Use The MICRODIAL Tapering Jig On Your Bandsaw



(As taught to us by Scott Phillips)

When we designed the MICRODIAL Tapering Jig, we knew it was great for table saw use, and the router table if the top is large enough.

We had not really thought of using it on any but the very largest industrial band saws. But during a recent visit with Scott Phillips of "The American Woodshop" TV show, he showed us a clever way to use the MICRODIAL on a common 14" bandsaw.



Scott had added a simple plywood extension table onto his 14" bandsaw and used a clamping straight edge as the fence. Brilliant!



Scott's band saw has a pair of steel tubes already mounted so he used toggle clamps to connect his table onto the saw.

Our table was a different design, so we needed to figure out our own design. You may need to adapt this to your specific table and materials on hand.





A leftover side from a shipping crate was the basis of this table. The ply was a bit rough, so it was sanded and laminated to provide a smooth working surface.

Cleats along three sides will keep the 1/2" thick table flat, and clearance for the blade is a 1" wide slot so the table

simply slides on from the right side of the table.

The real trick is to figure out a simple and easy way to attach the auxiliary table.

I simply added a pair of cleats to the underside of my extension table, snug against the band saw's table. The cleats were cut just a little less deep than the table to allow for clamping.

A set of shop-built clamps made of 1/8" aluminum extend over the bottom of the



bandsaw table and are tightened to it with the knobs. Fender washers would work great, if you have some on hand.

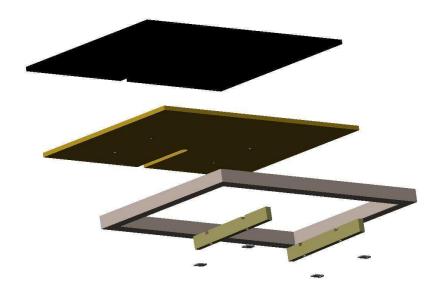
A measured drawing is included, but this was all built with on-hand parts. You may need to adapt the design to your saw and materials you have available. Keep it simple and strong.



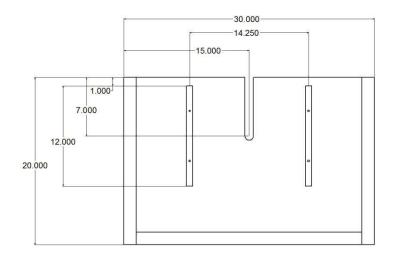
Some form of elaborate fence system could be used here, but the simple clamping straight edge that Scott showed us is quick, easy and reliable. It also allows for setting an angle to account for blade 'drift' if needed.

Now you can cut quick and accurate tapers on your band saw too!





This simple exploded view shows how the pieces are stacked with laminate on top of ply, attached to cleats, and clamps added last.



These dimensions worked on our 14" Delta band saw but you may need to modify them for your saw.