

Installing Traditional Bench Dogs

The mortises for the Veritas® Traditional Bench Dogs are usually let into a workbench during construction, but may be added to an existing workbench.

To construct a workbench with accommodating holes, slots must be cut into the outer skirt(s) at regular intervals, which must be less than your vise travel; 6" usually works well.

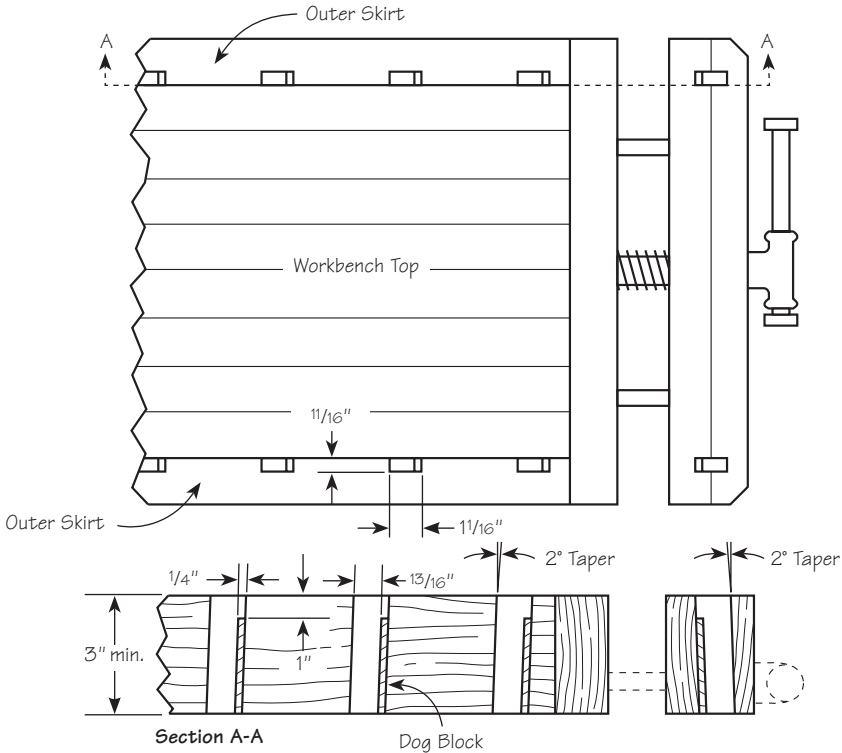


Figure 1: Cutting slots into the outer skirts.

Dado the slots 1 1/16" wide, 1 1/16" deep. So that clamped workpieces are drawn down to the workbench top, the slots are cut 2° off vertical, sloping toward the direction of the vise opening. Cut 1 1/16" by 1/4" dog blocks, long enough so that they are flush with the bottom of the skirt when they sit their required 1" below the top surface. Dry fit the dog blocks in place, and test the bench dogs for fit and movement. Glue the blocks in place, wiping away any excess adhesive. Now glue the outer skirt(s) to the workbench tops.

Existing workbenches may be retrofitted to accommodate traditional bench dogs by adding the dadoed outer skirt(s) to the side(s) of the workbench top slab. For such retrofit jobs, the added skirt should be at least 1 1/2" thick by 3" deep.