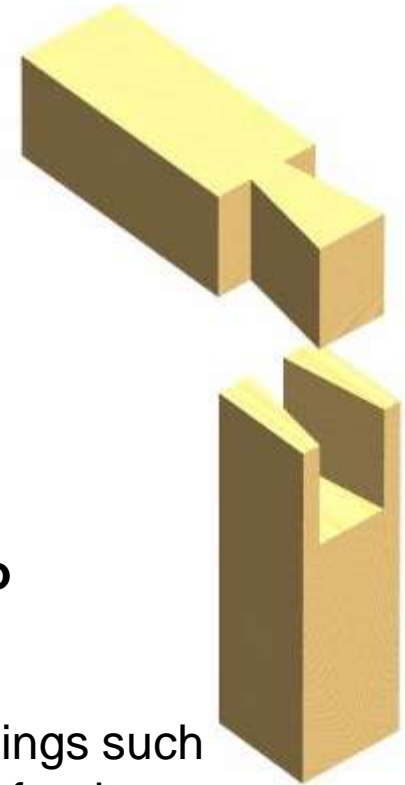


Dove Tail

Teachersunderground.site.io



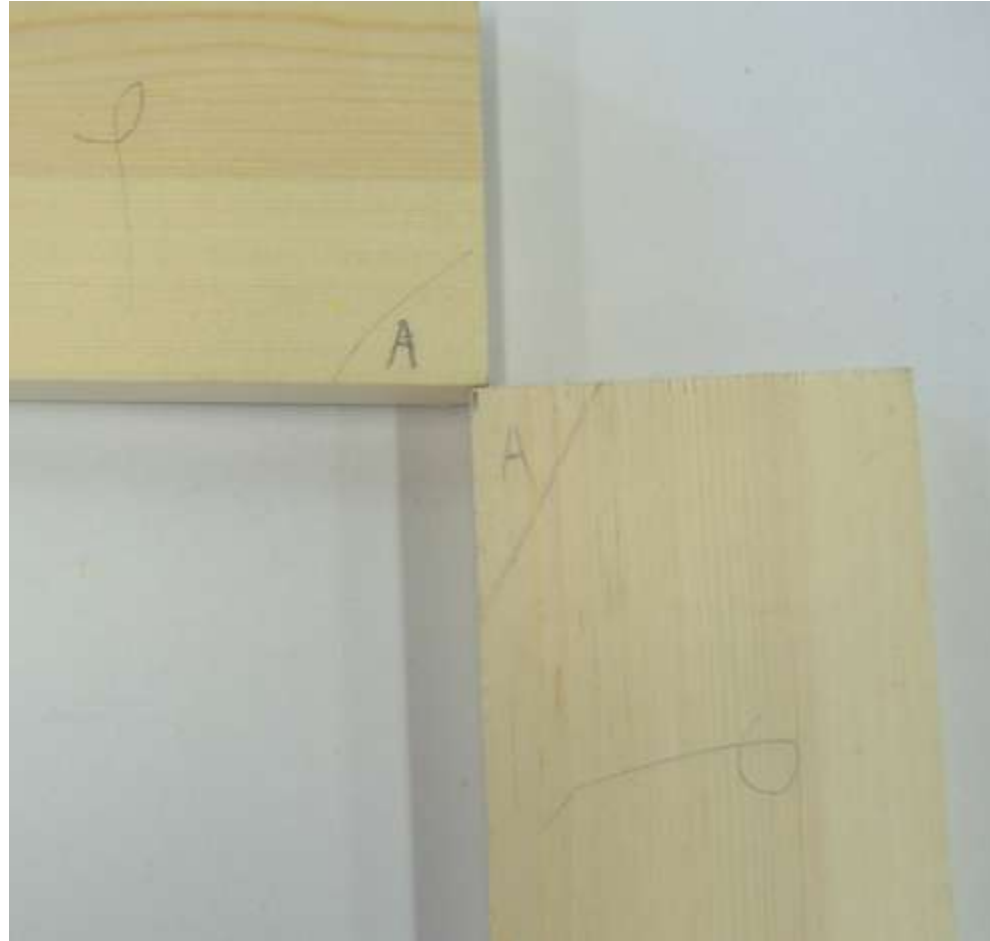
This type of joint is used in box construction, these are things such as; draws, jewellery boxes, cabinets and other pieces of furniture where strength is required.

The 'Dove Tail Joint' is very strong because of the way the 'tails' and 'pins' are shaped. This makes it difficult to pull the joint apart.

It is a difficult joint and requires practice however when cut accurately they are very impressive and attractive.

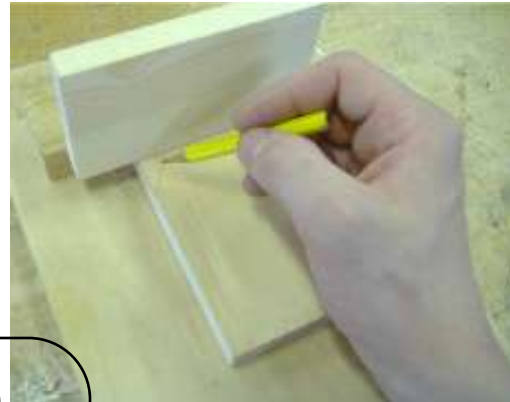
Step 1

Making the Tail

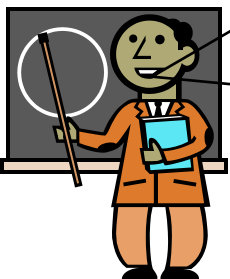


First you need to mark out the edges to be joined together these are indicated by A,A B,B, C,C etc and the face edges (the best edges) as laid out in the diagram above

Step 2

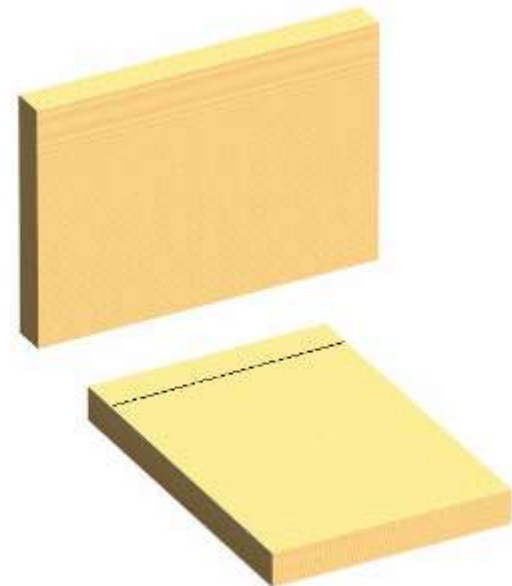


To make sure your line is accurate use a bench hook to hold your wood straight.

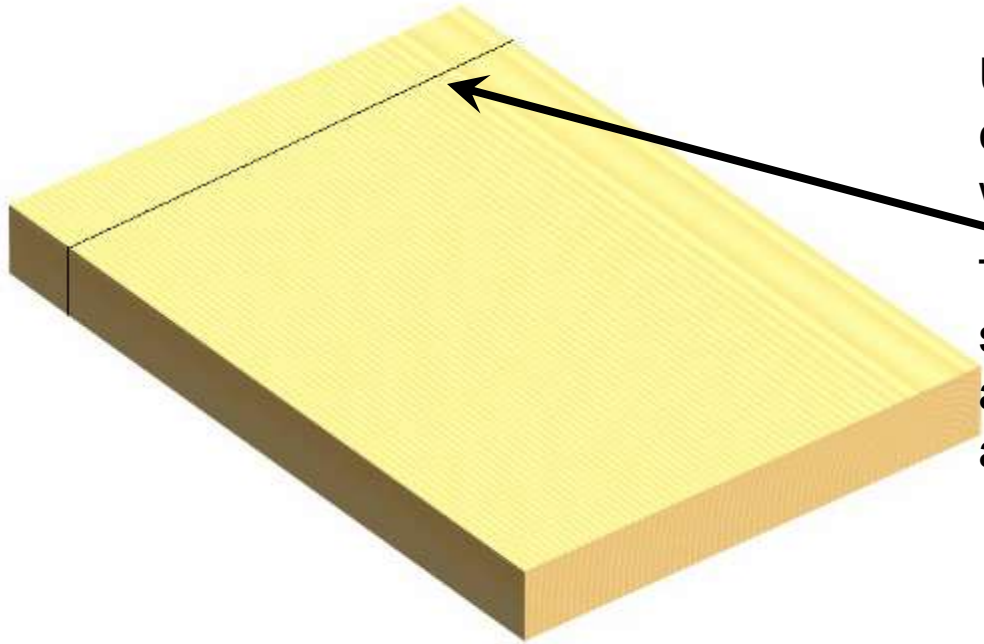


Use the edge of your other piece of wood to mark the thickness as in the diagram

Use a sharp pencil to mark the thickness of the wood

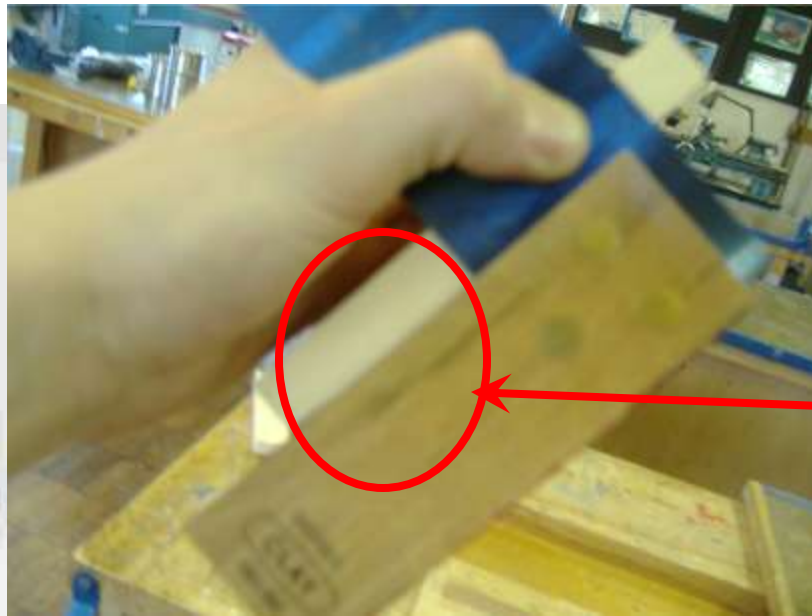


Step 3



Using a tri square continue the line all the way round your wood.

This line is called the shoulder line, this will act as a guide when you are sawing.

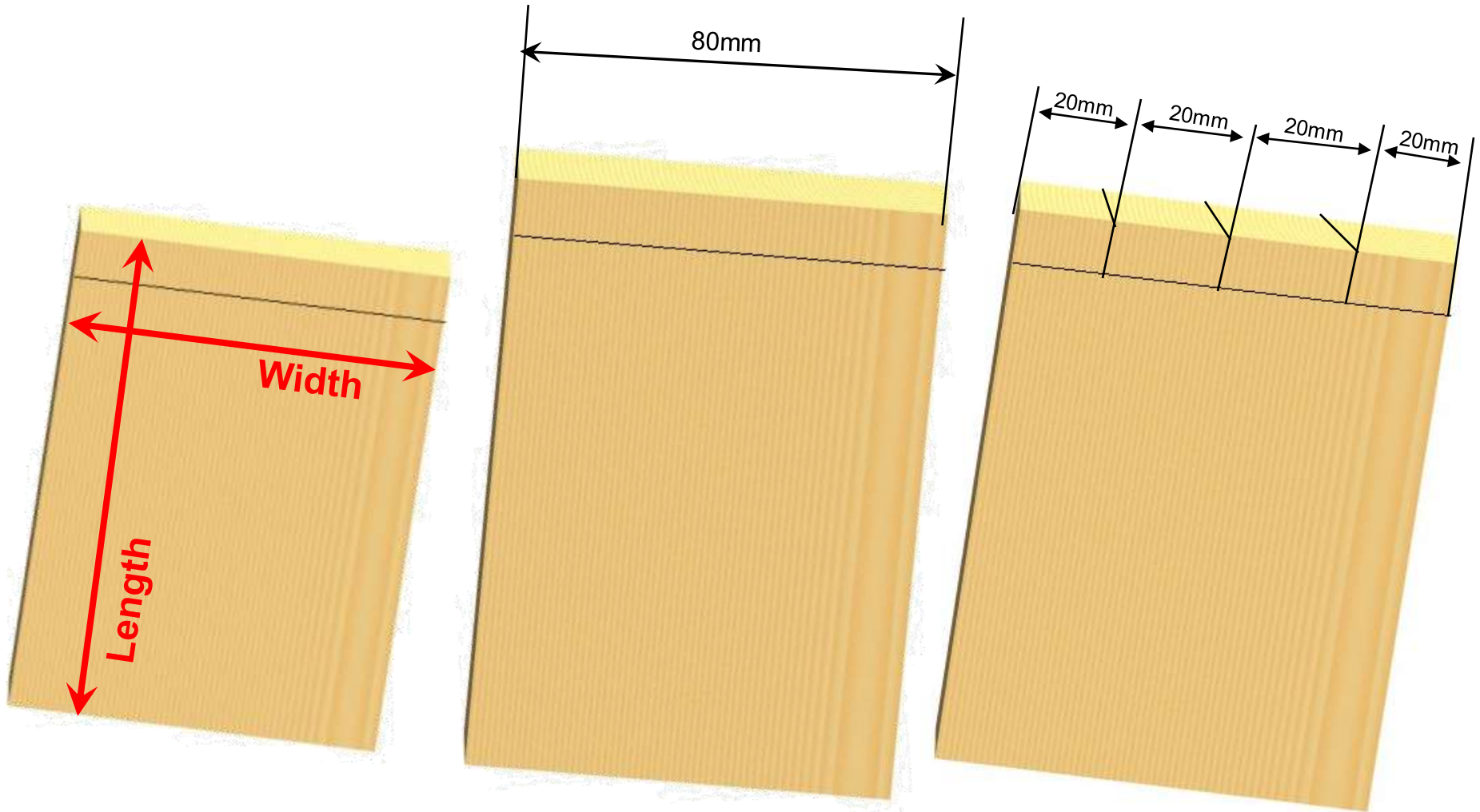


When using the Tri Square make sure the stock (handle) is held tightly against the edge of the wood, or your line will not be straight

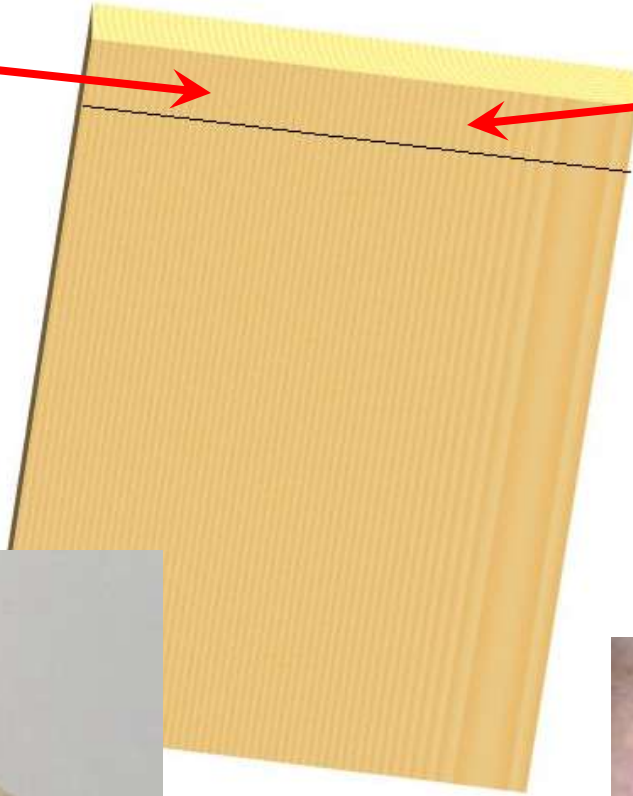
Step 4

Measure the width of your wood

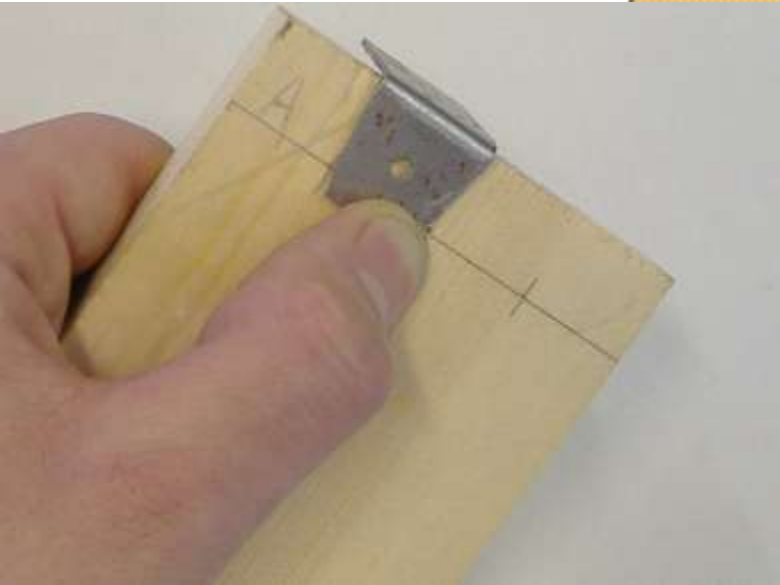
Divide the width into 4 equal parts as in the example below:



Step 5



A dove Tail template is used to mark out the dove tail.



Step 6

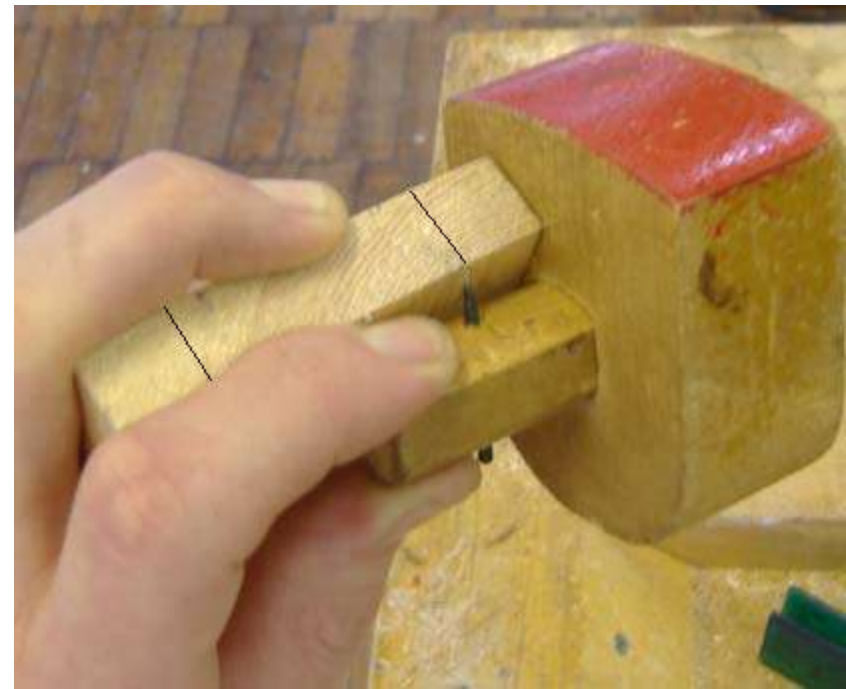
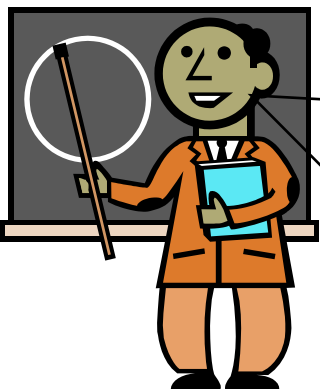
A marking gauge is used to mark the top of the tail this will help stop the wood splitting when you start sawing

And it will give your saw a gap to rest in, helping you to cut straight.



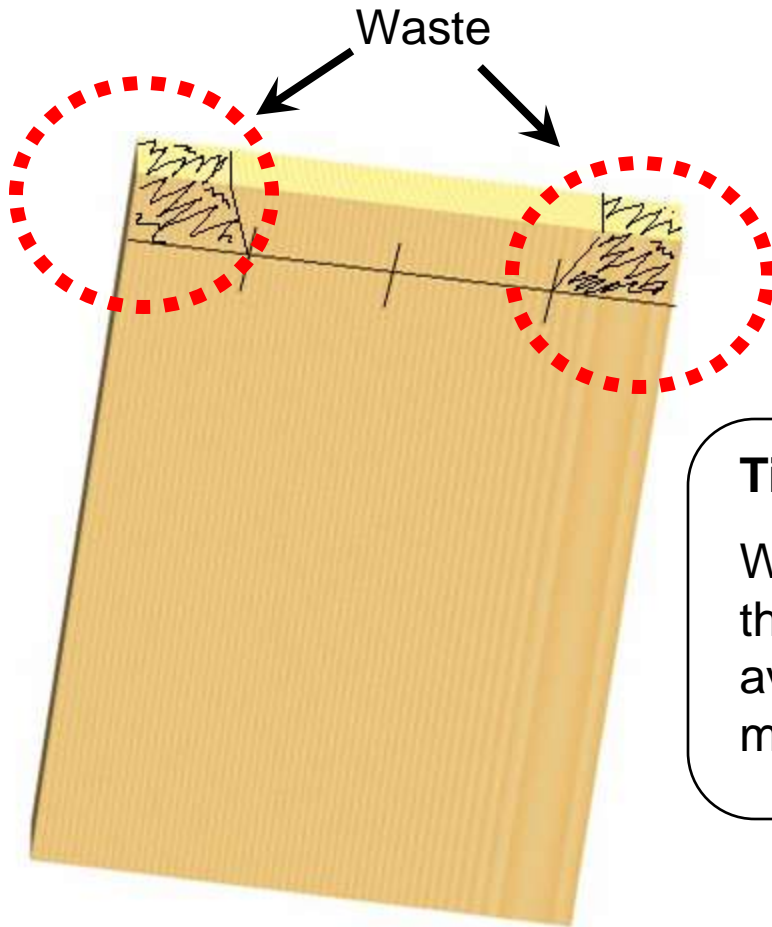
Tip

When using the marking gauge remember you are measuring from the **tip** of the needle not the base.



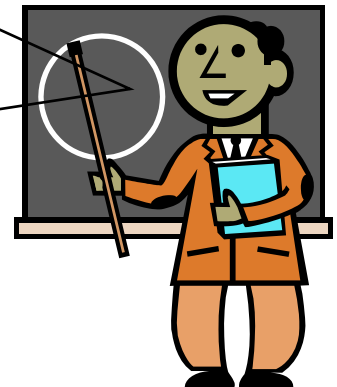
Step 1

To avoid cutting away the wrong part use a pencil to shade the parts you don't want (the waste wood)

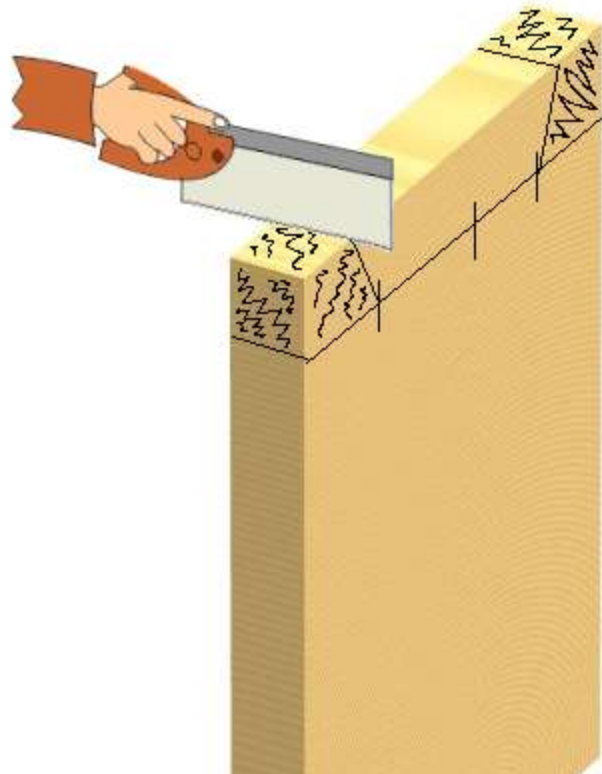


Tip

When cutting try to cut on the waste side, this will avoid cutting away too much



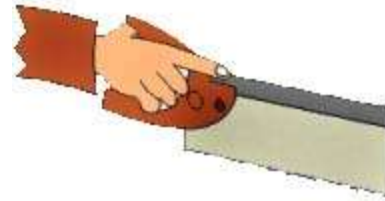
Step 8



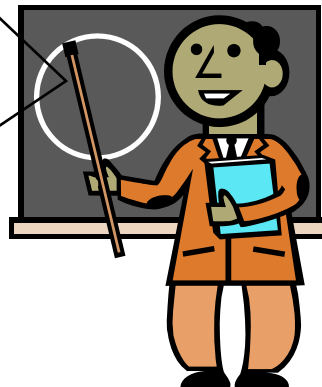
Place your wood in a vice, it must be upright so the dove tail saw is cutting in a straight line downwards.

Tip:

When sawing point your index finger along the side of the saw this will help you to keep control of the blade.



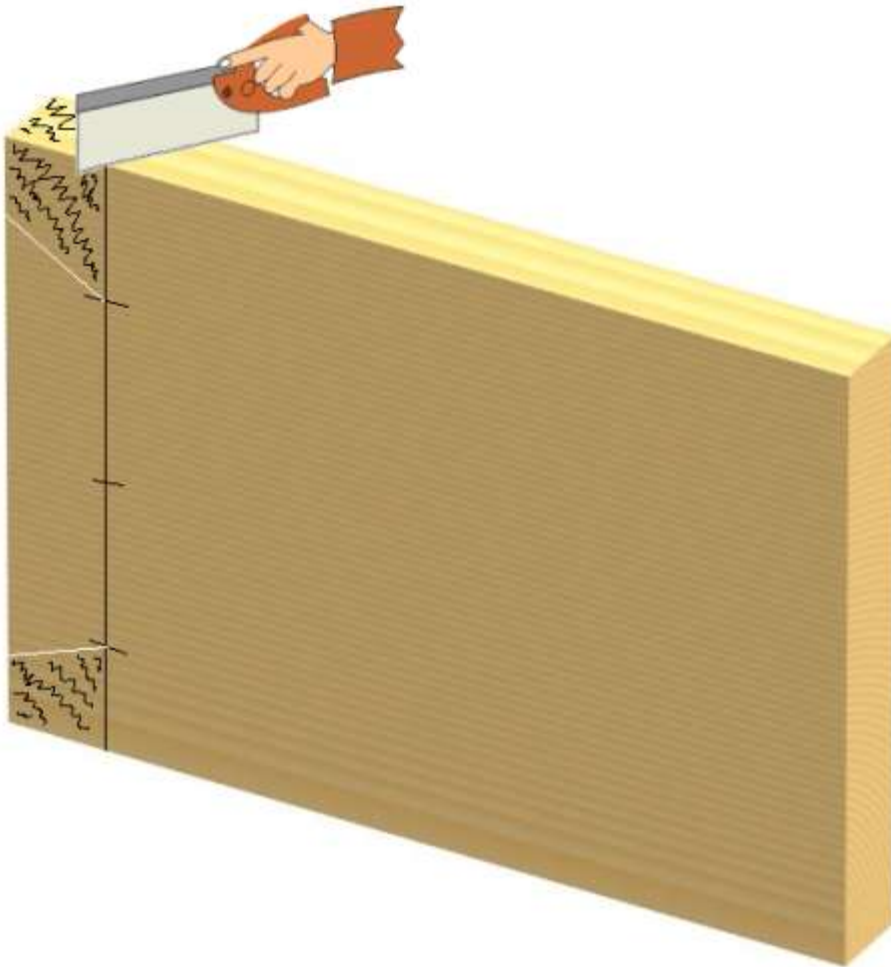
Try to stand firmly and keep your head straight as when you tilt your head the saw tends to follow.



Step 9



Then turn the wood sideways in the vice, and again using the dove tail saw cut along the waste side of the line till the waste wood can be removed so you are left with something like in the picture below:



Step 10

Making the Pins

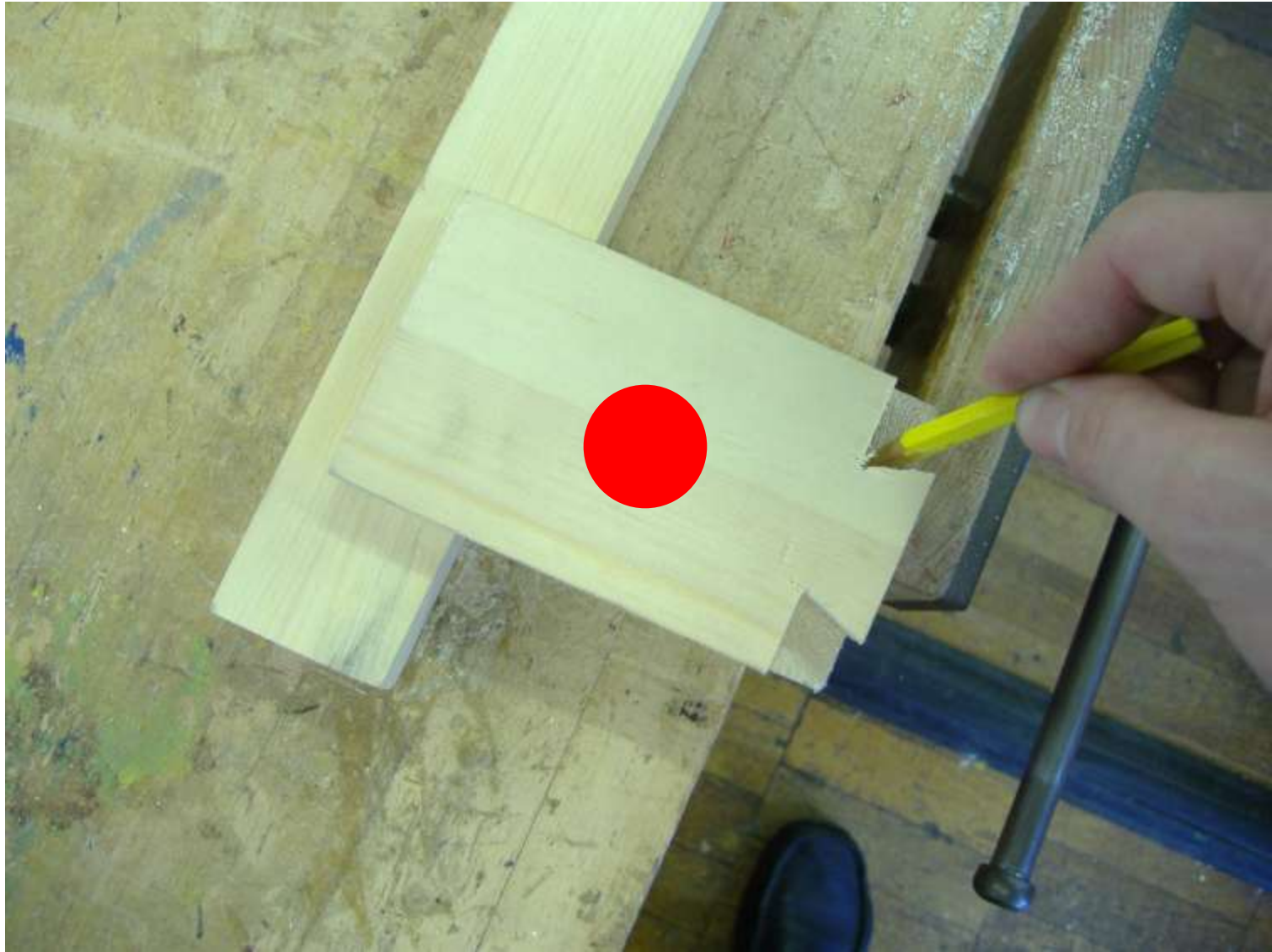
Place your second piece of wood in the vice so your face edge is facing inwards and then place your dove tail on top making sure matching letters are in the same place i.e. A,A are on top of each other like in the picture



Step 11

Draw around your dove tail on the top of your other piece of wood

If you press down where the red dot is your wood will not move around when you are drawing round it.



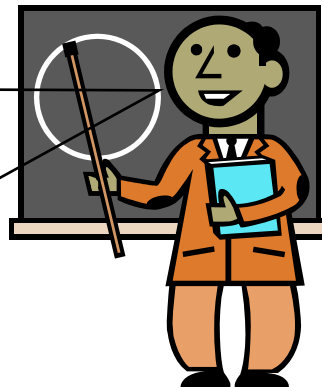
Step 12



Mark the waste wood and use a marking gauge to draw the straight lines

Tip

Place the tip of the marking gauge in the shoulder line you drew earlier to ensure you do not scratch more of the wood than necessary.

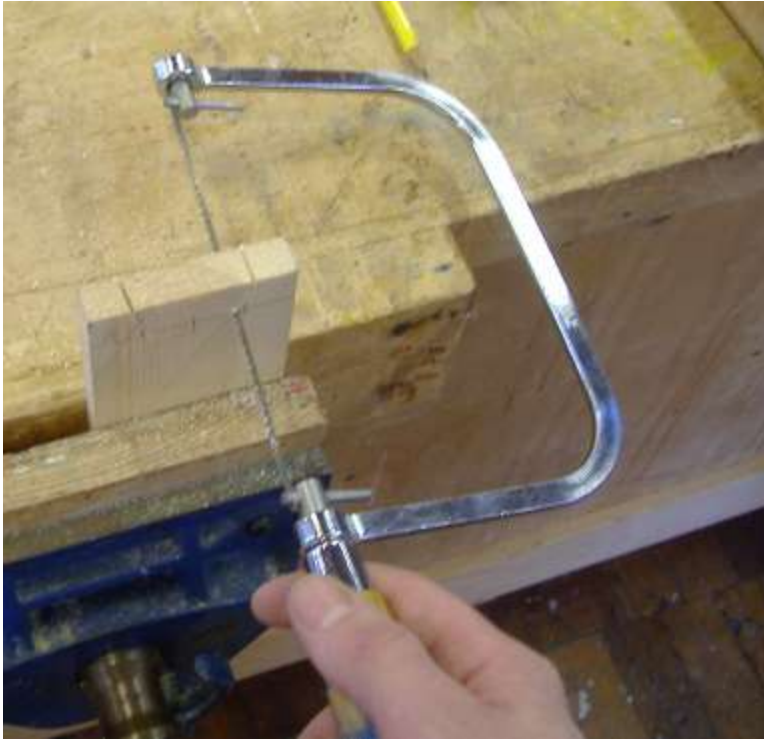


Step 13



Place your wood in a vice and cut down your markings using a dove tail saw, **Remember** to try and cut on the waste side of you line to avoid cutting away too much.

Step 14

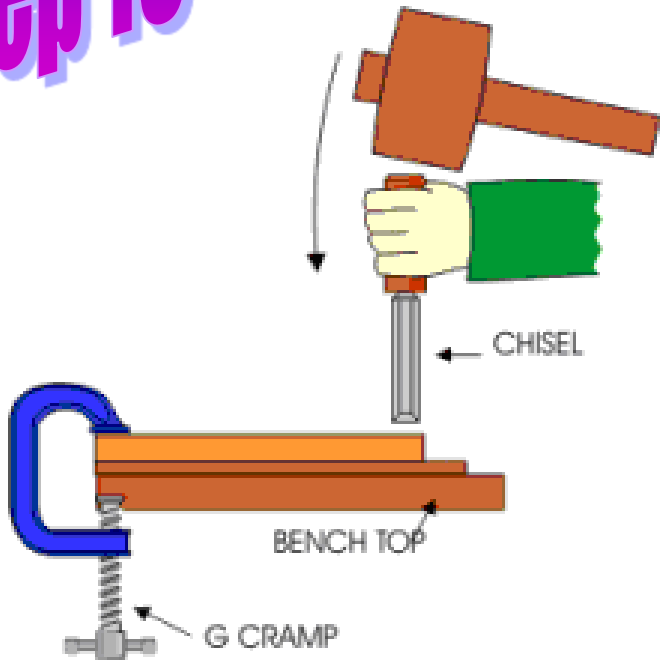


Use a coping saw (the one with the round blade) follow the gap you just made with the dove tail saw and cut along your shoulder line

Step 15

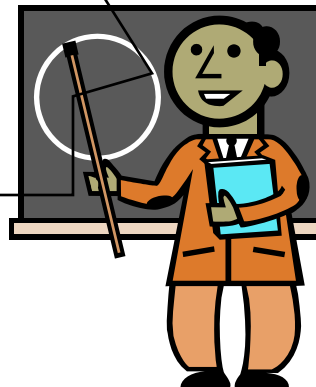
If the pins are out a chisel can be used to correct it.

A G clamp can be used to hold the wood firmly, scrap wood is placed underneath to protect the surface of the bench from the chisel.



Tip

If you angle the chisel to make a triangle shape you will then be able to use the chisel to cut the triangle off afterwards with out damaging the wood and this will get a very flat and straight surface.



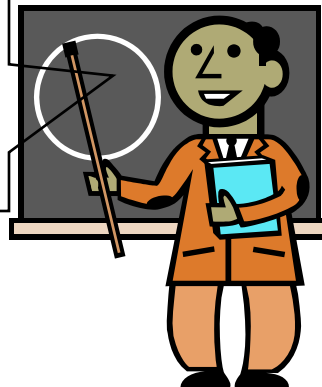
Step 16



Use a sharp chisel to make the inside of your joint (the pins) straight and match up to your line

Tip

Take note of the way the chisel is resting against my index finger. This gives the chisel support and stops it from slipping.



**This is what your joint
should look like**

