Suitable for stock 11/16″ to 7/8″ thick.

This bit is used to apply a no-drip, wood-trimmed edge to a countertop. The resultant raised edge prevents spills from running down the face of the cabinet.

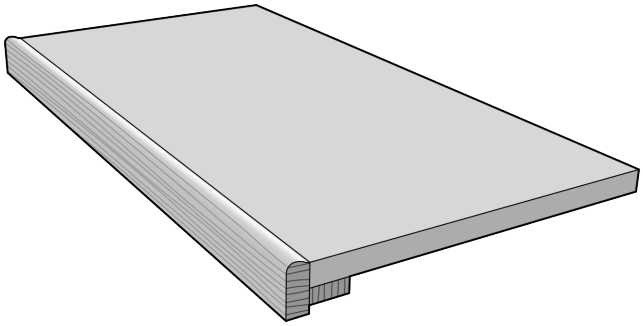

Figure 1: A no-drip edge.

The no-drip edge can be applied either before or after the trim is laminated to the countertop.

Laminating the trim prior to shaping ensures a perfect transition between the trim and the countertop. This limits the use of the no-drip edge to straight runs, as the routing cannot turn corners or follow curves. However, a straight run can then be mitered to accommodate inside corners.

Shaping the trim first allows for nearly unlimited possibilities, especially for curved edges. However, fastening shaped trim to the edge of a countertop while maintaining a smooth transition can be tricky.

Since shaping trim on a router table is a standard operation, these instructions focus solely on the first option, where the trim is shaped *after* being glued in place.

Requirements

The trim piece can be 11/16″ to 7/8″ thick (T), but it must be at least twice as high (H) as the thickness of your countertop (C). Laminate the trim such that it projects (P) a minimum of 1/8″ above the countertop's surface.

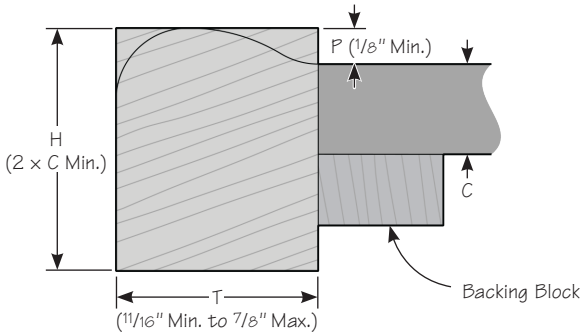

Figure 2: Trim requirements.

Also because of the inherent weakness in edge gluing sheet goods (particleboard, MDF or plywood), it is recommended that backing blocks be glued or screwed to the underside of the countertop to provide solid backing. If you plan to glue the trim to the countertop material, avoid water-based glues (e.g., PVA), as these will swell composite sheet materials and ruin the project. For best result, use epoxy, cyanoacrylate or polyurethane glues.

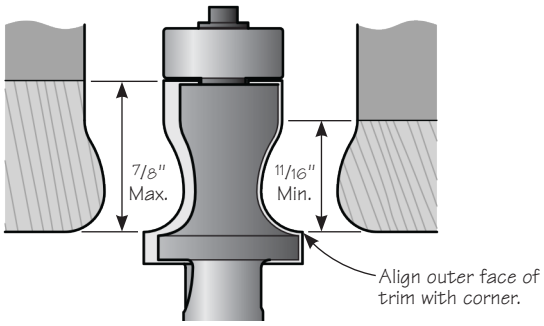

Figure 3: Alignment for minimum and maximum stock thickness.

If the stock is less than 11/16″ thick, you will get a gap at the trim-to-counter transition, as shown in **Figure 4** (Dimension T too small).

If the stock is thicker than 7/8″, the bearing will run along the trim piece instead of the countertop (effectively doing nothing) or there would be a small flat on the outer face of the trim piece (see **Figure 4**, Router bit projects too far or dimension T is too large).

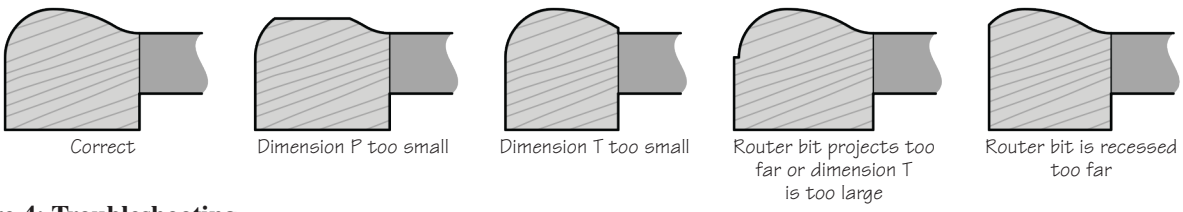

Figure 4: Troubleshooting.

Freehand Routing

As most countertops are quite large, it is not practical to use this bit in a router table. Instead, the countertop should be clamped to a workbench and the router run along the edge.

If the height of the trim is greater that 4″, the routing can be done with the countertop oriented on edge as shown in **Figure 5**. For most routers, 4″ will ensure the base plate is always in contact with the workpiece, keeping the router upright and correctly oriented.

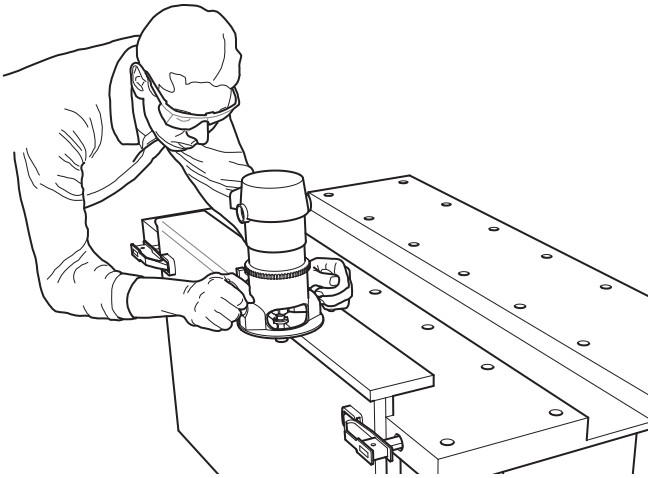

Figure 5: Routing tall trim.

Using a Right-Angle Fence Jig

For countertops with shorter trim, a right-angle fence jig is required to keep the router correctly oriented while using the countertop as the bearing surface.

Most of the force on this jig will be holding the fence against the countertop to counterbalance the weight of the router. Accordingly, a suitable handle is required. The jig must also be rigid enough to support the weight of the router without deflecting. Ideally, the base of the jig should be mounted directly onto the router chassis using the same (or longer) screws that are used for attaching the router's base plate. Also, the fence needs to be adjustable to allow for alignment with the router bit's bearing.

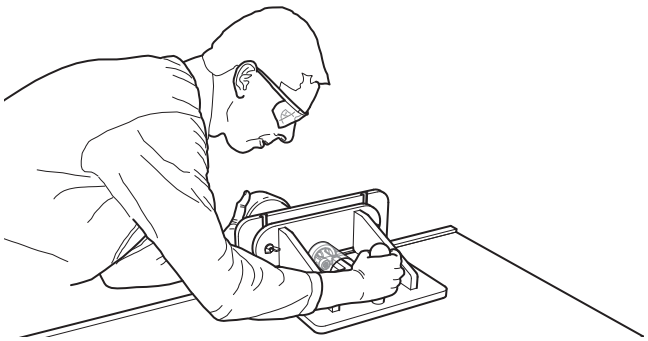

Figure 6: Using the right-angle fence jig.

⚠ ***Caution:*** *The jig* ***must*** *have a suitable shield covering the bit to collect or deflect the dangerous upward spray of wood dust.*

This jig may be used upright (similar to **Figure 5**); however, due the heavy side loads required to maintain the router's orientation, it is recommended that routing be done flat, as shown in **Figure 6**.

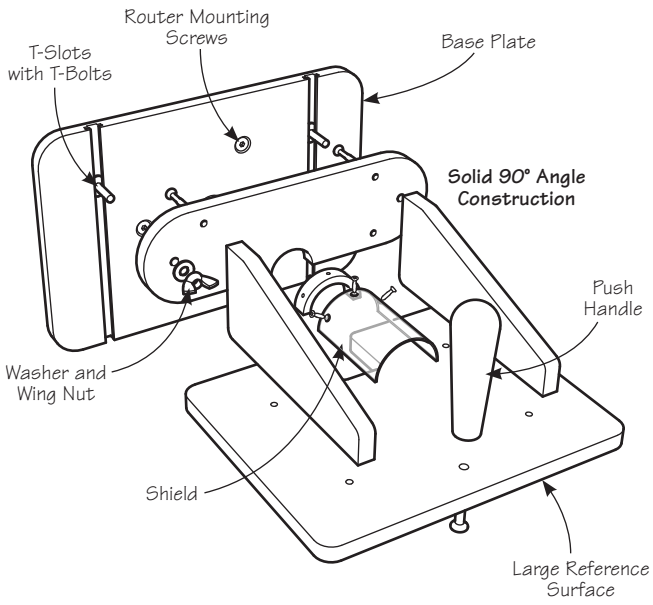

Figure 7: Example right-angle fence jig.