

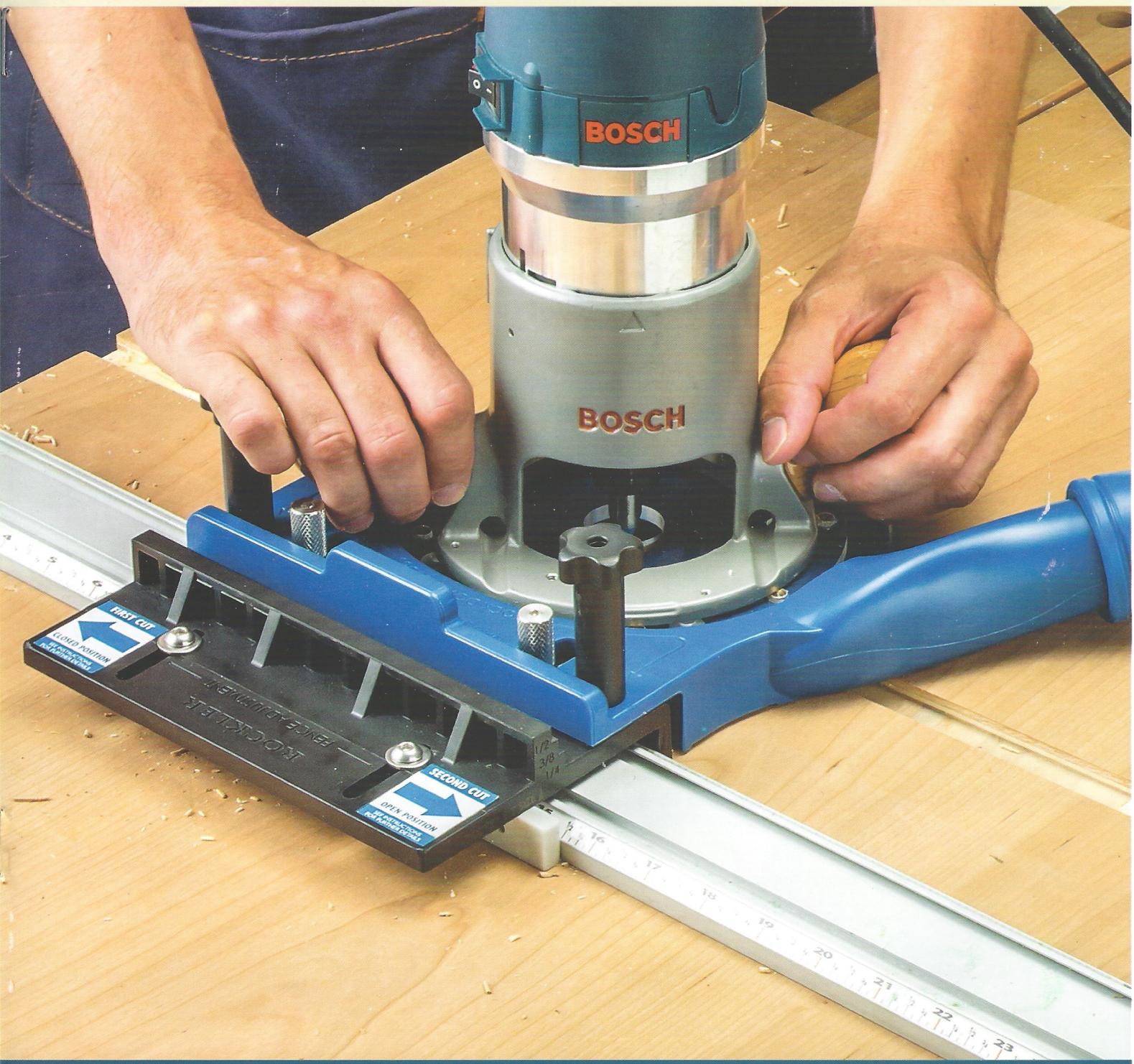


ROCKLER®
WOODWORKING AND HARDWARE

Create with Confidence™

Perfect Fit Dado Jig Instructions

Effective August 2020



Review full instructions prior to use for important safety information.
Always check Rockler.com to confirm that you are using the most recent version of instructions for your product.

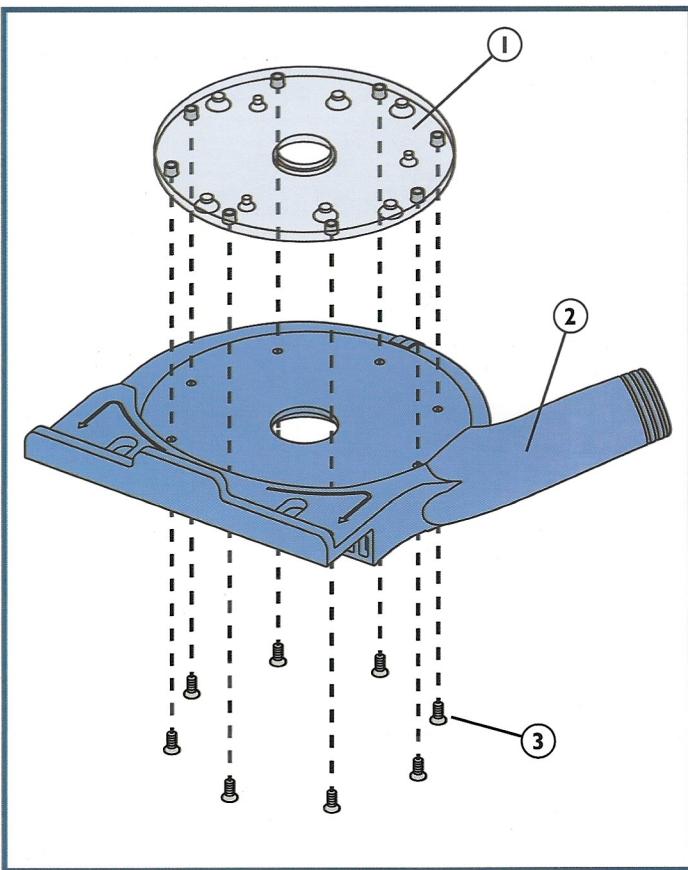


Fig. 1

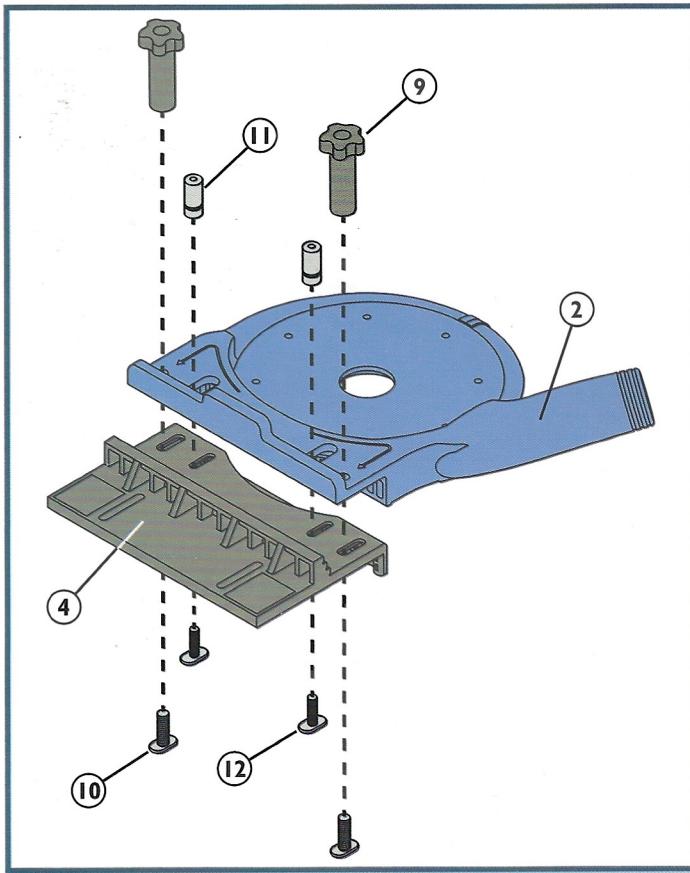


Fig. 2

PARTS LIST

	Quantity
1 Router Plate	1
2 Jig Base	1
3 #10-24 x 7/16" Flathead Screw	8
4 Perfect Fit Fence	1
5 Tension Fence	1
6 1/4"-20 x 3/4" Socket Cap Screw	2
7 1/4" Flat Washer	2
8 1/4" Hex Nut	2
9 5/16"-18 x 1" Tall Five-Star Knob	2
10 5/16"-18 x 1" T-Bolt	2
11 1/4"-20 Knurled Knob	2
12 1/4"-20 x 1" T-Bolt	2
13 Hex Wrench	1

ROUTER MOUNTING SCREWS (NOT SHOWN)

	Quantity
10 M5-0.8 x 16mm Flathead Screw	4
15 M4-0.7 x 16mm Flathead Screw	4
16 #8-32 x 5/8" Flathead Screw	4
17 #10-24 x 5/8" Flathead Screw	4
18 #10-32 x 5/8" Flathead Screw	4

Assembly and Mounting Router

- If the Router Plate (1) is attached to the Jig Base (2), loosen and remove the eight #10-24 x 7/16" Flathead Screws (3) holding the two together from under the Jig Base. **Fig. 1.**
- Remove the baseplate that came with your router. Keep track of the screws.
- Find the hole pattern in the Router Plate (1) that matches the mounting holes on your router and align your router with the Plate. Use the appropriate set of included Router Mounting Screws (14-18) or, if none of those work, the screws you removed in Step 2 to attach the Router Plate to your router. Make sure that the screw heads do not sit proud of the plate surface.

WARNING

To avoid serious injury, adjust the router to fully retract the bit during jig setup operations. The bit **MUST** not extend below the Router Plate (1) during setup.

CAUTION

The Perfect Fit Dado Jig works only with 1/4"-, 3/8"- and 1/2"-diameter router bits. Do **NOT** use undersized plywood router bits.

- Chuck the desired router bit in the router, following the procedures outlined in the owner's manual that came with your router, and adjust the router so that the bit does not extend below the Router Plate (1). It is best to choose a bit whose diameter will allow you to cut the dado width in two overlapping passes. (For example, if cutting a dado to fit a shelf made from nominal 3/4" plywood, you would use a 1/2" diameter straight bit.)

5. If they are not already attached, connect the Perfect Fit Fence (4) to the Jig Base (2) with the 5/16"-18 x 1" T-Bolts (10) and the 5/16"-18 x 1" Tall Five-Star Knobs (9) in the outer two holes (marked "Lock Down Knobs"). Also install the 1/4"-20 x 1" T-Bolts (12) and 1/4"-20 Knurled Knobs (11) in the slots in the Jig Base marked "Dado Thickness Stops." **Fig. 2.**

6. Align the holes in the mounting tabs of the Tension Fence (5) with the slots marked "Fence Adjustment" in the Perfect Fit Fence (4) and attach the two with the 1/4"-20 x 3/4" Socket Cap Screws (6), 1/4" Flat Washers (7) and 1/4" Hex Nuts (8), which fit into the sockets in the bottom of the Tension Fence mounting tabs. **Fig. 3.**

7. Reinstall the Router Plate (1) on the Jig Base (2) with the eight #10-24 x 7/16" Flathead Screws (3). Make sure that the router's handles won't obstruct the jig's knobs or overhang the stepped area between the Jig Base and the Perfect Fit Fence (4).

Setting Fences to Fit Your Clamp Guide

1. Engage your clamp guide on a flat piece of plywood or other sheet material. Lock it down to keep it from shifting.
2. Place your Perfect Fit Dado Jig with mounted router on the clamp guide so that the clamp guide is between the Perfect Fit Fence (4) and the Tension Fence (5).
3. If necessary, slightly loosen the two 1/4"-20 x 3/4" Socket Cap Screws (6) securing the Tension Fence (5). Use the included Hex Wrench (13). Make sure that the lower fence on the Perfect Fit Fence (4) is tight against the edge of the clamp guide and then slide the Tension Fence (5) so that it's tight to the other edge of the clamp guide. Hold the Tension Fence in place and use the included Hex Wrench (13) to tighten the two 1/4"-20 x 3/4" Socket Cap Screws (6) securing the Tension Fence. (If working with narrower clamp guides, screw a straight wooden spacer block to the Tension Fence [5] using the predrilled mounting holes.) **Fig. 4.**
4. Make sure that the lower fence on the Perfect Fit Fence (4) is tight against the edge of the clamp guide and then slide the Tension Fence (5) so that it's tight to the other edge of the clamp guide. Hold the Tension Fence in place and use the included Hex Wrench (13) to tighten the two 1/4"-20 x 3/4" Socket Cap Screws (6) securing the Tension Fence. (If working with narrower clamp guides, screw a straight wooden spacer block to the Tension Fence [5] using the predrilled mounting holes.) **Fig. 4.**
5. Test the fit. The jig should be able to slide along the clamp guide easily without side-to-side play. If there is play, repeat Steps 3 and 4 until the proper fit is achieved.

Setting Jig for Your Material

NOTICE

As with most jigs, we recommend testing the setup on scrap material before machining your final workpiece.

1. Locate or cut a narrow offcut from the material that will eventually be glued into the dado you are routing. The offcut should be no more than 2" wide, and it is crucial that it is straight – not curved or warped.
2. Loosen the two 5/16"-18 x 1" Tall Five-Star Knobs (9) and the two 1/4"-20 Knurled Knobs (11) so you can slide the Jig Base (2) away from the Perfect Fit Fence (4).

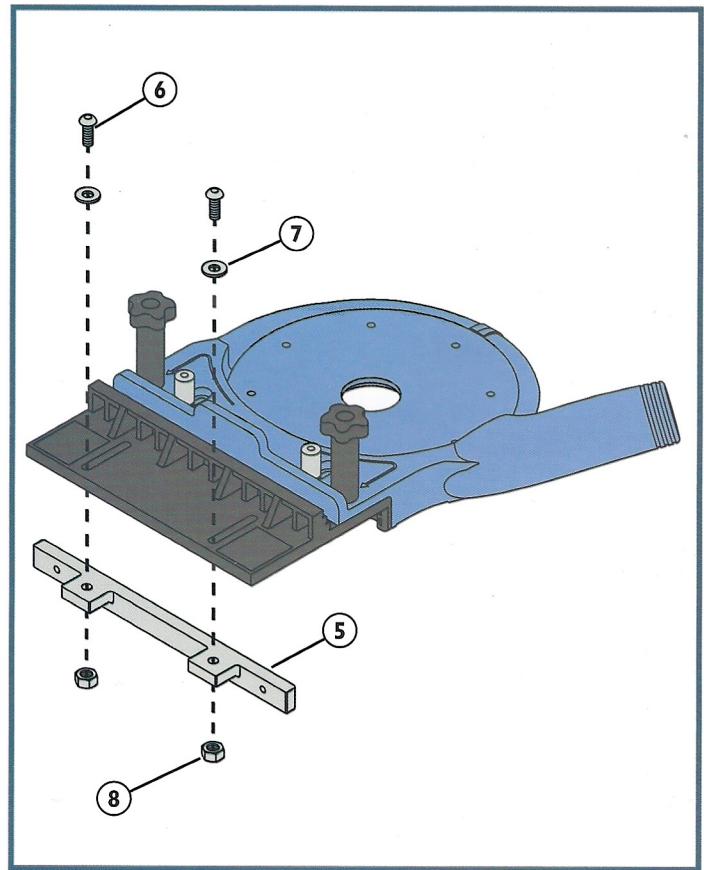


Fig. 3

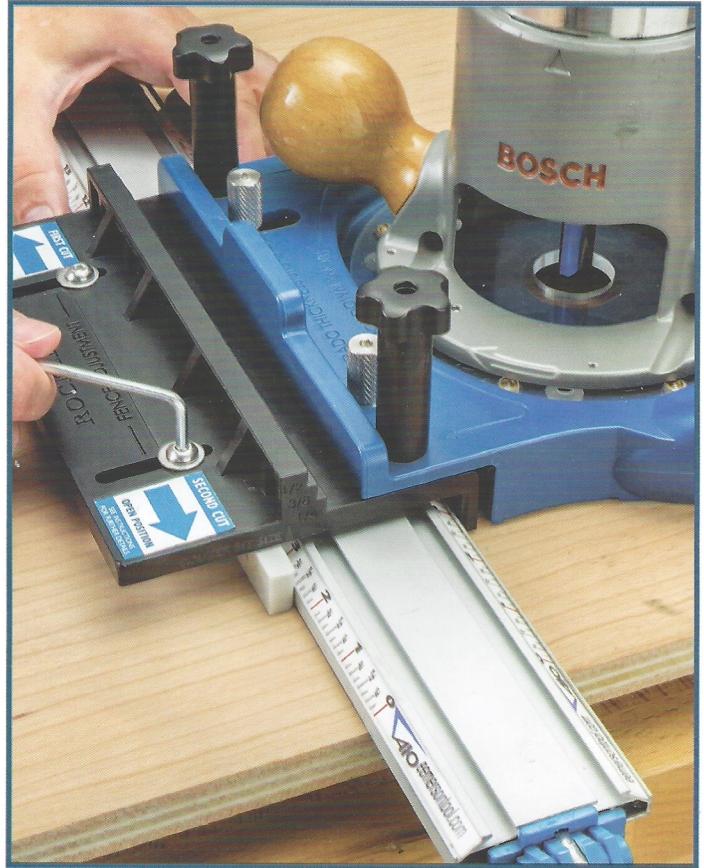


Fig. 4



Fig. 5

3. Fit the offcut piece in the stepped area formed by the fence of the Jig Base (2) and the Perfect Fit Fence (4). Make sure to place the offcut on the step that corresponds to the diameter of the router bit you are using. Fig. 5.
4. With the offcut on the correct step, squeeze and hold the fence of the Jig Base (2) and the Perfect Fit Fence (4) together along the length of the offcut. The two fences should capture the offcut without play but not so tightly that the piece is difficult to remove. Fig. 5.
5. Maintaining that hold, tighten the two 5/16"-18 x 1" Tall Five-Star Knobs (9) to temporarily lock in the setting.
6. Slide the two 1/4"-20 Knurled Knobs (11) toward the fence of the Jig Base (2) as far as they will go. Hold them there and tighten them with the included Hex Wrench (13) to fully lock them in this position. This establishes the jig's "open" position. Fig. 6.

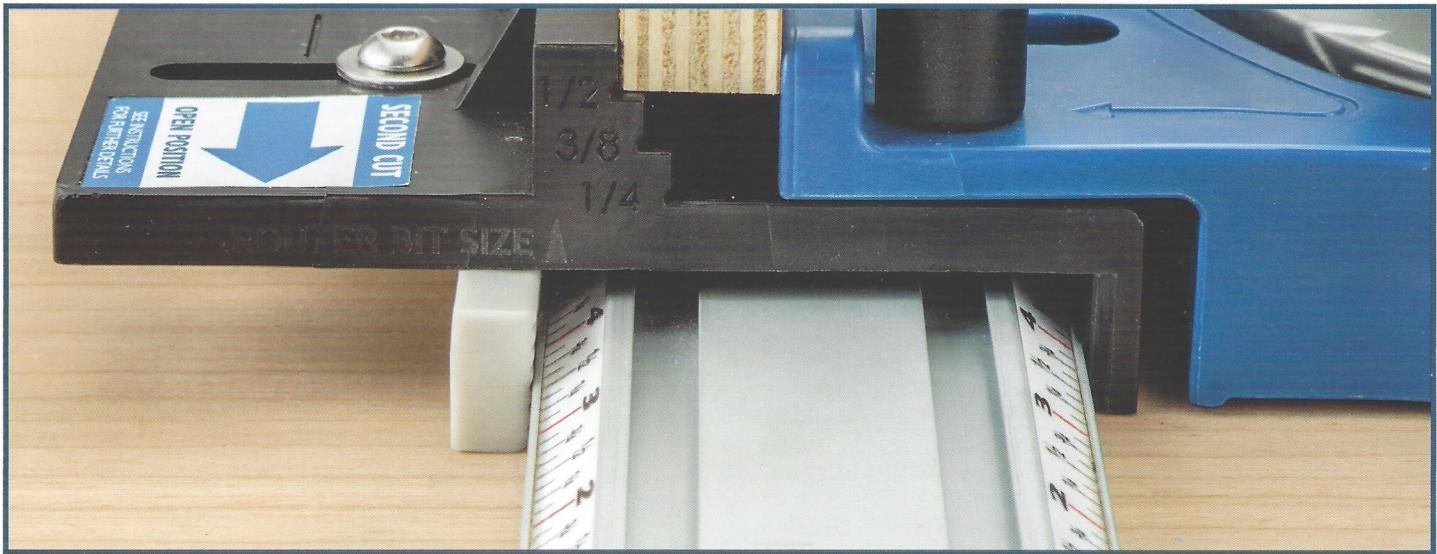


Fig. 6 - "Open" Position



Fig. 7 - "Closed" Position

7. Loosen the two 5/16"-18 x 1" Tall Five-Star Knobs (9) and remove the offcut from the jig.
8. Slide the Jig Base (2) toward the Perfect Fit Fence (4) as far as it will go. Make sure the fit is tight and then tighten the two 5/16"-18 x 1" Tall Five-Star Knobs (9). This is the jig's "closed" position. The jig is now set for the first cut. **Fig. 7.**
9. Attach a dust collection hose to the dust port on the Jig Base (2). We recommend using one of the Dust Right® FlexiPort Power Tool Hose Kits, either with the 12' fixed-length hose (51170, sold separately) or the 3'-12' expandable hose (48212, sold separately).

Making the Cuts

THESE WARNINGS PERTAIN TO ALL REMAINING STEPS:



DANGER

> To avoid serious injury, keep hands and fingers away from the spinning router bit. Maintain awareness of the bit at all times.

WARNING

> To avoid a potentially dangerous "climb" cut that can make the router more difficult to control, **ALWAYS** make the first and second cuts as indicated on the directional labels on the jig.

Two passes are required to cut the full width of the dado. The first pass is made in one direction with the jig in the "closed" position, and the second, return pass is made in the other direction with the jig in the "open" position.

1. Lay out the locations of the dadoes you want to cut on your material. Keep in mind that the **center of the bit** will be $3\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge of the clamp guide when the jig is set in the "closed" position for the first cut. If you're using a 1/4"-diameter bit, that means the near edge of the bit (and therefore the near edge of the dado) will be $3\frac{3}{16}$ " from the edge of the clamp guide. For a 3/8"-diameter bit, the near edge of the dado would be $3\frac{5}{16}$ " from the clamp guide; and for a 1/2"-diameter bit, the near edge of the dado would be $3\frac{1}{4}$ " from the clamp guide.
2. Place your clamp guide in position on the workpiece and lock it down, making sure it is square.
3. Adjust your router to set the bit to the desired cutting depth.
4. Fit the jig onto the clamp guide, with the Jig Base (2) partway on the infeed side of the workpiece for the first cut. Maintain a secure hold on the router and jig, making sure that the bit is next to but not touching the workpiece, and check to verify that the dado will be cut in the desired location. (There are markings on the front and left side of the Jig Base that help indicate the bit's location.) **Fig. 8 and 9.**



Fig. 8

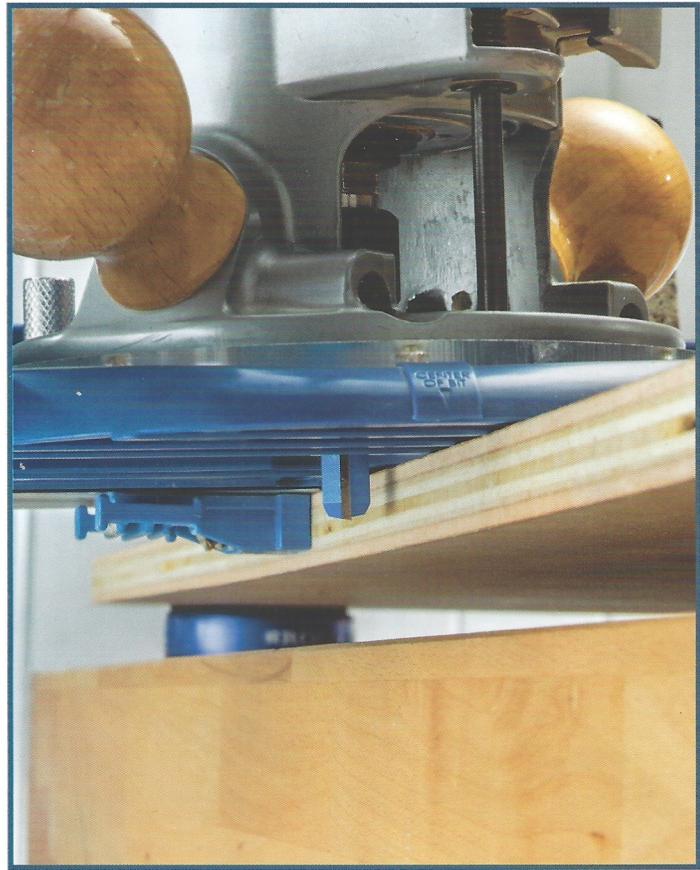


Fig. 9



Fig. 10 - Cut Direction - First Cut (Closed Position)



Fig. 11 - Cut Direction - Second Cut (Open Position)

CAUTION

Make sure that your router's power cord and dust hose won't obstruct the path of the jig or catch on anything as you make your cut.

NOTICE

The Perfect Fit Dado Jig allows for different hand positions during use, as shown in the image on the cover of these instructions and in **Figs. 10 and 11** above. You should find the hand position that is most comfortable for you, always making sure that your hands and fingers are clear of the cutting area.

5. Check to verify that the jig is in the "closed" position. Then turn on your router and carefully advance it in the direction indicated by the label for the first cut. Maintain consistent pressure on the router as you make the cut, and be sure to fully exit the other side of the workpiece. **Fig. 10.**

6. Turn the router off and allow it to stop fully. Then loosen the two 5/16"-18 x 1" Tall Five-Star Knobs (9) and slide the Jig Base (2) away from the clamp guide until the two 1/4"-20 Knurled Knobs (11) stop it from moving any farther. Tighten the two 5/16"-18 x 1" Tall Five-Star Knobs to lock the Jig Base in the "open" position.

7. Turn on your router and make the second (return) cut. Maintain consistent pressure on the router as you make the cut, and be sure to fully exit the other side of the workpiece. **Fig. 11.**

8. Check the fit of your shelf material in the dado. The fit should be snug, but not too tight. If there are problems with the fit, repeat the steps in "**Setting Jig for your Material.**"

Check Rockler.com for updates. If you have further questions, please contact our Technical Support Department at 1-800-260-9663 or support@rockler.com