

Bench Clamps

From the editors of
Woodworking
CANADIAN
& HOME IMPROVEMENT

Holdfasts (Traditional)

Cast iron or forged steel with fixed head and post. Various lengths and post diameters. Hit on head to set. Tap on back to release. Holds stock up to 4" thick.



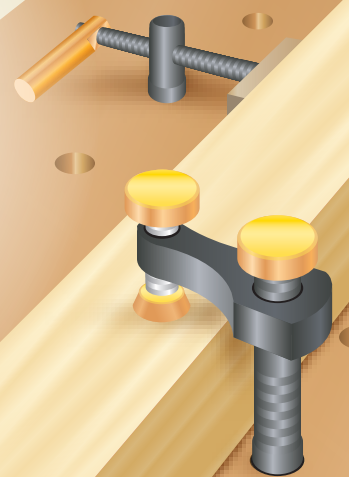
Toggle Clamps

Articulating arm attached to a base plate with bottom mounted post for insertion into dog holes. Adjustable clamping capacity up to 2-3/4".



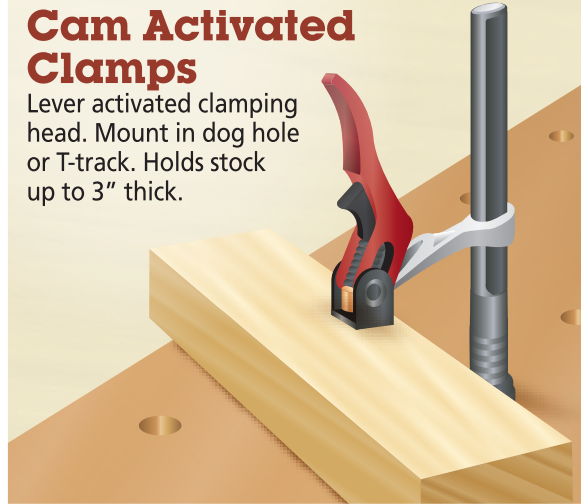
Dog Clamps

Handle activated clamping head. Posts of varying lengths. Various clamping capacities.



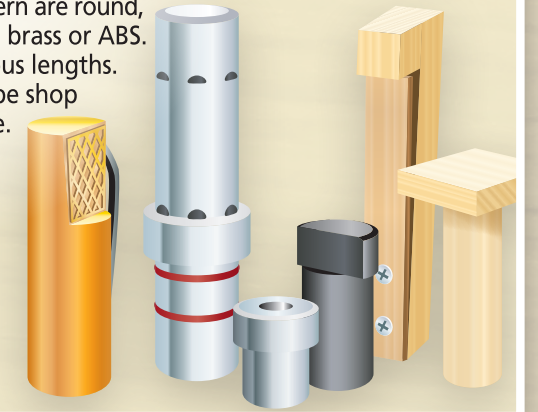
Cam Activated Clamps

Lever activated clamping head. Mount in dog hole or T-track. Holds stock up to 3" thick.



Bench Dogs

Traditional are square, made of wood. Modern are round, steel, brass or ABS. Various lengths. Can be shop made.



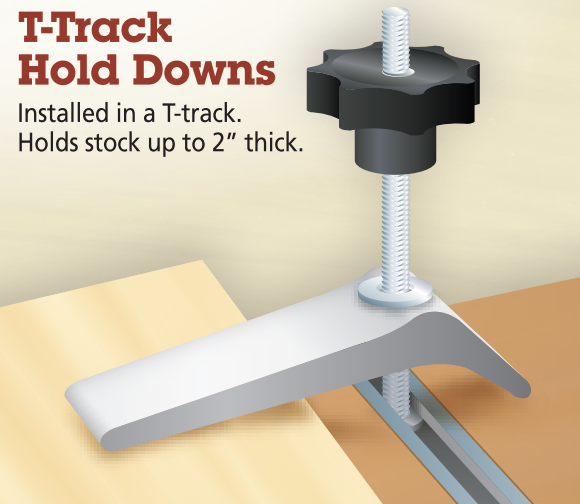
Holdfasts (Pivoting Head)

Metal post with articulating or sliding head. Turn handle to set or release pressure. Holds stock up to 5" thick.



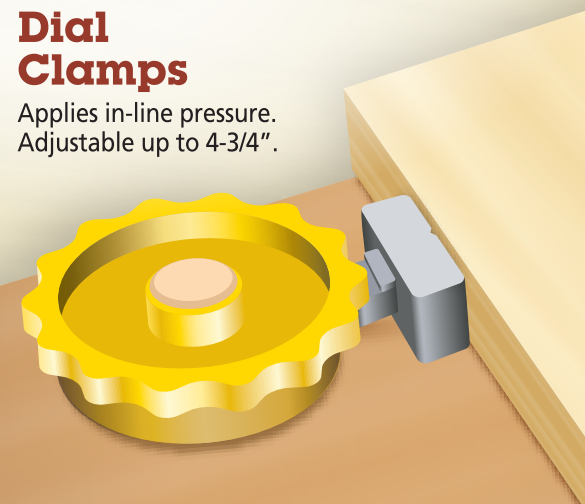
T-Track Hold Downs

Installed in a T-track. Holds stock up to 2" thick.



Dial Clamps

Applies in-line pressure. Adjustable up to 4-3/4".



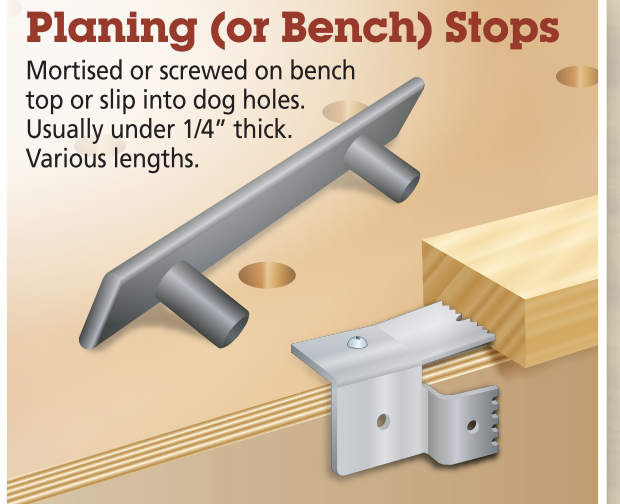
Sliding Jaw Clamps

Quick release clamp. Mount in dog hole or T-track. Low-profile 1/4" clamping jaw.



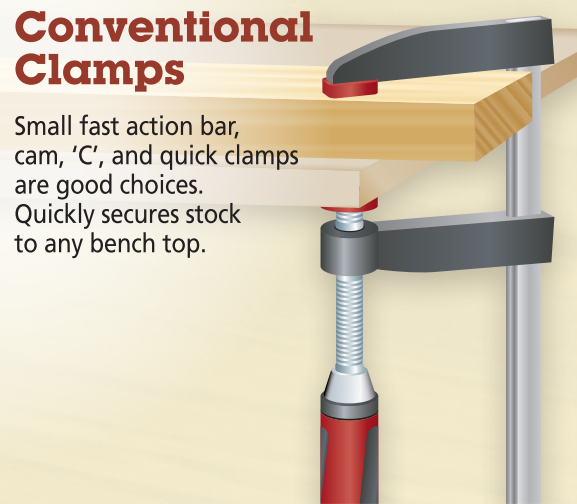
Planing (or Bench) Stops

Mortised or screwed on bench top or slip into dog holes. Usually under 1/4" thick. Various lengths.



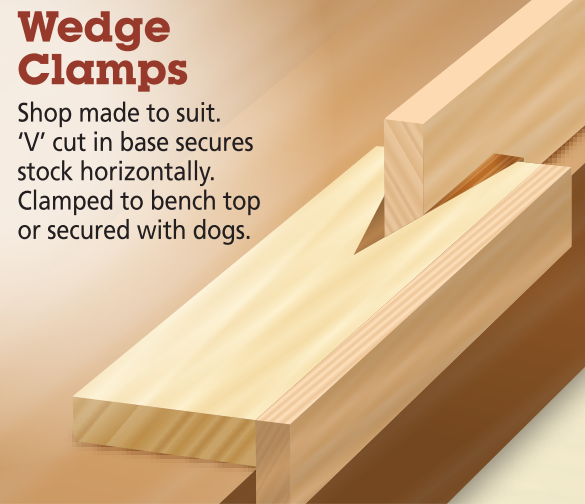
Conventional Clamps

Small fast action bar, cam, 'C', and quick clamps are good choices. Quickly secures stock to any bench top.



Wedge Clamps

Shop made to suit. 'V' cut in base secures stock horizontally. Clamped to bench top or secured with dogs.



TIPS:

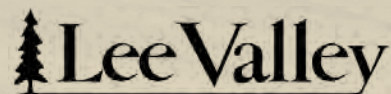
Bench dogs and clamps with posts come in 3/4" and 20mm diameters - choose the size that fits the holes on your bench.

Soften the edges of holes in your workbench by chamfering them with a hand-held router and 45-degree chamfer bit or drill/driver equipped with a countersink.

You only need to apply enough pressure with these bench clamps to keep stock from moving - don't over-tighten.

You'll likely need more than one type of bench clamp, as different devices excel at different clamping applications.

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