

Jointer safety

- The minimum size of a board to use on the jointer is 3/8" thick and 12" long.
- Keep the jointer tables clear and waxed (both for rust protection and to keep the top slippery).
- Never use it with the blade guard removed.
- Always Use appropriate push sticks — it is better to take several small cuts than one deep cut.
- Orient the grain downhill towards the table, which will result in a smoother cut and less resistance, and less tear out.
- Walk your work along the tables, don't stretch and lean over to finish your cut.
- Always try to keep a push block over the region of the blades, but do not overly press down — keep the pressure even.
- Generally, keep the cup or bowed side of the board down against the table or fence.
- If there are any spots or regions that are significantly high, use a hand plane to take the high spots off first.
- After flattening the bottom of one side, use that side against the fence for edge joining. When edge joining, keep your hands above the fence if possible.
- If you have a magnetic feather board, that can be helpful when edge jointing