

Biscuit Joiners

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Woodworking Machines

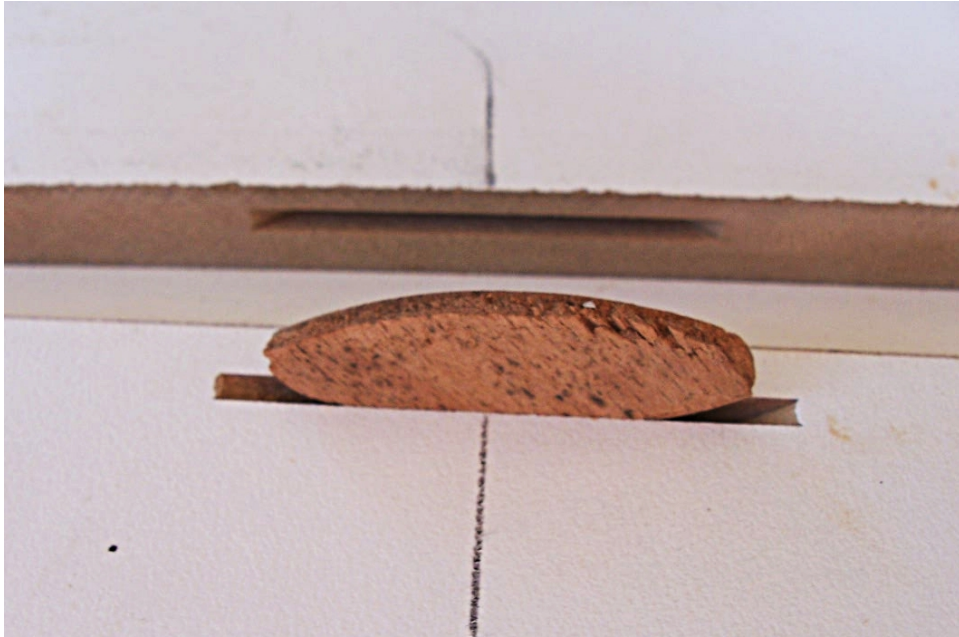


Photo: Billbeee at en.wikipedia — CC BY 2.5 — via Wikimedia Commons (Biscuit-joint.jpg)

A biscuit joiner cuts a small crescent-shaped slot in two pieces of wood, into which an oval beech biscuit is glued to align and strengthen the joint. It is the fastest way to make accurate edge joints, mitres and butt joints for panels and frames.

Key Features

- Blade size typically 100 mm (4 inch)
- Slots for biscuit sizes 0, 10 and 20
- Adjustable fence for height and angle
- Depth stop for the biscuit size
- Dust bag or extraction port

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Join boards edge-to-edge for table tops
- Reinforce mitres in frames and boxes
- Align butt joints in carcass construction
- Repair and reinforce existing joints

Safe Operation

1. Mark the biscuit positions on both pieces
2. Set the fence height to the biscuit centre line
3. Plunge the joiner into the edge cleanly
4. Spread glue in both slots and on the biscuit
5. Clamp the joint tight until the glue sets

SAFETY NOTES

- The spinning blade is exposed - grip firmly at all times
- Let the motor stop before lifting the tool
- Keep the work clamped or in a vice
- Do not use with the guard removed
- Disconnect power when changing blades

Maintenance & Consumables

- Blow dust out and clean the blade after use
- Check the fence locks and scales
- Replace the blade when cuts burn or tear
- Keep the base flat and smooth
- Store in its case with the blade guard

Specification & Buying Notes

A solid machine with a reliable fence and a spare blade is all that is needed. Buy a box of No. 10 and No. 20 biscuits. The fence must set square to the base for joints to line up.