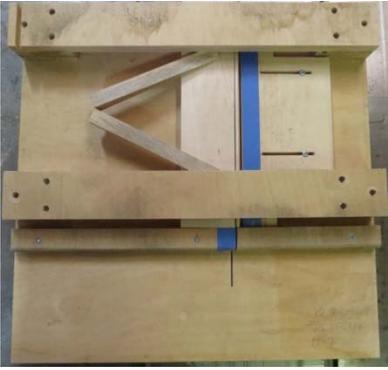


Linear-Stave Birdhouse Ornament – Linear-Stave Cutting Jig



The Linear-Stave Cutting Jig in the Linear-Stave Birdhouse Ornament

presentation is a simple homemade fixture to securely hold pieces of wood from which long narrow linear stave strips were cut using a table saw. Due to the narrowness of the linear stave strips, the wide side of the strip being cut was oriented down for stability. In a following step, multiple linear-staves for **Birdhouse Ornaments** would be cut from each of the long strips.

The design and layout of this jig was influenced by bits and pieces of birch ply on hand. Some dimensions are specific to the General 350 table saw, such as sled runner width and gap between runners. The objective of the jig was to cut linear staves from $\frac{1}{2}$ " to $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick, $\frac{3}{8}$ " to 1" width, and up to 12" long. The linear stave bevel angle is dependent on the number of staves in a ring, for example, a 12 stave ring would require a 15° bevel angle ($360/12/2$).

Accurately cut linear staves require an accurately constructed **Linear-Stave Cutting Jig!** Most importantly, the **Back Stop** must be perpendicular to the blade and the stop side of **Width Stop** must be parallel with the blade.



The width of the linear staves is adjusted by screws in the 2 slots of the **Width Stop**. The blank is fed along the **Back Stop** from the left side and butted against the **Width Stop**. Two long slender tapered wedges were used to secure the blank being cut; one under the **Front Bridge**, one under the **Back Bridge**.

The linear stave strips are cut along the grain of the blank. The blanks are pre-cut to length, while ensuring that the front and back faces, that is the end-grain faces, of the blank are parallel, since the blank is flipped over front-to-back between each cutting of a linear stave from the blank.

