

Pantorouter

- [Manual\(s\)](#)
- [Member Notes](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Tool Tutorial](#)

Manual(s)

[pantorouter_howto_guide.pdf](#)

[pantorouter_assembly guide.pdf](#)

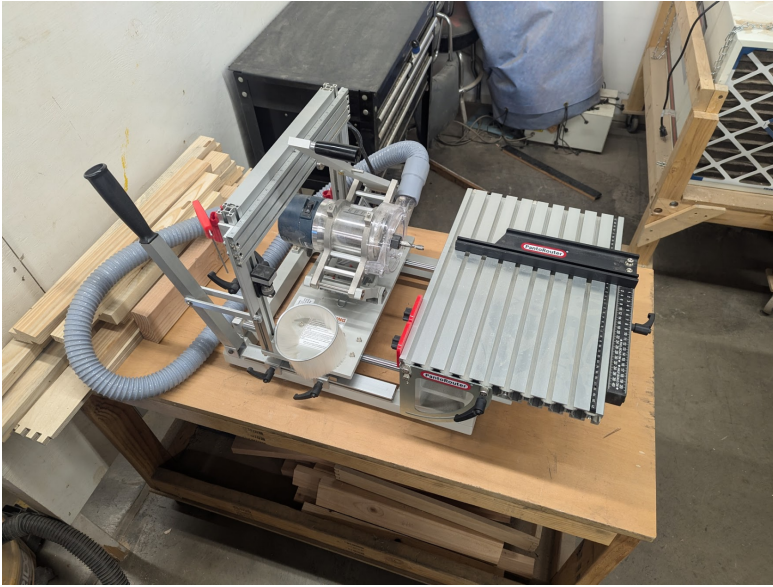
Member Notes

Resources

Where to obtain materials, consumables, and tooling.

<https://www.pantorouter.com/>

Tool Tutorial



This tutorial outlines how to use the Pantorouter for making repeatable, accurate, and even non-orthogonal joints in wood—including box joints. Follow these guidelines to set up, operate, and maintain the tool safely and efficiently.

Overview

The Pantorouter is designed for precise woodworking joinery. It allows you to cut mortises, tenons, and box joints with high repeatability. Its features, including a programmable table and adjustable templates, enable both standard and custom joinery operations.

The Pantopouter is extensively [documented](#) on their website, including a [video tutorial](#) library for particular operations. You should use them!

Controls & Components

Table & Movement

- **Table:**
 - Holds the workpiece securely and can be angled as needed.
 - Equipped with a lockable miter gauge for repeated operations.
- **Axes of Motion:**
 - **Plunge Axis:** Controls the router's vertical movement.

- **XY Axis:** Provides horizontal movement with a 2:1 reduction (1 inch on the template equals ½ inch of router movement).

Template Holder & Templates

- **Template Holder:**
 - Fixed to the Z slide with vertical height adjustment.
 - Templates are stored in the rolling cart.
- **Templates:**
 - Feature a centered hole for using a stylus or pin to align with the template holder.
 - Internal steps allow for extremely fine adjustments by varying the stylus depth.
 - Tapered exterior edges permit adjustment of the final tenon width.

Miter Gauge

- **Dual Unit Scales:**
 - Includes full and half-size scales.
 - To center a board for tenon cutting, measure its width with the full scale and adjust the gauge so that the zero mark aligns with the measurement.
 - **Note on Gauges:**
 - The opposite side of each gauge uses different units (inch/mm), so verify your settings before proceeding.
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Operating Procedures

Preparation & Setup

Bearing selection: p13 and p14 of the how-to guide is copied below for reference:

Bit and guide bearing selection


The 1/2" bit makes good, clean cuts, and is our recommendation for tenoning operations. While most tenon sizes could be cut with multiple combinations of router bits and guide bearings, the 1/2" bit works for every tenon size. Use the guide bearing quick select chart below when using the 1/2" diameter bit for tenons.

Guide bearing quick select chart for Tenons

1/4" thick tenon = **10mm** guide bearing with 1/2" bit
5/16" thick tenon = **12mm** guide bearing with 1/2" bit
3/8" thick tenon = **15mm** guide bearing with 1/2" bit
1/2" thick tenon = **22mm** guide bearing with 1/2" bit
3/4" thick tenon = **35mm** guide bearing with 1/2" bit
1" thick tenon = **48mm** guide bearing with 1/2" bit

Alternate Bit and Bearing Combinations: It's rare and usually less desirable that tenons would need to be cut with a bit other than 1/2" diameter, but in case a different combination is desired, this chart shows the possibilities. See the example below.

Tenon Size	GB		Bit
	1/8"	6	1/2
		10	1/2
	1/4"	22	3/4
		35	1
	3/8"	10	3/8
		15	1/2
	1/2"	10	1/4
		15	3/8
		22	1/2
		35	3/4
		48	1
	3/4"	22	1/4
		35	1/2
		48	3/4
	1"	35	1/4
		48	1/2



48mm 35mm 22mm 15mm 10mm 6mm

It's best to use larger guide bearings and bits where possible.

The 1/2"spiral upcut bit works with every size.

The 35mm (yellow) and 48mm (orange) guide bearings come with the Monster Set along with 3/4" and 1" straight cut bits.

Example: For a 1/4" thick mortise and tenon, the chart above shows three different combinations that can make the correctly-sized tenon. Since it's a 1/4" mortise and tenon, the mortise is cut with the 1/4" bit, then the bit and guide bearing are changed to make the tenon cut. The 1/2" bit with 10mm guide bearing is preferred, but the chart above also shows the 3/4" bit with the 22mm guide bearing or the 1" bit with the 35mm guide bearing will make the same 1/4" thick tenon.

The colors in the chart and on the guide bearing shafts in the photo are for clarifying the sizes, but we do not color-code the guide bearings for the PantoRouter® woodworking machine.

The chart below lists actual measurements of mortise and tenon widths when using the Essential Set of mortise and tenon templates, Segmented mortise and tenon widths are discussed later in this guide.

Note that the width changes depending on the mortise bit diameter.

	Mortise and tenon width measurements for the Essential Template Set														
Mortise	A (1")			B (1-1/2")			C (2")			D (2-1/2")			E (3")		
Bit Diameter	Fraction	0.01"	mm	Fraction	0.01"	mm	Fraction	0.01"	mm	Fraction	0.01"	mm	Fraction	0.01"	mm
1/4"	3/4	0.70	17.8	1 1/4	1.22	31.4	1 3/4	1.73	44.0	2 1/4	2.24	56.9	2 3/4	2.73	69.4
5/16"	3/4	0.78	19.7	1 1/4	1.28	32.6	1 3/4	1.78	45.3	2 1/4	2.30	58.4	2 3/4	2.80	71.0
3/8"	7/8	0.83	21.0	1 3/8	1.34	34.1	1 7/8	1.84	46.8	2 3/8	2.36	59.9	2 7/8	2.85	72.4
1/2"	1	0.96	24.3	1 1/2	1.47	37.3	2	1.98	50.3	2 1/2	2.49	63.1	3	2.99	75.9
3/4"	1 1/4	1.21	30.8	1 3/4	1.72	43.7	2 1/4	2.24	56.9	2 3/4	2.75	69.8	3 1/4	3.24	82.2
1"	1 1/2	1.47	37.3	2	1.98	50.4	2 1/2	2.49	63.2	3	2.99	75.8	3 1/2	3.48	88.5

Notes:
Fractions are rounded to the nearest 1/8"
Templates marked B-V and D-V are for vertical M&T and are the same dimension as B and D above

Workpiece Positioning: Place the board against the front fence to zero the depth for a mortise, or place your piece against the miter gauge with some stickout for a tenon.

Always secure your part with at least two clamps, otherwise the force of the router can cause your part to shift.

Template Positioning: Insert the board into the vertical height adjustment section to properly set the template holder.

Do not fine adjust the vertical axis unless experienced. This can lead to misalignment when cutting your piece.

Cutting Operations

- Sequence:**
 - First:** Cut the mortises.
 - Next:** Cut the tenons.
- Cutting Process:**
 - Make several passes into the wood rather than trying to cut the full depth in one go.
 - For tenon cuts, start with the largest setting (closest to the template holder) and then fine-tune gradually while checking with a precut mortise.

- Use the end mill with the “retracted” plunge depth stop to set the starting height by aligning the wood against the machine when the router is at its limit.

Dust and Spindle Access

- **Dust Cover:**
 - Open the hinged dust cover at the top to access the back of the spindle.
- **Collet Adjustment:**
 - Use the provided pair of wrenches to loosen or tighten the collet.
- **Dust Collection:**
 - Attach the dust boot to the outside of the plastic guard (behind the lip) and use a shop vac to collect dust during operation.

Tool Anatomy, Safety, and Care

- **Tool Anatomy:** Detailed diagrams are available in the full [manual](#).
- **Tool Safety:** Always follow standard woodworking safety procedures.
- **Tool Care:** Regular maintenance ensures long-term precision.
- **Allowed Materials:** Refer to the material guidelines provided in the [manual](#).
- **Basic Operation:** This tutorial covers the fundamental steps; consult the [manual](#) for complete operational details.

Future Enhancements & Extra Tasks

- **Documentation:**
 - Add a laminated chart (pages 13 and 14 of the walkthrough guide) near the tool. This chart helps decide on the guide bearing and bit size for various tenon sizes.
- **3D Printed Accessories:**
 - Create a holder for guide bearings that arranges them in order and displays their sizes.
- **Tool Accessories:**
 - Consider fabricating a cover for the fine vertical adjustment on the template holder.
 - Label slide locks to indicate the “mortising” region.
 - Use bright colors for collet wrenches for better visibility.
- **Dust Collection:**
 - Obtain or fabricate an adapter to connect the Pantorouter dust collector hose to available shop vacs.
- **Template Design:**
 - Design a template and create one with 3D printing or similar.