

Jointer

Jointers are used to prepare stock for making joints by smoothing and flattening an edge or surface of stock. They have high-speed rotating knives that remove material from the bottom face or edge of the board as it is pushed past them. Typically a jointer is used to make one face of a board flat, straight, and smooth and to make one adjacent edge flat, straight, smooth, and perpendicular to the jointed face.



Safety Rules

1. Set the jointer to remove no more than 1/16" of stock per pass.
2. Joint only stock that is at least 12" long and narrower than the cutting head.
3. Use push blocks when needed to keep your hands at least 3" from the cutter head at all times.
4. Do not joint the face of a board that is thinner than 5/8".
5. Although the fence can be tilted, jointing the stock at an angle could be difficult. The use of push blocks and hold-down devices is highly recommended. If possible, consider another machine for this operation.
6. Make sure that any cutter head in back of the fence is covered by a guard.
7. Always run wood through the jointer with the grain running parallel to the length of the jointer bed; never joint across the grain. Examine the stock for grain direction, warp, twist, burl, swirl, kink, and cup before jointing.
8. When straightening a cupped or bowed piece of stock the concave face should face down and the humped or convex face up.
9. Always feed toward the out-feed table.
10. When you are jointing the face of a board, don't let your thumb or fingers hang over the back end to push it through the jointer.
11. Walk a long board through the cut. Never stand facing the fence.
12. Avoid applying pressure to the leading few inches of stock, since that may result in tipping the board or your fingers into the cutter at the start of the cut.
13. Do not back your workpiece out of a cut; either keep going in the direction of the out-feed table or shut the machine off and lift your workpiece off once the cutter head has come to a stop