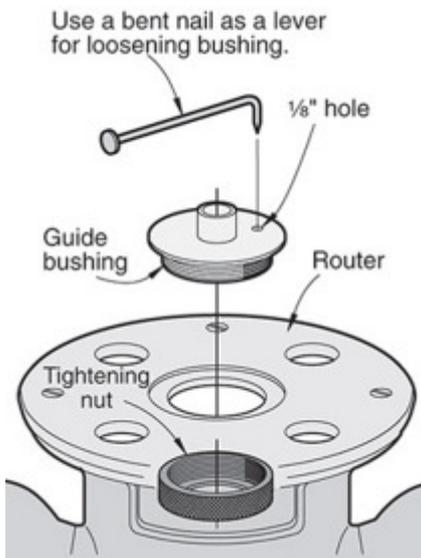
Scrapwood shapes give router needed support



Edge-routing narrow, curved workpiece becomes a challenge without a router table. The router keeps tipping, digging the bit into your work and spoiling it. From Scrapwood the same thickness as your workpiece, cut straight or curved supporting pieces about 1" wide.

Arrange them around your workpiece as shown, and then rout away. With the router riding on both the workpiece and the supports, you'll avoid nicked edges and chewed-up corners. Be sure to make the supports the same height as the workpiece. If you use double-faced tape to hold the workpiece in position, for instance, use it to hold your supports, too.

-- Alex Polakowski, Skokie, Ill.



Template guide bushings for your router can jam tightly after just a little use. If you can't unscrew yours with your fingers and you don't want to rough up the edge of the bushing with a pair of pliers, try this simple technique using a bent nail.

Drill a 1/8" hole on the edge of the bushing close enough to the centre to clear the threads underneath. Then, the next time your bushing sticks, simply insert a bent finishing nail in the 1/8" hole and push the other end of the nail counter clockwise against the centre shaft on the bushing. The leverage from the nail will loosen the bushing easily.

-- Henry Borger, Brooksville, Fla.

Making your own lathe tools

Chrome and black shafting available (ex gas struts)

Sizes; Mostly 10 and 12mm with small amount of 14mm diameter

lengths; 10mm, 18 to 34cm. 12mm, 26 to 32cm. 14mm, 20 to 34cm

I will have to charge the following due to work and metal cutting blades worn out in preparing one end of shafting. Other end original fitting, may be useful so left on.

10mm \$1.00 each. 12mm \$2.00 each. 14mm \$2.50 each

10mm shaft ideal to make pointy tools, and small detailing tools. 12mm shaft makes a good shaft for holding Woodcut bits and also for holding concrete nails with a 3mm grub screw to make long lasting very small tools for small work. 14mm shaft a good heavy shaft for holding the larger Woodcut bits etc. Make your own handle and glue up with a little super glue and you have a very useful lathe tool.

Please contact Tas Davie Ph. 576 8066 with any questions and supply.