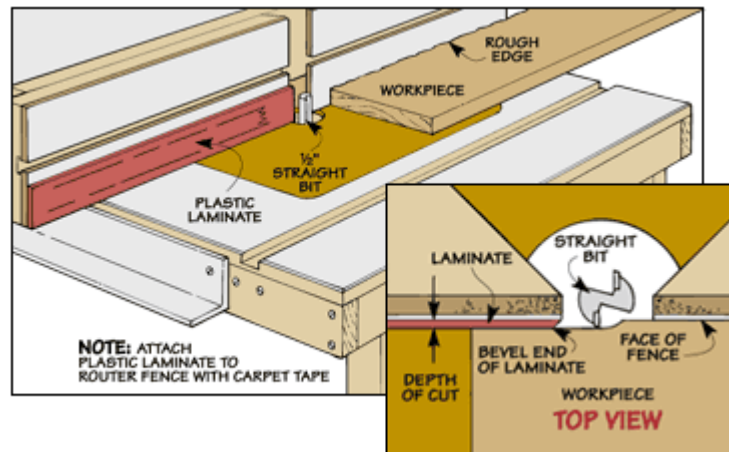


## Router Table Jointer



With just a strip of plastic laminate, you can convert a router table into an edge jointer. In fact, a "router-jointer" puts a surprisingly straight edge on a work piece.

To turn a router table into an edge jointer, simply attach the laminate to the left (out feed) side of the router fence with carpet tape. The idea is to align one end of the laminate with the opening in the fence, see detail. I also file a bevel on this end of a work piece catching on the laminate.



This is nothing more than a squared-up scrap block that rides against the fence as you push the work piece past the bit. To prevent chip out, just be sure the block is at least as thick as the work piece.

**STRAIGHT BIT.** All it takes to joint an edge is an ordinary straight bit. I prefer using a bit with a 1/2" shank. The thick shank helps reduce vibration and chatter. Note: One limitation with this set-up is that the thickness of the work piece can't exceed the length of the cutting edge on the bit.

**ALIGN FENCE.** After mounting the bit in the router, the next step is to align the fence. The goal is to position the fence so the surface of the laminate is flush with the outermost cutting edge of the bit, see detail. This will produce a cut that equals the thickness of the laminate.

**JOINT EDGE.** After locking the fence, you can turn the router on and joint the edge of the work piece. To do this, hold the work piece firmly against the fence as you slide it past the bit, making as many passes as needed to produce a straight edge.