

# Hinge Saw

## Introduction

These inexpensive box hinges are easy to install and work great on production runs. Just cut a slot with the appropriate thin kerf blade on a drill press, and push the barbed hinge into the kerfed slot. What could be easier! The result is a nearly invisible hinge.

## Select Hinge Size / Saw Blade

Kerf hinges use either the .022, .032 or the .046 saw blades. The .022 is for the small kerf hinge. The .032 is suggested for use with soft woods and the .046 is suggested for use with hardwoods. .032/.046 2 3/4" O.D. 1" I.D.

Universal arbor mounts into a 1/2" chuck.

## Saw Blade and Arbor

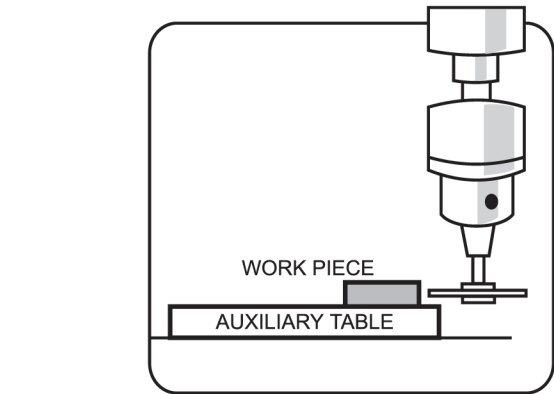
Make sure to install the saw blade on the arbor with the saw teeth facing in the correct cutting direction. The arbor and cutter should be mounted on a drill press. Adjust your drill press speed to 3,000 RPM.

## Hinge Layout

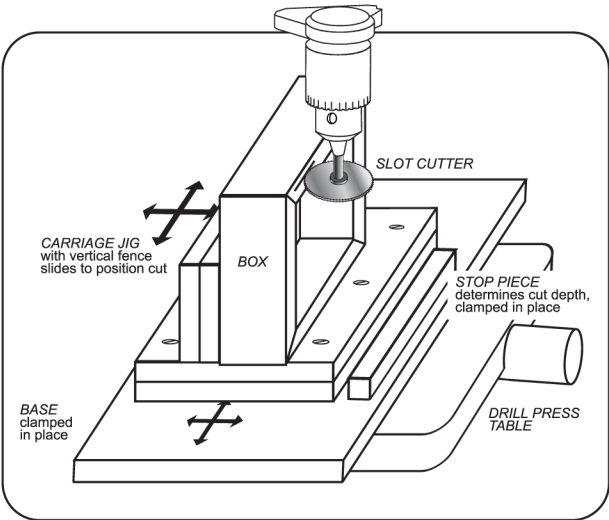
Because your cutter will be cutting slots that are a little deeper and wider than your hinge, precise hinge layout is not critical. The slot for the large hinge should be centered about 1 1/8" from the end of the box lid and body. The slot for the small hinge should be centered about 1" from the end of the box.

## Cutting The Hinge Slots

You can cut your hinge slots before or after assembling your box's lid and box body. If you choose to cut your hinge slot before assembling your box, you will need to raise your work piece with an auxiliary table in order to cut a slot in the center of your board's thickness. Stops can be set in order to limit the depth of your cut.



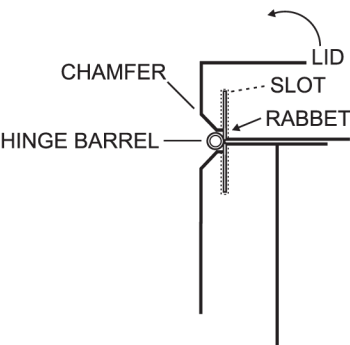
If you assemble your box body and lid before cutting your hinge slots, you will need to create a simple right angle carriage jig that supports your box lid and body as you cut your slots. Again, stops can be used to limit the depth of your hinge slots.



Because your hinge slots will be slightly oversized, you don't have to precisely hit your hinge marks. You can test the depth of your cut with a narrow slip of paper. Insert the paper in the slot. When the paper hits the bottom of your slot, mark the paper and compare the depth to the hinge leaf. Another option is to test the depth with a test hinge. A test hinge can be created by flattening the barbs on a hinge with a hammer. This will allow you to insert and remove the hinge for testing the depth of a slot.

## Hinge Clearance

Two router cuts should be made. The first chamfer cut is necessary to allow the lid to open completely. The chamfer should be cut on the lid and body. The chamfer should end approximately 3/64" in front of the slot in order to accommodate a rabbet that also needs to be cut. The purpose of the rabbet cut is to allow the box lid to sit flat on the body. A straight bit can be used to cut the rabbet.



## Hinge Assembly

Once you have applied a finish to your box lid and body, you are ready to assemble the box. Begin by inserting the hinges in the box lid with the hinge barrel facing back. Insert the leaves into the box body and press the lid down to the box body. Make sure that the box top is flush with the box body.