

AngleMag

by Les Miller
(Associate Editor)

The AngleMag is a magnetic saw-guide which holds the saw in a precise position for joint cutting. I found that it worked satisfactorily with any fine-toothed, unbacked saw.

How it Works

The AngleMag clamps to the timber being sawn with three butterfly screws, allowing the sawing jig to be easily located and re-located in mirror reverse positions or when used left-handed (Photo.1).

A unique feature of the saw guide is a magnetic shoe, which attracts the saw blade and guides it at the angle as set. The guide shoe can be adjusted and locked through a range of 45°.

The guide-shoe is fixed to the end of the mounting shaft, which is then secured by locking screws into the webbed, precision-cast body. This mounting shaft can be accurately orientated each 90° through 360° for same angle, adjacent or mirror reverse positions.

Enjoy Precision Cutting

The precision of the guide-shoe adjustment is so accurate that I found it could be relied upon for square cutting in joint work. The magnetic face of the shoe holds the saw at the exact set angle, while allowing the saw to slide back and forth on the face of the shoe.

The AngleMag is designed to guide the saw accurately to overcome the common predicament confronting many woodworkers — being able to saw across and through the workpiece at a level of precision to produce perfect joint work. While the AngleMag does this, it also does so much more.

Features Galore

Among the features that awarded the AngleMag the Gold Medal at the Salon International des Inventions in Geneva, Switzerland, is the ability to set the magnetic guide-shoe to a pitched angle such as that used in dovetailing and to then maintain this set angle through all four positions of the 360° rotation.

This allows the operator cutting the

joint-work in a dovetail joint to saw the left-hand side of the pins at the set pitch angle, and then rotate the shaft through 180° to cut the right-hand side of the pins. Having chopped out the waste from the pins in the normal way, the shape of the pins is traced onto the dovetail component of the joint.

The AngleMag will now guide the saw in the cutting of the pitch angle of the dovetail by simply rotating the shaft through 90° and orientating the saw to cut on the 'waste side' of the line. Having sawn one side of the dovetail, the magnetic shaft is turned through 180° to guide the saw on the alternate side. The waste material is chopped out with a chisel and mallet to complete the operation. This can be reversed to cut the tails first if preferred.

Where the timber is narrower than the AngleMag, a packing piece of the same thickness must be placed beside the workpiece and a backing board placed behind to secure them both. This can be a fiddly operation but it is imperative that it be achieved accurately. This is not a criticism of the unit but an observation of a skill that will need to be acquired.

Putting You In Control

With the AngleMag the woodworker is able to design the visual effect of the dovetails and pins, confident that the complex sawing angles will be accurately controlled by the magnetic guide-shoe. This leaves the only variable being the accurate placement of the saw.

When you buy an AngleMag there are several suggested joints illustrated with some being easier than others. In every case, the angle of the saw is assured by the saw guide but the success of the end result will be dependent upon

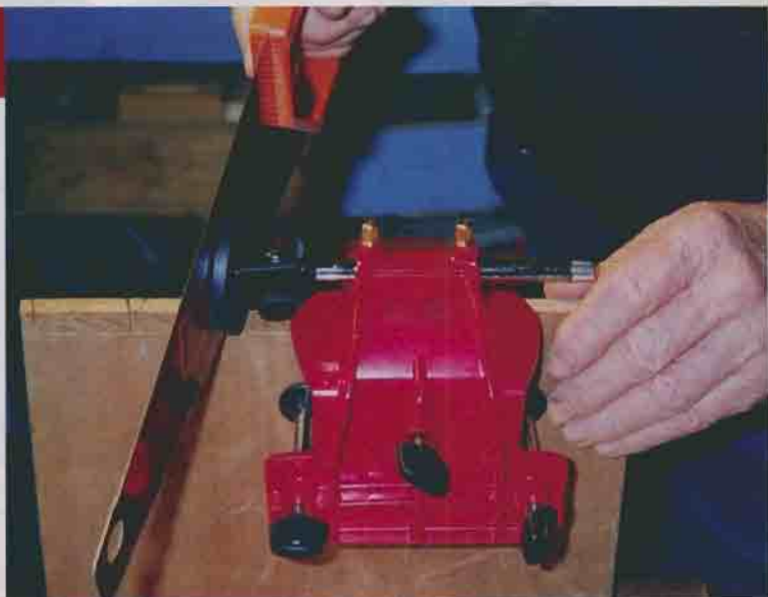


Photo.1: The AngleMag will help you cut accurate angles, crucial for woodworking joint work

accurate marking and extreme care in the placement of the saw in relation to the marking.

There are some instructions and a video included, which will help you to become familiar with the jig's operation.

The AngleMag does not pretend to be a joint cutting jig. It does, however, provide the means by which a person can design individual dovetails, box pins, mitres and similar precision joints.

The AngleMag Equals Accuracy

The AngleMag is a means by which accurate sawing — the centre of successful joint cutting — can be achieved. It does take a little practice to master the many facets of the jig's abilities but it is quite user friendly and the more you use it, the more applications you will discover!

Accuracy in sawing is at the centre of woodworking joint work and the AngleMag will provide this effortlessly. For more information or to purchase the AngleMag contact:

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