

neers may be glued in place to conceal the cuts. If you're working on an outdoor project, coat the kerts with waterproof glue before making the bend. Wood dough or putty can be used to fill the crevices. When the work has been correctly sanded and finished, it will require a close examination to reveal the method used to make the bend.

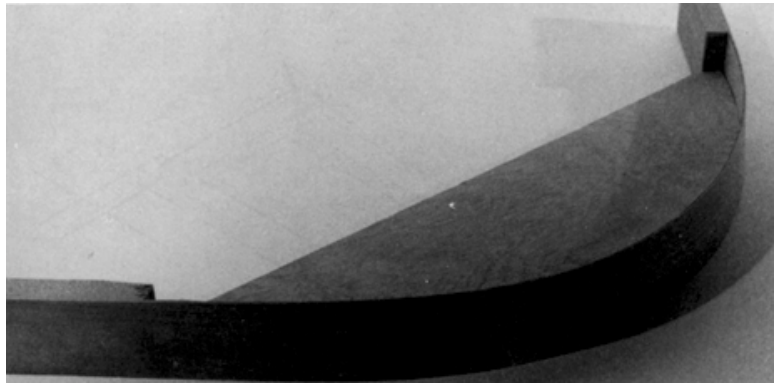


Figure 4-6. Wood can easily be bent when you reduce its thickness in the bend area. This is the “thinning out” technique.

Thinning Out

When thinning out, the stock's thickness is reduced the full length of the bend area (Figure 4-6). In effect, you are producing a length of veneer which is an integral part of the wood. The thinning out can be done with the dado or molder head. It can also be done by resawing the stock on the bandsaw. This method permits very sharp bends; but, since the veneer area won't have much rigidity or strength, corner blocks should be used to provide structural strength (Figure 4-7). Thinned out sections that have the wood grain running lengthwise will be stronger than those where the grain runs crosswise.

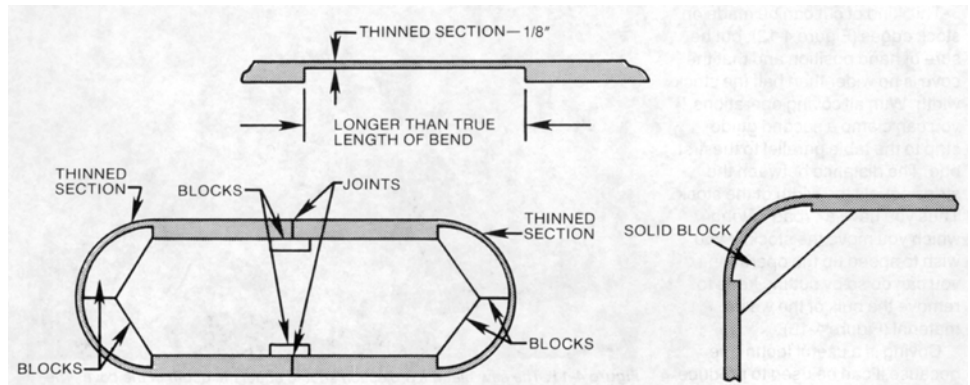


Figure 4-7. Thinned out areas, even kerfed areas, can be reinforced by using corner blocks.

COVING

Coving is a unique table saw operation in that the work is fed obliquely across the blade (Figure 4-8) It is a lengthy process because the shape is achieved by making numerous passes with the saw blade's projection increased by no more than 1/16" each pass. Coving can be done with the table set at 90° to cut a circular cove or with the table tilted to cut an elliptical cove. If a narrow edge cove is needed, either cut it on a wide piece of stock and cut away the scrap when coving is complete or cut the edge cove from a center cove. **Warning: The cutting action is essentially a scraping one, so trying to rush by using more than 1/16" blade projection is not safe.** The blade will tend to cut rather than scrape and the action will cause the workpiece to move away from the guide strip and kick back. The first thing to do is make the parallel rule fixture that is diagram-med in Figure 4-9. The angle of the cut determines the width of the cove. Set the distance between the fixture's long legs to equal the width of the arch you want (Figure 4-10). Next, set the saw blade's projection to equal the depth of the cove and then place the fixture so its long inside edges just touch at the front and rear of the

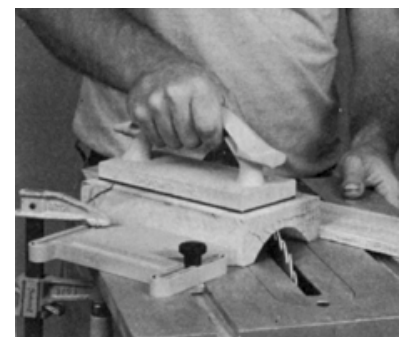


Figure 4-8. Covs can be produced on the table saw by passing the work obliquely across the saw blade. It requires many passes and the cutting should be done with a combination blade what has set teeth.

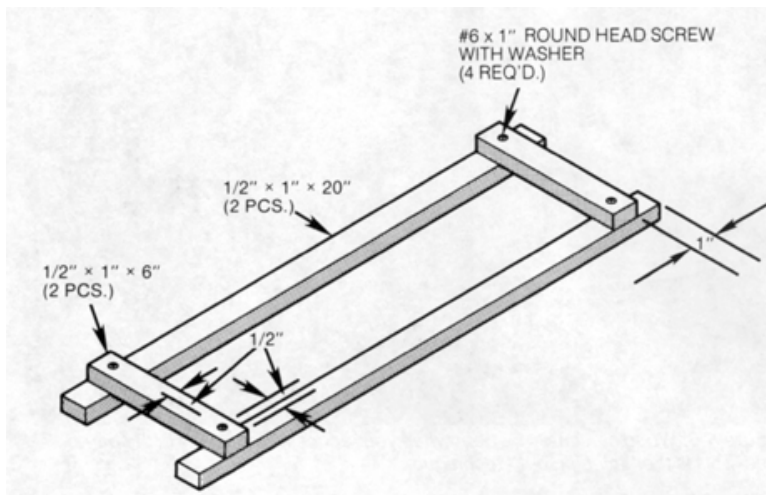


Figure 4-9. Construction details of a parallel rule that will be used to determine the position of the guide strip.

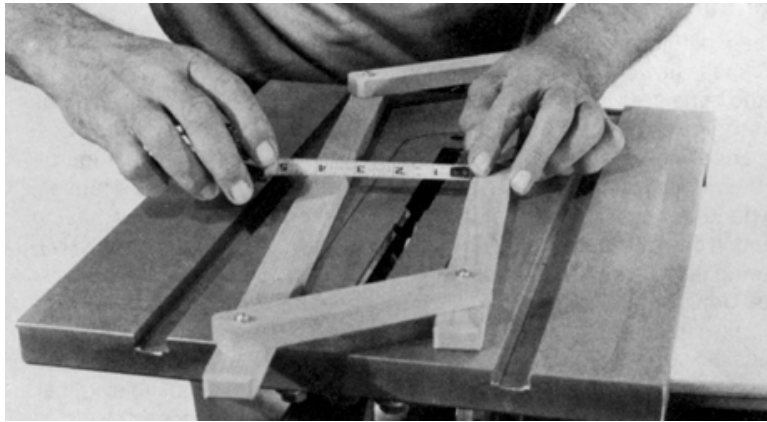


Figure 4-10. The distance between the long legs of the fixture should equal the width of the arch.

blade. With the parallel rule so positioned, clamp a guide strip to the worktable at the angle determined by the rule (Figure 4-1 1). The guide strip must be positioned on the infeed side of the blade only so the cutting action forces the stock into the guide strip. The distance between the guide strip and the saw blade will determine whether the cut will be centered, off center, or on an edge of the stock.

Start the work by setting the blade's projection to no more than $1/16$ ". Use a push block to hold the workpiece firmly against the guide strip and make the pass very slowly. Pay special attention to how you place and use your hands. **Warning: Coving is done without the upper saw guard In place so work with extreme caution. Use a feather board and push block to support and guide the workpiece. Never cut edge coves that will be wider than half the stock width. Avoid placing your hands over the blade or in line with the cut.** After the first pass, increase the blade's projection another $1/16$ " and make a second pass. Continue in this manner until you have arrived at the arch's depth.

This kind of cut can be made on stock edges (Figure 4-12), but be sure of hand

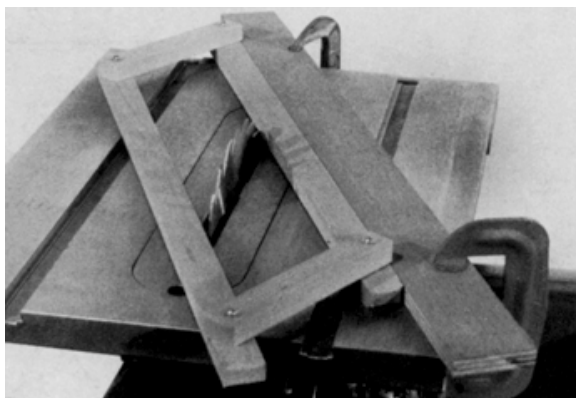


Figure 4-11. The saw blade's projection should equal the depth of the cove. The guide strip's position is gauged by the parallel rule.

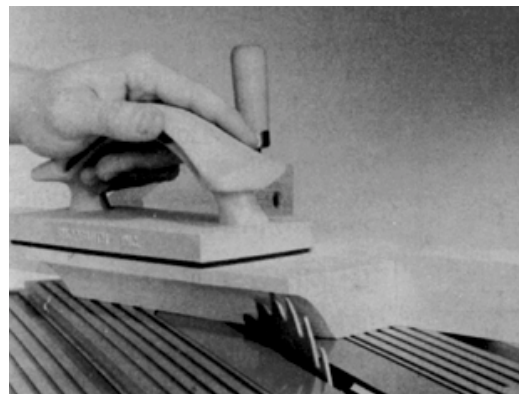


Figure 4-12. Edge coves are also possible. Make the passes very, very slowly.