

Tips & Techniques

Flip-Up Outfeed Extension Table

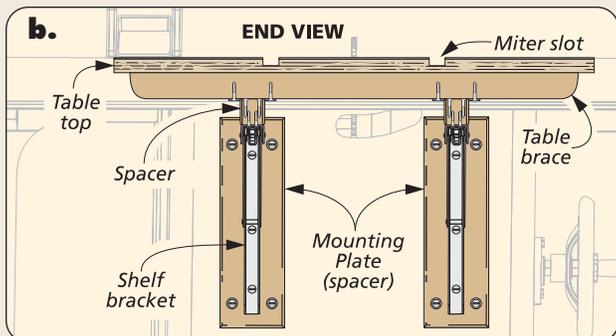
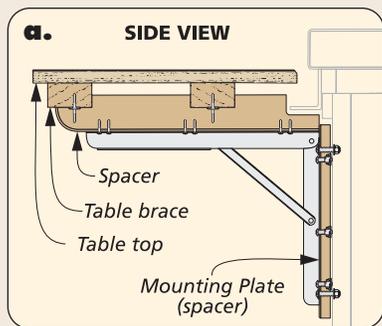
In my small, basement shop, there just isn't enough room for a permanent outfeed table for my cabinet saw. I needed a table that I could set up and take down quickly, but was still strong and sturdy.

I found the solution while roaming around in my local home improvement center — the folding shelf brackets you see in the photo at left.

As the drawings below show, I attached the vertical arms of the brackets onto mounting plates so the table top would clear the saw's fence rail when it was in either the up or down positions. I did the same thing with the horizontal arms to raise the outfeed table level with my saw table. To keep the table flat and to add



▲ These shelf brackets lock in the up position and are released by pressing the levers inside the horizontal arms of the brackets.

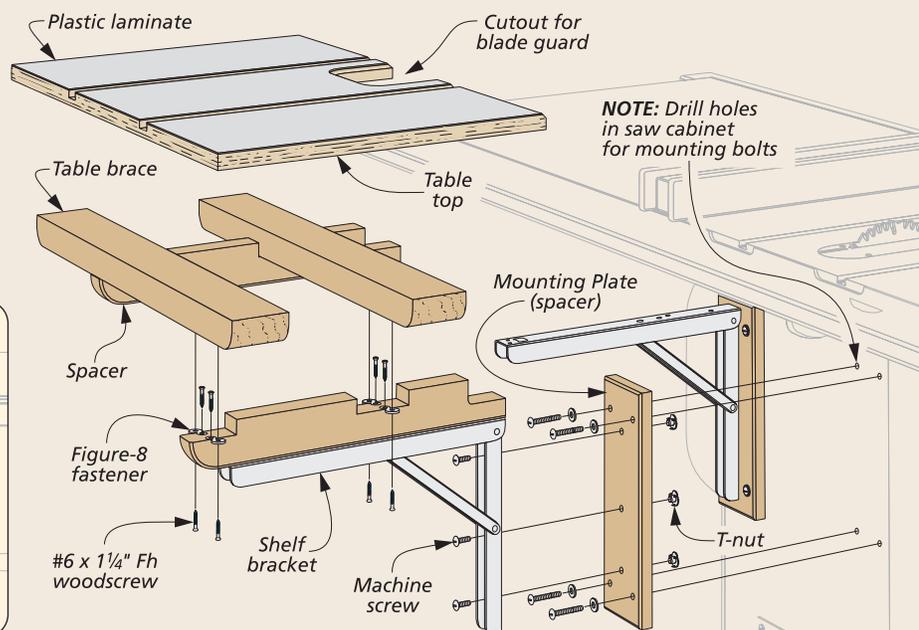


▶ This outfeed extension table swings into action when it's needed and safely tucks out of the way when it's not.

strength, I added braces underneath the outfeed top and then mounted the table perfectly level with the saw table. Finally, I cut grooves in the table to line up with the miter slots in my saw table.

It works very nicely, and now I have the outfeed table I've always wanted — one that's there when I need it and gone when I don't.

Malcolm Robb
Brantford, Ontario, Canada



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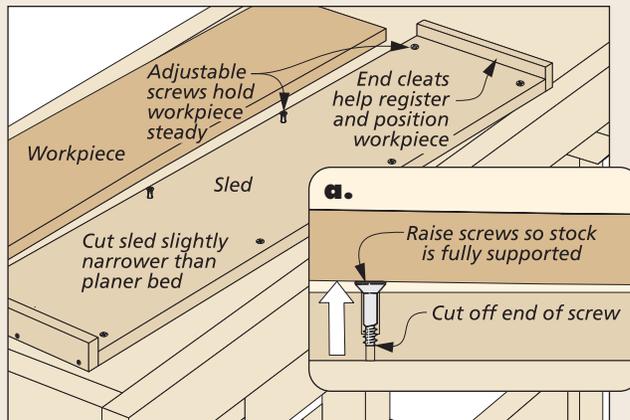
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Planer Sled

Planing a flat face on a wide, warped board can be a real challenge. The problem is that the uneven surface of the board causes it to rock back and forth on the planer bed like a see-saw. To solve this problem, I built a planer sled.

A pair of cleats on the end register the workpiece. Then to get one face flat, I added a row of cut-off woodscrews along each side, as shown in the drawing. By raising the screws, you can support the workpiece (detail 'a'). When the top face is flat, remove the sled, flip the board over and finish planing the other side.

Brent Robinson
St. Paul, Minnesota



Handscrew Support

Working with long stock and wide panels can be a real hassle. Not only are they difficult to move around, but they're hard to support while working on them. This is especially true when the piece has to be supported on edge. For that, I usually clamp the piece in the face vise of my workbench.

However, that means the other end is unsupported for planing, sanding, or cutting mortises.

While wrestling with another large workpiece, I came up with a pretty simple solution that uses a traditional woodworking tool — a wood handscrew. As you can see in the photo at right, all I did was clamp the handscrew at the end of the workpiece and

rest it on the top of the bench. It worked perfectly. Now if the workpiece still moves around as you're working, you can clamp the handscrew to the bench with another handscrew or other clamp.

Scott Wallace
Goshen, Massachusetts

