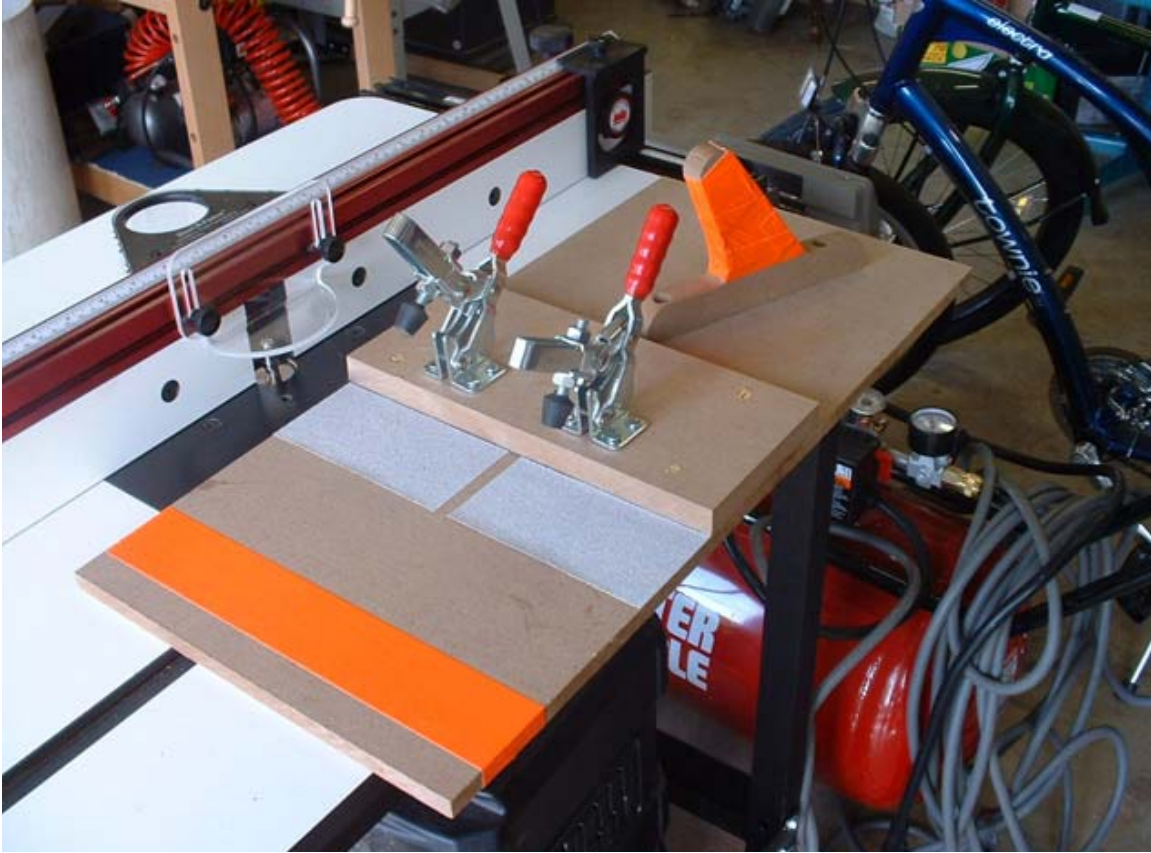


Wayne's Router Table Coping Jig



A pretty simple jig for the router table. This coping jig works great for successful construction of components such as the coped ends of a door frame's rails. The base supports the pieces being coped and allows them to be pushed into the cutters safely and accurately each time.

The body, clamping base and handle are all made from MDF. The two clamps are readily available from catalogs like Woodcraft and are great for holding the pieces being coped in place without worrying about them moving out of position during the cutting action.

This particular jig has a body that is 24" long by 11" wide. Make your jig a size that comfortably fits the surface of your router table. If it's too big it could fall off, too small and it may not support the pieces correctly.

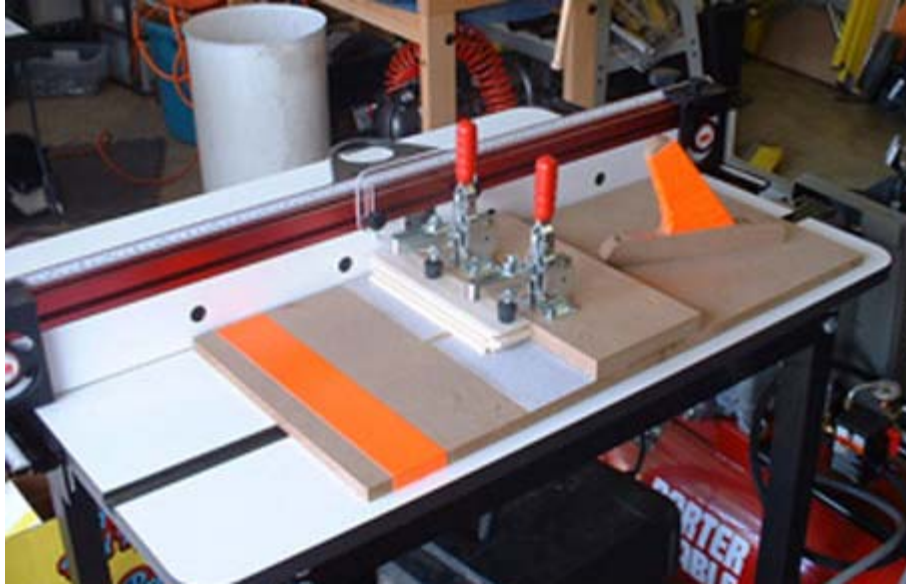
The purpose of the raised clamping base is not only to allow the clamps to place downward pressure on pieces of various thickness but it also works as a zero clearance backer to help decrease or eliminate any tearout on the backside of the cutting action. This raised clamping base should be removable. That way, as you move onto different profiles of router bits or the piece just becomes well worn it can be replaced easily and thus decrease tearout in future projects.



Two more features to point out are the sandpaper under the toggle clamps. The purpose of the sandpaper is to increase surface friction and thus increase clamping strength. A very crucial feature as the component enters the spinning cutter. The next feature is the orange tape. This is a safety reminder of where it's best not to have your hands and fingers during the cutting action.



The handle is easily made from a couple of scraps of MDF and custom fitted for your hand. Here we see the progression from paper pattern to template and soon on to the MDF.



The jig is shown here holding the piece tight against the base of the jig and being pushed into the cutter head. The final result, safe and accurate cutting with minimal tearout.