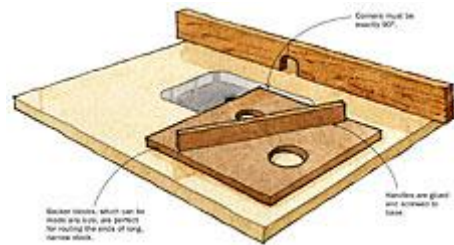


## Backer Block Handles All Cross-Grain Routing



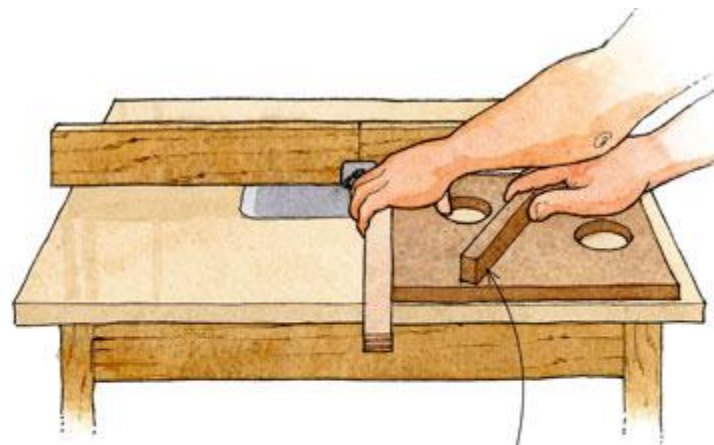
Backer blocks, which can be made any size, are perfect for routing the ends of long, narrow stock.

Corners must be exactly 90°.

Handles are glued and screwed to base.

This router-table push block, or backer block as I like to call it, stabilizes the workpiece and reduces tearout. It is handy for backing up the cut across the grain, such as when profiling a panel, but it's especially useful for milling the ends of narrow stock, such as when cutting stub tenons in a frame.

Made of medium-density fiberboard (MDF), it features a skewed handle that's glued and screwed to the base. The handle keeps fingers away from the cutting action and, being skewed, it automatically applies pressure against the fence as you push the workpiece through the cutter. The two finger holes make holding long, thin workpieces much easier.



Skewed handle helps keep jig against the fence as stock is pushed past the cutter.

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To use, simply hold the workpiece against the block and push through, keeping the block firmly against the fence. The block can be reversed to make a new zero-clearance backer, and it's easy to replace when it gets worn out.