Bow Sander

The flexible fiberglass beam on this bow sander keeps a cloth-backed sandpaper belt tensioned between two handles for sanding curved surfaces without risk of creating a flat spot. The 16″ bow sander can be used with the included 2″ × 36″ sandpaper belt; for the 10″ version, the belt will need to be cut in half.

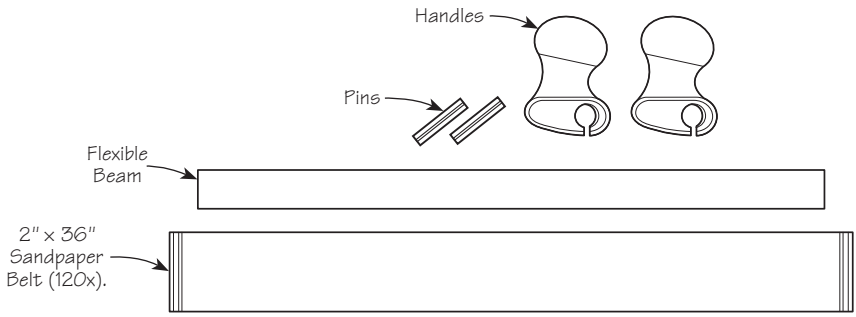

Figure 1: Bow sander components.

If you are using the 16″ bow sander with the 36″ sandpaper belt provided, flatten the belt so that there are two folds set 18″ apart. If you choose to use sandpaper from a roll, cut a 24″ length and make two folds, 18″ apart and approximately 2″ to 3″ from each cut end.

For the 10″ bow sander, cut an 18″ length of sandpaper and make two folds, 12″ apart and approximately 2″ to 3″ from each cut end.

Insert a pin into one of the folded ends of the sandpaper, then slide this assembly into one handle, as shown in **Figure 2**. Repeat this step for the other handle. The sandpaper will lock into the handle when the bow sander is under tension.

Note: *When using a sandpaper strip, the abrasive side should face out and the cut ends should face in.*

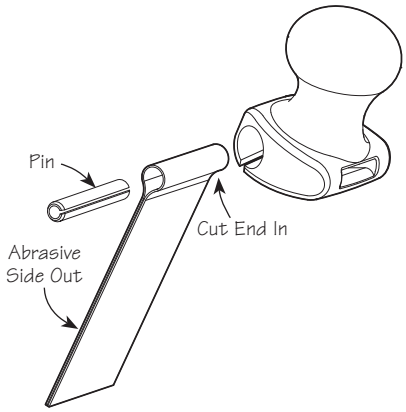

Figure 2: Inserting the pin.

Position the two handles as shown in **Figure 3**, such that the handle sockets are facing each other.

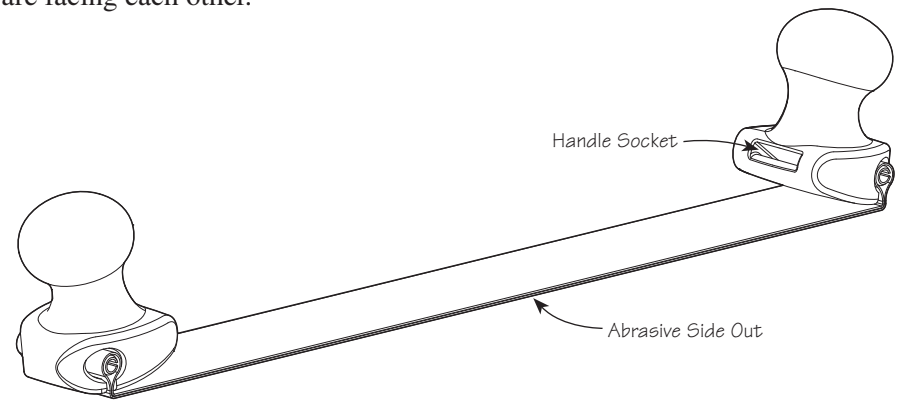

Figure 3: Handle sockets should face each other.

Insert one end of the beam into one of the handle sockets, and then flex the beam to insert the other end into the other handle socket.

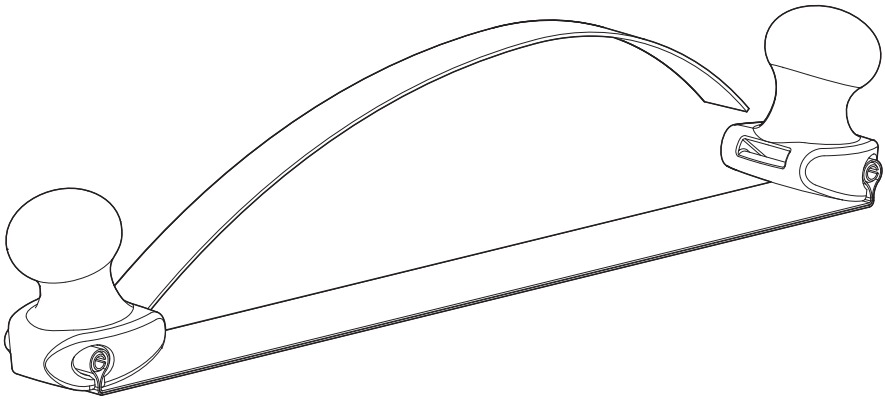

Figure 4: Inserting the beam.

To increase the tension, use a shorter length of sandpaper. To reduce it, use a longer strip of sandpaper.

Flex the beam to disengage it from the handles and remove the sandpaper.

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