PROJECT OVERVIEW

This Adjustable Vertical Edge Routing Guide provides stability while operating a handheld router vertically. This is especially useful when routing the edge of larger pieces that would be extremely difficult to control and keep upright on a router table. It uses MATCHFIT Dovetail Hardware to quickly and easily adjust to fit the size of the material, and for varying router base sizes. This is an ideal jig for routing the vertical dovetail grooves on the MATCHFIT 360 Table aprons.

TOOLS & MATERIALS

- Table Saw
- Router table
- MATCHFIT Dovetail Router bit, or comparable 14°, 1/2” diameter dovetail router bit
- 45 degree V-groove router bit
- ¼” straight router bit (spiral is best)

- 3/4” MDF, 14”W x 16”L
- ½” forstner bit
- ¼” standard drill bit
- MATCHFIT Dovetail Hardware
- 2” aluminum angle
INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1 - CUT THE STOCK TO SIZE

- Rip two strips of MDF longways at 2-½” wide on the table saw. They should finish at 2-½” wide and 16” long.
- From the remaining MDF, rip one piece longways down to 4”.
- Cut two 12” long pieces from the 4” wide strip.
INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 2 - ROUTE DOVETAIL GROOVES

- Set a 14 degree, 1/2” dovetail router bit to a cutting depth of 3/8”. Set your router table fence to 1-¼”.
- Route dovetail grooves in both 2-½” x 16” strips.
INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 3 - MEASURE AND DRILL HOLE SPACING FOR ROUTER BASES

- Position router base between long strips, making sure strips are parallel with one another.
- Measure the distance between the outside edges of the long strips. 1-¼” in from both sides is the center of the dovetail grooves. That’s where you will drill your holes.
- Repeat process for different sized router bases, if desired.
INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 4 - SQUARING AND CENTERING ROUTER

- With Dovetail Hardware installed, slide edge stops together until both contact edge of work surface, tighten knobs, using a carpenter’s square to ensure that your guide is 90 degrees with the surface.
INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 4 - SQUARING AND CENTERING ROUTER CONT.

- With both edge stops square and snug to both edges, screw a section of aluminum angle to the outer edge of each side of the top edge stop resting on the table top.

- Secure guide by clamping down to work surface to avoid slippage.

- The first time you use the router guide, plunge a 1/2” router bit 3/8” deep into the edge stop, then raise back up.

- Without moving the router guide, change bit to small v-groove bit.

- Plunge v-groove bit 1/2” deep, and advance toward where the edge stop meets the work surface.

- At its deepest point, draw a line with a clearly visible marker to the end of the edge stop. This line is the center of the bit. Use it to line up with where you marked your cuts.
INSTRUCTIONS

USING THE ROUTER GUIDE

Always make sure that the guide is square and secured with clamps, and your router is centered with the center line marked on the edge stop to ensure accuracy.
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Woodworking is an inherently dangerous activity. Be sure to know and follow all safety guidelines that come with your power tools.