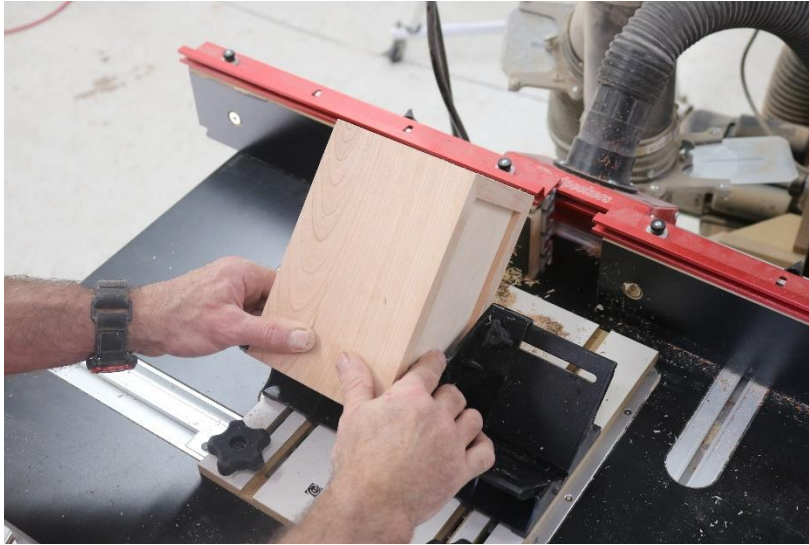


Rockler Router Table Spline Jig

The owner's manual for this jig takes you through set up and use. Here are some tips and tricks that will help you get the most out of this tool.



Pay attention to feed direction. When the fence is to the right of your work, as shown here, push your project across the cutter so the rotation of the bit keeps the work tight to the fence.

When the fence is to the left of the project, pull the work toward you.

Making splines



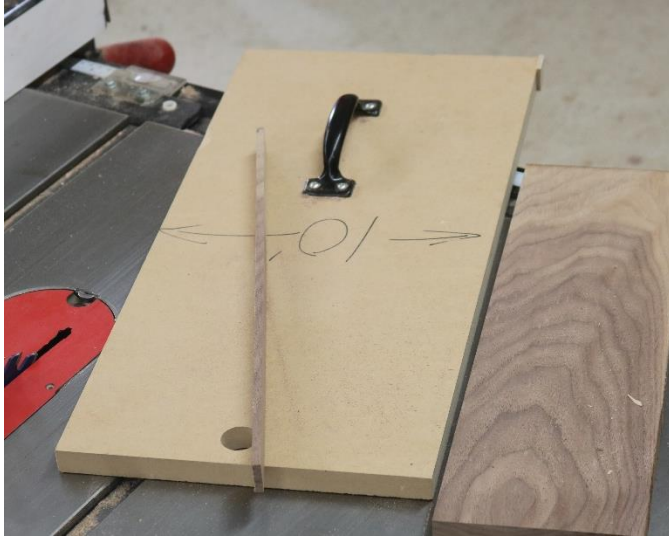
This jig works great for ripping thin strips. Keep the math simple by making the width of the jig an even number. The "foot" at the end of the jig, $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick, acts as a hook to engage the material you're ripping.



Engage the end of the material on the hook, and push the edge of the stock against the edge of the jig.



Push the sled and board past the blade together, allowing the hook on the jig to propel the board forward.



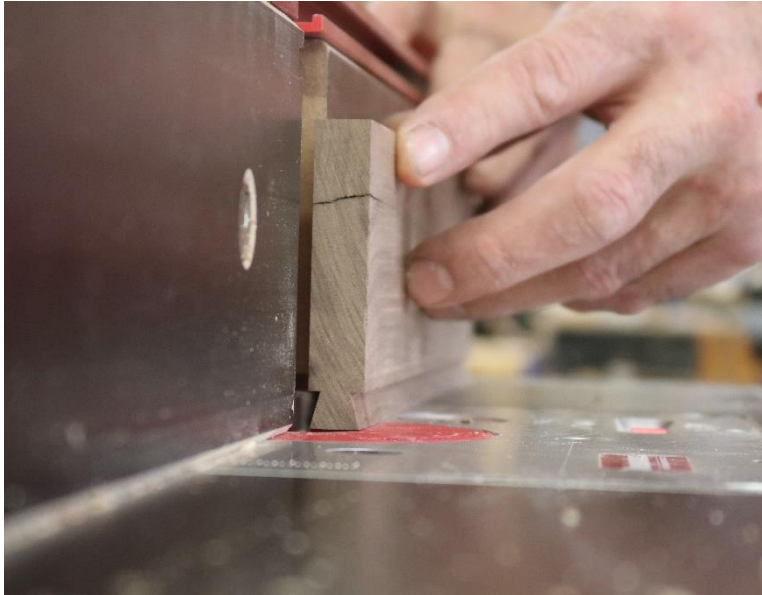
Adjust the position of the rip fence as needed to get the right size spline.



Leave the splines too big when you glue them in. After the glue is dry cut them close with a handsaw, and sand them flush.

Dovetail keys

Measure the point to point distance of the dovetail socket. This is equal to the diameter of the dovetail bit you used to cut the socket. Make the key material slightly thicker than this.



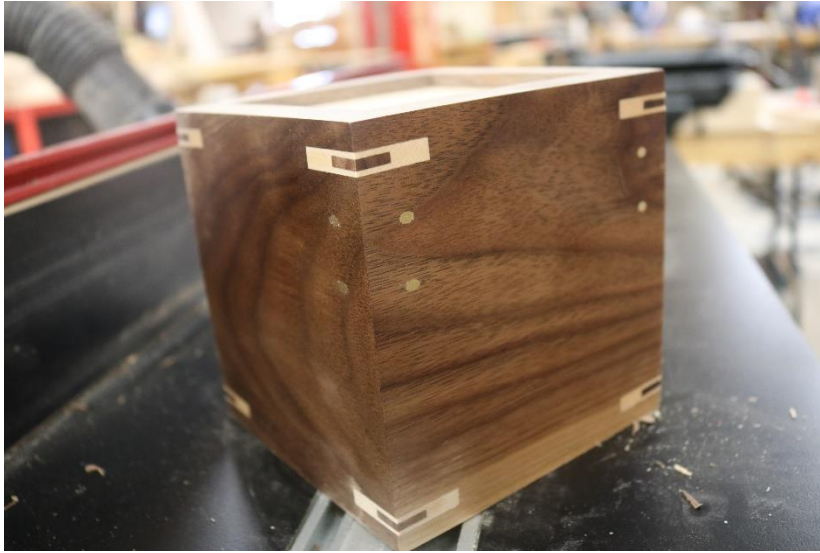
Use the same dovetail bit you used with the spline jig. Set the height of the bit so it's slightly higher than the depth of the socket. Position the fence so you're barely cutting into the face of the board. Cut from both faces.



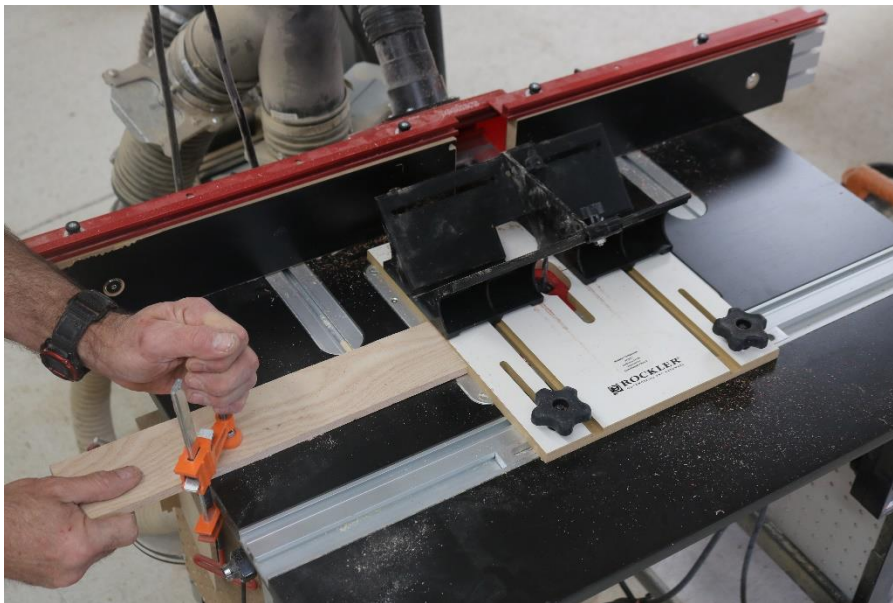
Check the size of the resulting tail against the socket. If the tail is too wide move the fence back slightly, exposing more bit, cut from both faces again, and check the result.

When the tail is the right size, rip it free from the board and cut the splines to length.

Double splines



Double splines are easy to do, but require a few specific steps. In this case, a 1/4" bit was used first, the maple spline glued in, and then a 1/8" bit was used, followed by a walnut spline.



The key to a double spline is repeatability when positioning the jig on the router table. Do this by positioning the jig for the first cut, and then clamping a stop block against the edge of the jig. Now, when you remove the jig to change router bits, you can reposition the jig for the second cut by butting it against the stop block.

Frame splines



When you're cutting splines in a frame, it's best to clamp the frame to the jig instead of trying to hold it by hand.

Sources

ISOTunes Pro hearing protection [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Rockler Spline Jig [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

¼" mosaic rod [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

1/8" brazing rod [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Armor self-adjusting clamp [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)