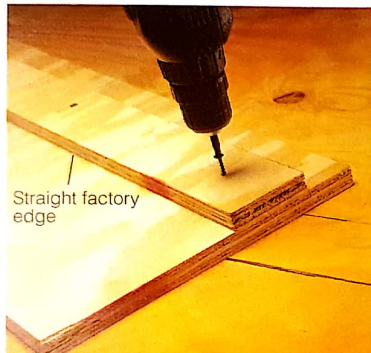
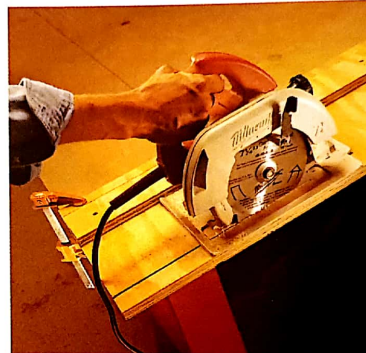


Straight-cut Jigs

Guided by a straightedge, a circular saw can make cuts nearly as precisely as most tablesaws, but it can't do it as expeditiously. There's a whole routine involved: You have to mark the cutline, allow for the saw-base edge's offset from the blade, position the straightedge accurately and clamp it down. Even then, it often takes a couple of test cuts before you have the guide precisely where you need it. This simple shop jig fixes that problem by letting you align the jig right on the cutline, with no need to calculate an offset dimension.



1 Start with a 3-in. (8-cm)-wide piece of 3/4-in. plywood with one factory edge. Fasten it to a 12-in. (30-cm)-wide plywood base as shown. The narrow offset on the outboard edge provides a clamping ledge.



2 Clamp the jig to a stable surface; then trim the excess material from the base's wide part. Allow enough overhang so that you cut only the jig base and not the support surface underneath.



3 To use the jig, align the cut edge of the base with the layout marks on your workpiece. Adjust the cutting depth so the blade makes it completely through. **Note:** The clamping ledge provides clearance for the saw motor.