

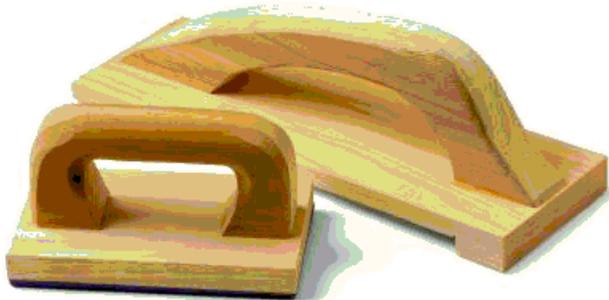


# Jointer Safety Rules

Jointers are machines used to prepare stock for making joints and smoothing the edge or surface of stock. They have high speed rotating knives that remove material as it is pushed past the rotating jointer knives. To avoid accidents, the following operational safety rules must be observed by everyone working on the CWA Jointer. Failure to follow the safety rules will result in a loss of shop privileges.

## Jointer Safety Rules (modified rules from Mark Adams):

1. Keep cut depth to less than 1/16".
2. Do not joint stock less than 12" in length.
3. Do not joint stock narrower than 3" without using approved push blocks.



Directions for making this style of push block appears at the end of this document.

4. Do not surface stock wider than the cutter head.
5. Do not joint stock that is thinner than 5/8".
6. Never put your hands over the cutter area.
7. Always feed toward the out feed table.
8. Never operate the jointer without the guards in place and operating properly.
9. Use the left hand to hold down; use the right hand for pushing stock.
10. Never use your thumb as a push stick.
11. Walk with the board through the cut on long boards.

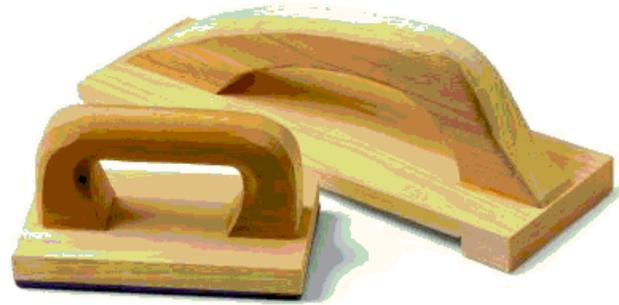
## Start with a Risk Assessment to ensure a safe work area:

1. Follow all procedures in **CHARLOTTE WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION Shop Rules and Guidelines.**
2. A four (4) foot perimeter around the jointer should be kept clear of people, debris and sawdust that could impair traction or footing to avoid slips and falls.
3. Safety glasses with side shields, goggles, or a face shield must be worn. Hearing protection should be worn.
4. Remove loose fitting clothing, jewelry, and tie back long hair.
5. Give the work your undivided attention.

## Operational Safety Rules:

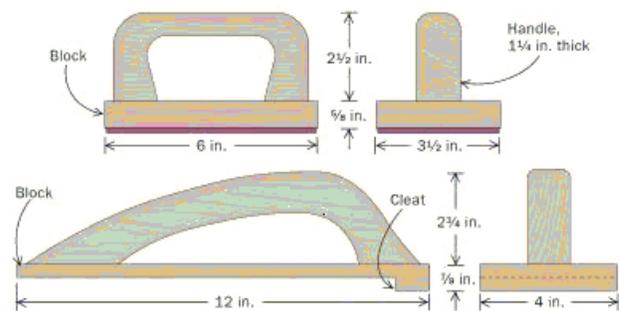
1. Approach your work in the CWA Shop and on the jointer with a safe attitude!
2. **Do Not Adjust the Outfeed Table Under Any Circumstance!!!**
3. Ensure that the machine is off and stopped before making adjustments. The machine should be unplugged before performing any maintenance activities. While machine is off and stopped, make all adjustments, see that all adjusting handles are tight & locked, and check fence for square.
4. Do not run plywood through the CWA jointer.
5. Do not attempt to cut end grain with the CWA jointer.
6. Do not run reclaimed wood that has had nails, screws, or other metal fasteners in it on the CWA jointer.
7. Do not run wood that has been painted, or that has any heavy film finish on it through the CWA jointer.
8. Avoid tip-in. Never apply pressure to stock directly over the cutter head. This may result in tipping the board or your fingers into the cutter.

9. Position your stance to allow you to walk through with the board. Never stand flat-footed facing the fence.
10. Never pass your hands directly over the cutter head. **When face jointing, use approved push blocks between your hands and the stock (photo at right).**
11. Always make sure that the exposed cutter head behind the fence is guarded, especially when you are jointing stock near the guard side of the cutter head.
12. Do not back your work out of the cut; keep going in the direction of the out feed table. Lifting your work off the blades is OK as long as you do it with good control. Do not let go or drop the board back into the blades.
13. If you are jointing long or heavy stock, make sure that you have help or use a stand to support the work.
14. Although the fence can be tilted, the jointer should not normally be used with the fence in a tilted configuration. It is recommended that you use another machine to make beveled cuts.
15. Before you walk away from the jointer make sure the machine is off & the blade has stopped.
16. Always run wood through the jointer with the grain in the same direction that you are cutting and never across the grain. Always examine the condition of the stock and evaluate the grain direction, warp, twist, burl, swirl, kink, and cup.
17. When straightening a cupped piece of stock, joint the stock with the concave side down against the table. The convex, or humped, side should be up. It may take several passes to get a smooth surface. Then you will need to straighten the other side of the stock with the thickness planer.



To make this style of push block you need to know that all glue joints are long grain to long grain and that the cleat and handles are glued on. Start with smooth stock dimensioned as shown. Cut the handles out with a bandsaw or similar saw and crosscut the cleat to provide a rectangular piece that can be glued firmly in place. The article that references this particular push block recommend using a piece of yoga mat to make the pad for the smaller push block.

<http://www.startwoodworking.com/post/push-blocks-jointer>



If you need instruction on how to properly use these push blocks, please ask for assistance.

<sup>i</sup> The outfeed table setting is critical to proper machine performance. It was set when the cutter head was installed and SHOULD NEVER BE ADJUSTED by any USER. Only an approved maintenance technician should adjust the setting of the outfeed table.