

This Jig Sucks ... for Ripping Thin Strips

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By Branden Wong (Penl8the)

I developed this jig to cut thin strips and wedges (or staves) for the Pinstripe Panache using a table saw. In this tutorial I first show the setup for cutting staves and second for strips.

*** VERY IMPORTANT NOTES ***

1. **When I use this jig, I remove the blade guard. If you are not comfortable with the blade guard removed, STOP READING NOW, and DO NOT MAKE THIS JIG!**
2. **Stop the table saw before you remove the cut piece from the jig ... read on to you see what I mean.**
3. **I use a "big" piece of wood in this tutorial for the obvious reasons – (a) so you can see the strip in the picture and (b) I like my fingers.**

Use workshop safety common sense when you use this jig. I am not responsible for any injury or personal damage you would make by adopting this jig. In other words, you are on your own.

Photo 1 - let's go to the end game here - this is the whole thing.



Photo 2 - The jig consists of a piece of 1" PVC pipe strapped down on a "dadoed" piece of 3/4" pine that can be positioned (related to the saw blade) and it is held down by 4 on/off magnets.

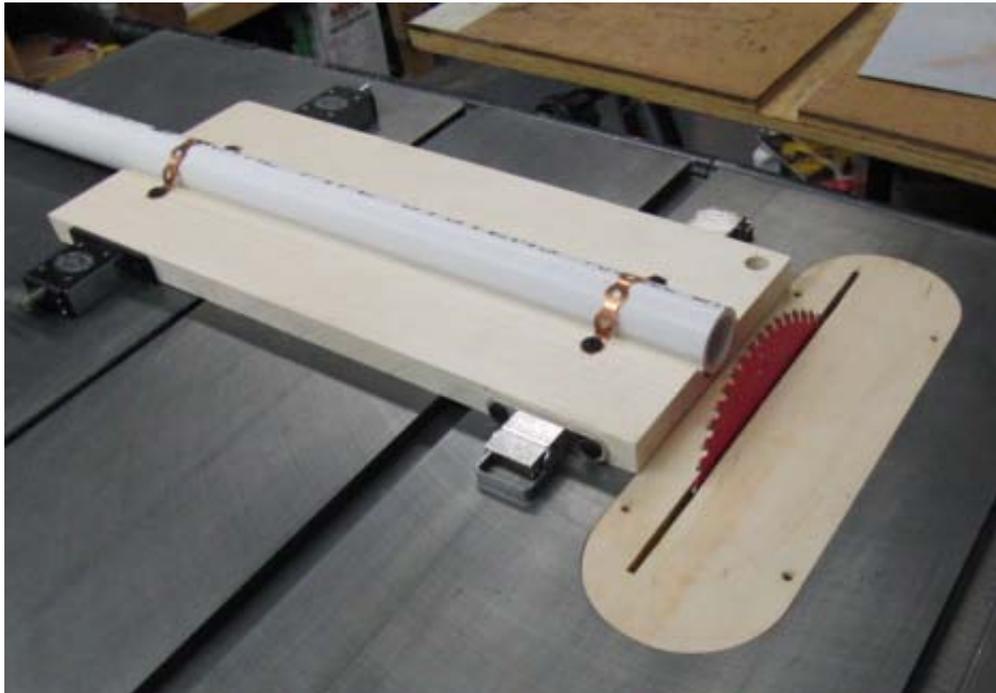


Photo 3- Here is a close up at blade end. I align the jig approximately to the arbour (i.e., at the middle of the blade) and about an inch away from the blade

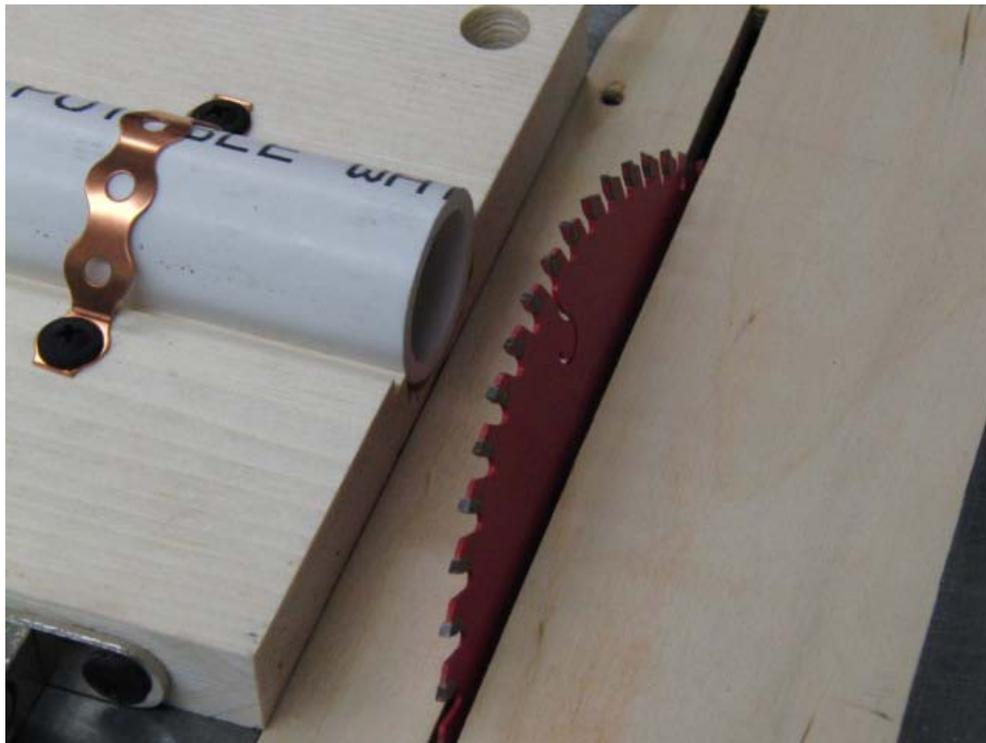


Photo 4 - the other end of the PVC pipe has a 90 degree elbow which is connected to the shopvac.



Photo 5 - for the setup, you need a digital "tilt box" (like this one), a 10" blade and a smaller blade (the Diablo 7 1/4" 60 teeth blade is my favourite. It makes the thinnest kerfs in my opinion).



Photo 6 - and a Rockler Thin Rip Tablesaw Jig

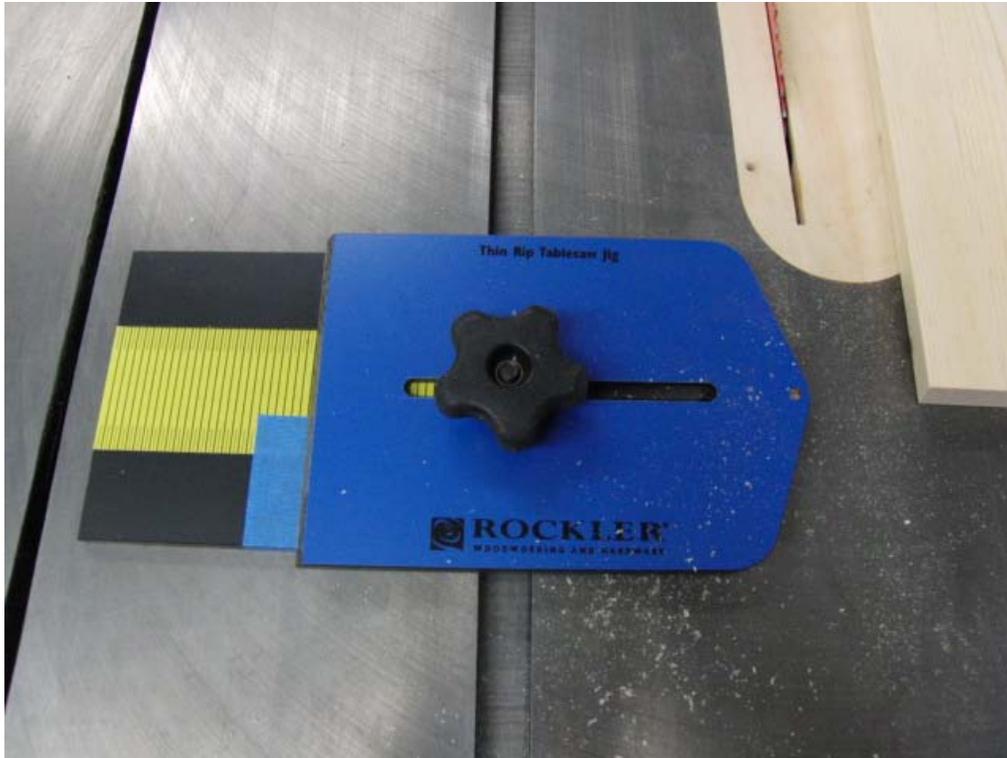


Photo 7 - install the 10" blade and zero out your tilt box on the table saw top.



Photo 8 - I find using the 10" blade is easier and more accurate to achieve the 15 degrees. Once you have angle you want, remove the 10" blade and install the 7 ¼" blade.



Photo 9 – in this photo the 7 ¼" blade is installed. Line up the wood to make the first cut which will be a throw away. Do not worry about the Rockler jig yet. **Please note at this time the shopvac is now turned on.**

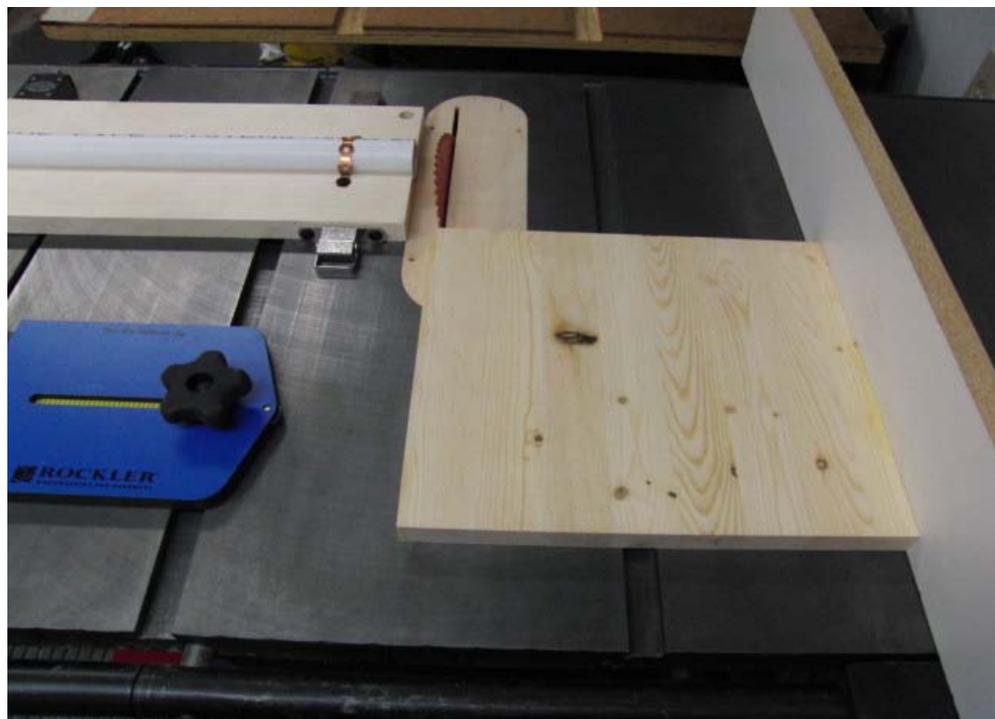


Photo 10 - as you can see after the cut is made; the shopvac sucks the piece nicely against the PVC pipe. No kickback!

AGAIN * VERY IMPORTANT *** Stop the table saw before you remove the cut piece from the jig.**

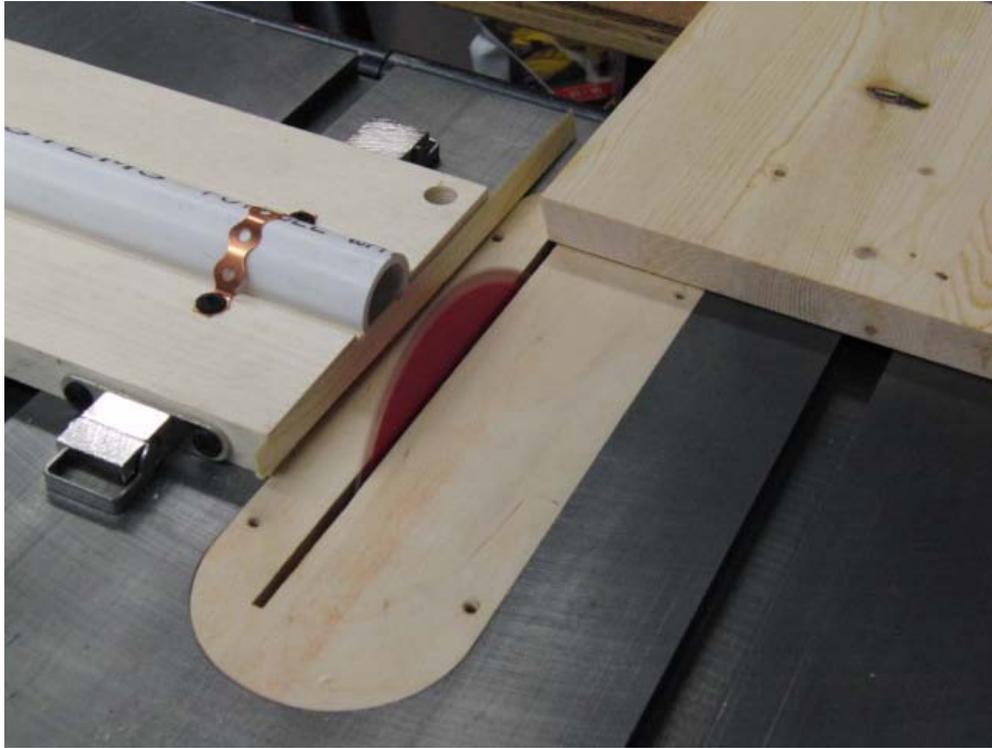


Photo 11 - a close look at the first-cut-throw-away piece.

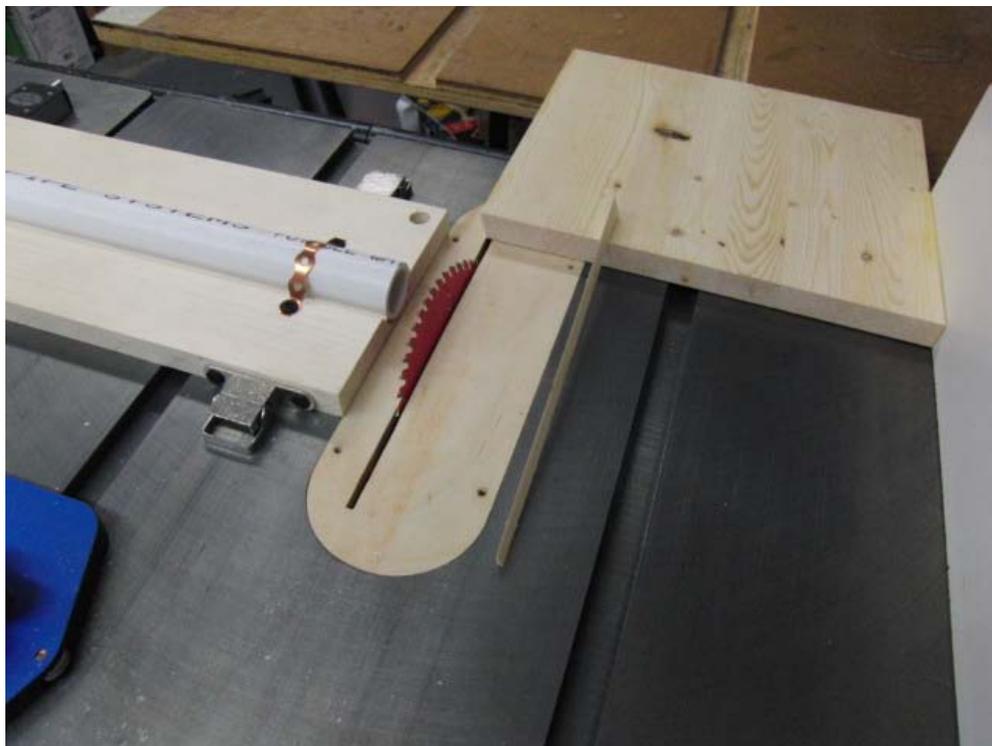


Photo 12 - now flip over the wood end-over-end (side "A"). Adjust the Rockler jig so that the blade will "produce" a nice triangular stave/wedge. The fence now should be "snug" against the wood, and the wood against the Rocker jig.

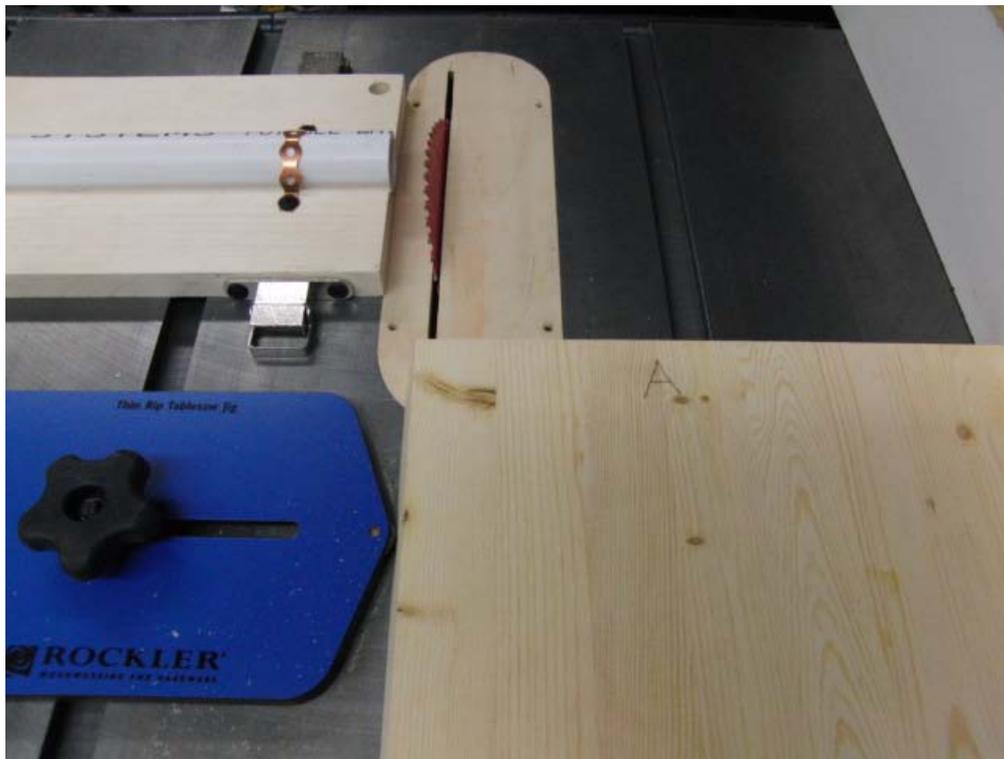


Photo 13 - here is another view of the Rockler jig, the wood and the saw blade.

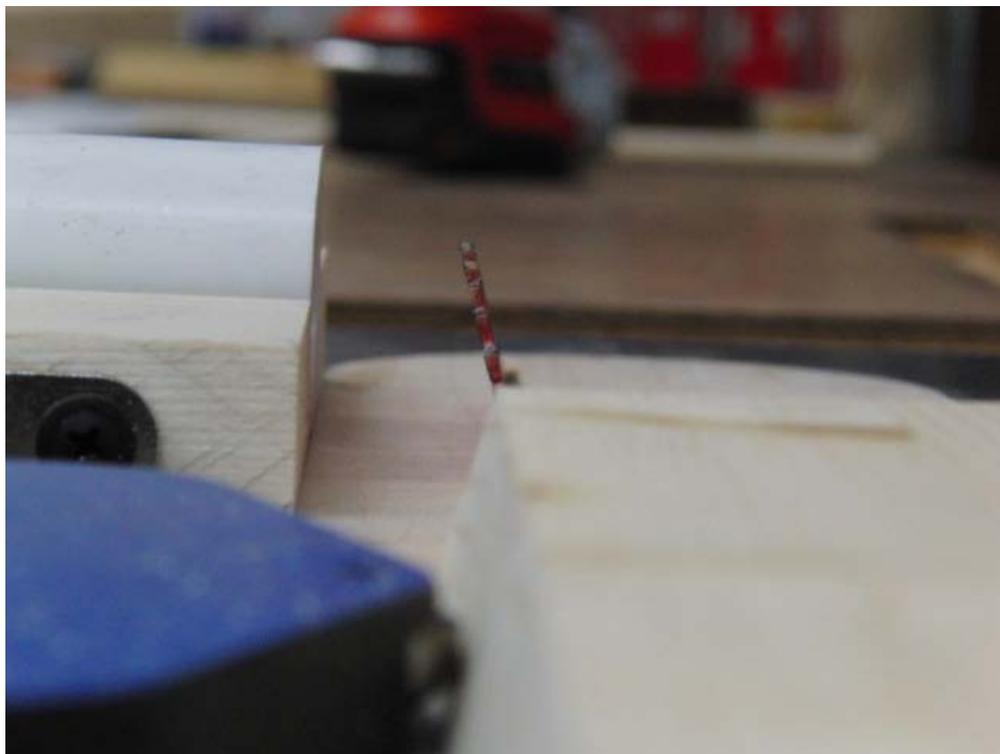


Photo 14 - yup this jig sucks again. LOL.

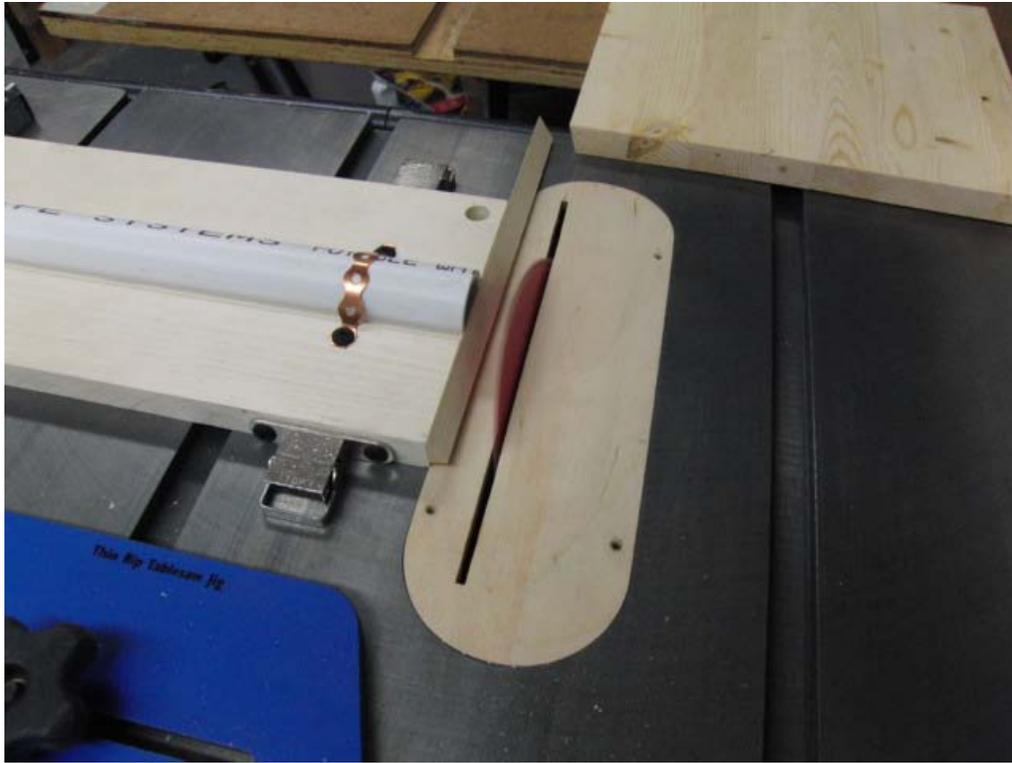


Photo 15 - flip the over end-over-end (now it is side B). The fence, the wood and the Rockler jig are all snug to each other.

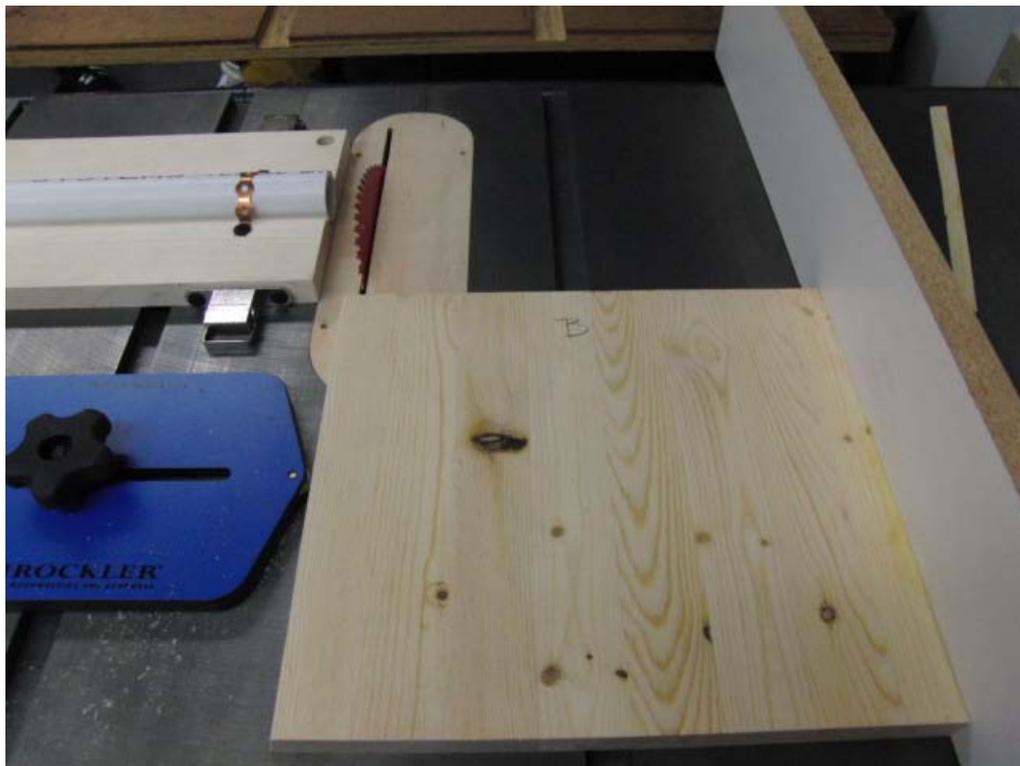


Photo 16 - and make the cut again

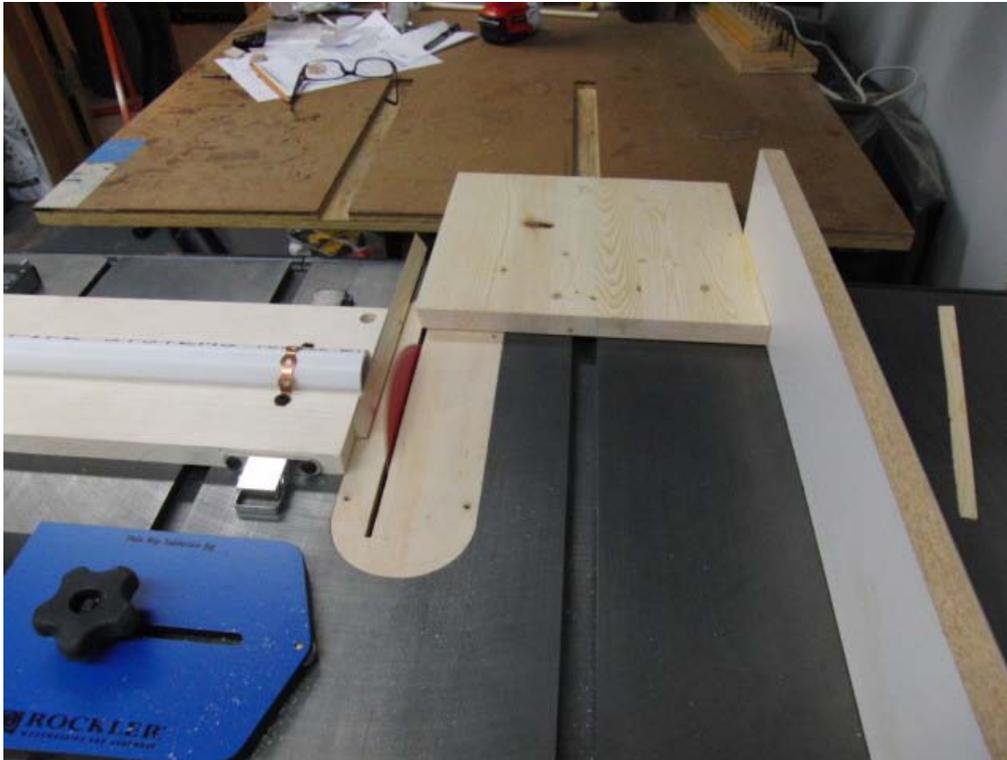


Photo 17 - from here on ... just rinse and repeat. You get the idea.

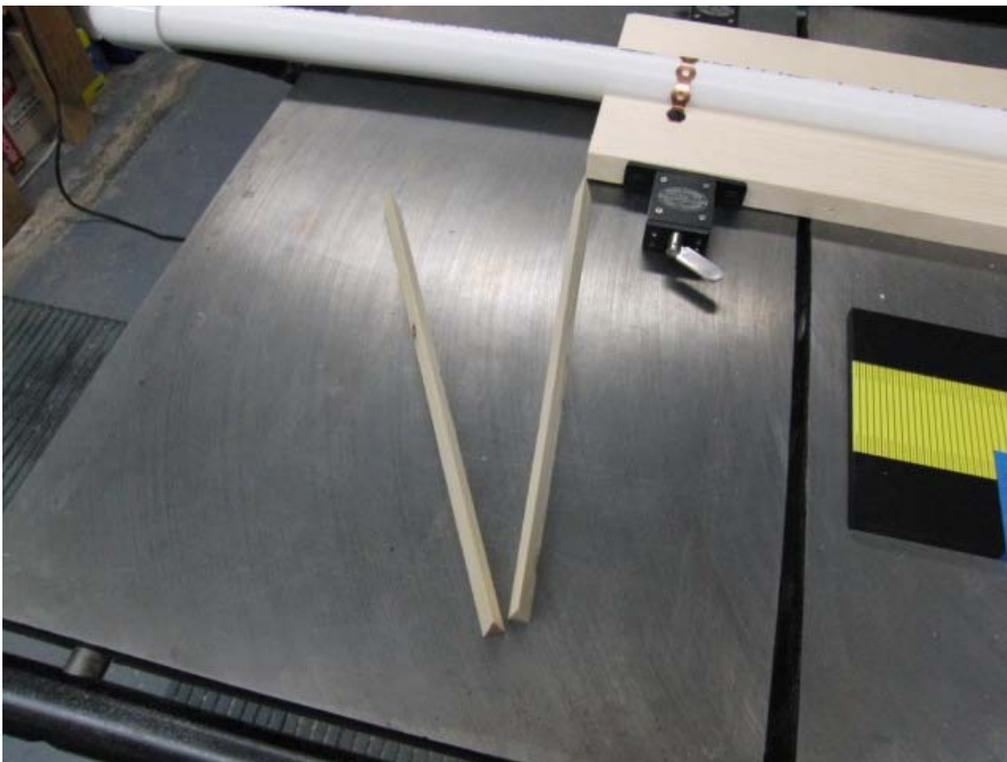


Photo 18 - the hole on the jig is used to stow away the jig.



Bonus Section - Ripping Small Piece

Photo 19 - I have also use this jig to cut thin strips for something like this.



Photo 20 – like this $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ " blank

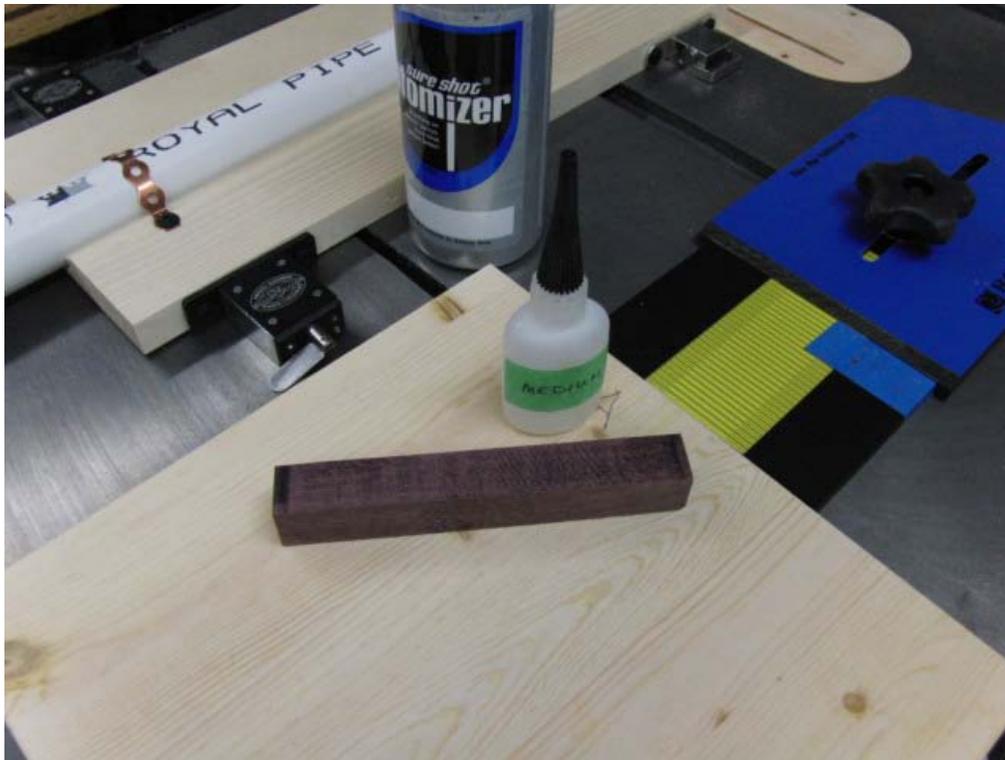


Photo 21 – CA glue the small piece to a wider sacrificial piece wood of the same size $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick.



Photo 22 – the CA is cured. The blank is on the sacrificial piece good and solid now

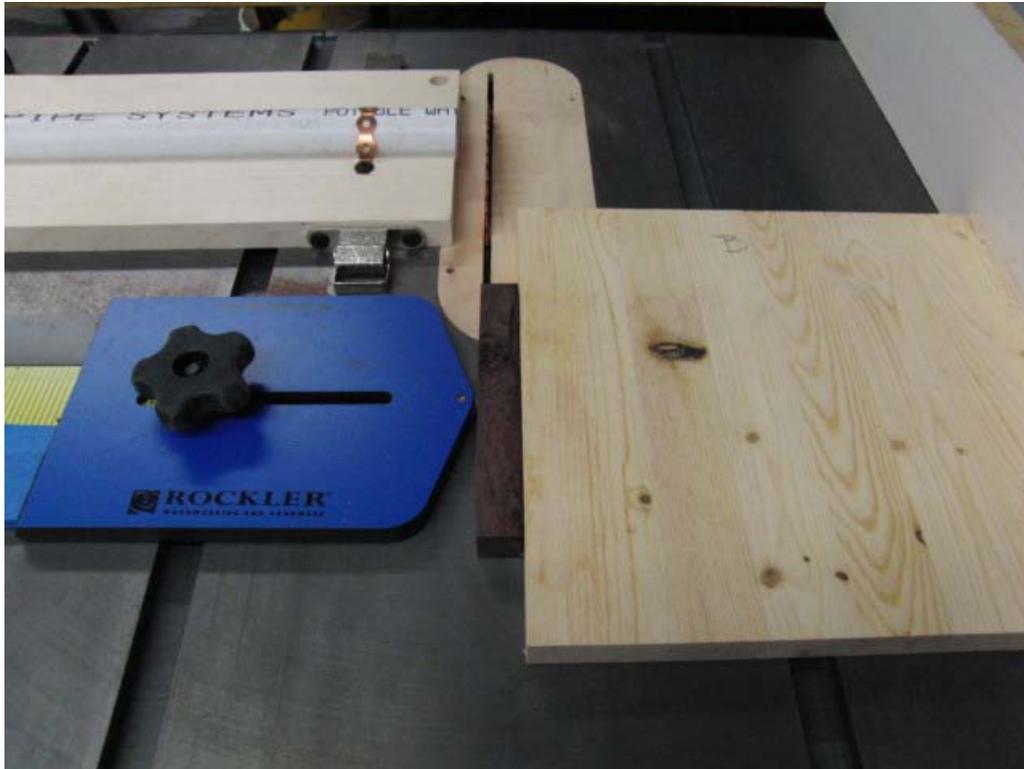


Photo 23 – adjust the Rockler jig to cut the thickness you want. In this case I would like to have mine about 1/32". Proceed to cut.

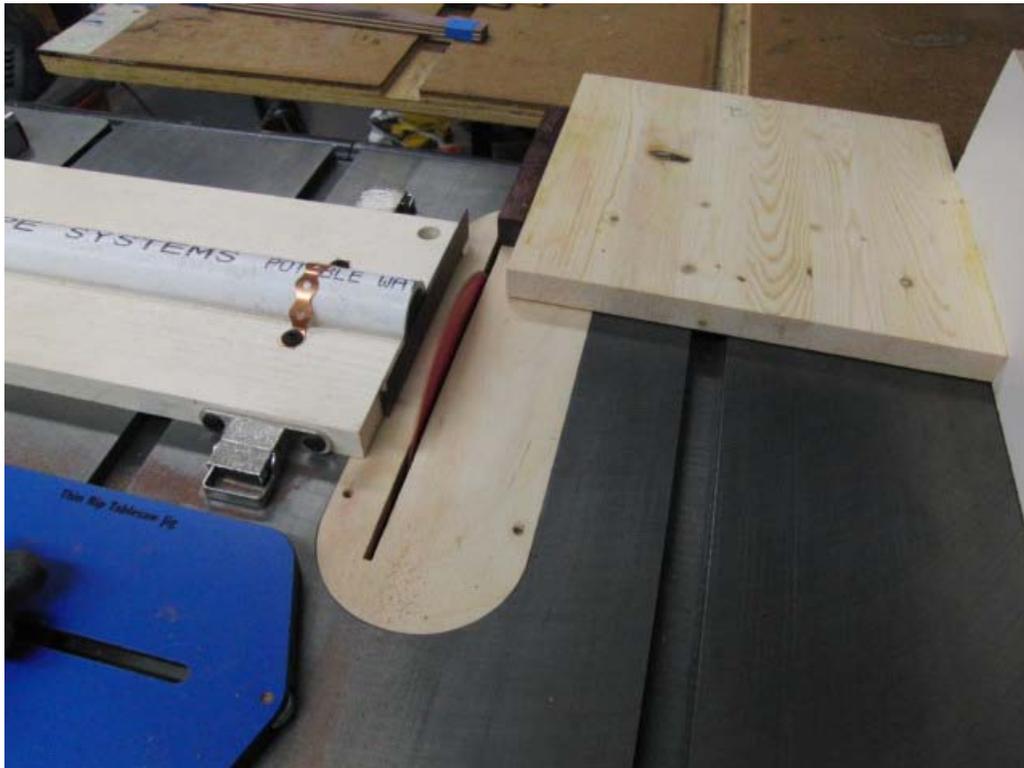


Photo 24 – 1/16" ... humm I need them thinner. Adjust the Rocker jig and rip again.



Photo 25 – 3/64" ... not quite. Adjust the Rocker jig and rip again.



Photo 26 – 1/32" ... yup. And rip some more.





That's a wrap.

Enjoy and happy ripping the thin stuff.

Share your knowledge – write a tutorial.

Branden Wong

April 23, 2013

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