

## Interlocking Weather-stripping Jig (circular saw).

You need:

Circular saw.

$\frac{3}{4}$ " thick plywood  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wider than the base plate of your circular saw (see image below).

Strip of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " plywood, approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide, same length as "base plate plywood."

Four (or more)  $\frac{3}{4}$ " long machine screws, with a wide collar or rim.

Three or four wood screws,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " long.

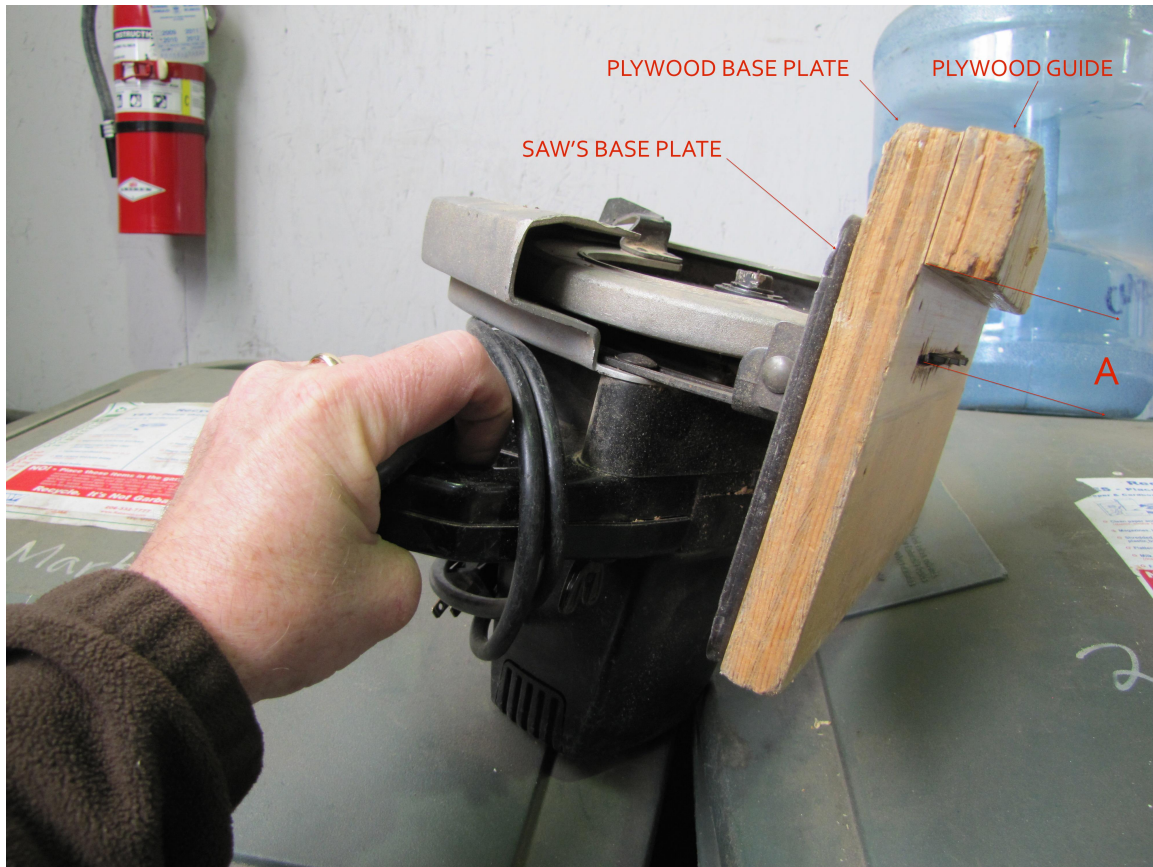


Retract saw blade as far as possible.

Use machine screws to securely attach plywood base plate to the saw's base plate. If your saw's base plate is metal (as mine is, see above), position the screws so that the collar/rim of the machine screw catches the edge of the saw's base plate. Make sure the base plate cannot move by strategically placing the screws in corners or through holes in the saw's base plate.

If your saw's base plate is a composite, you can drill holes through it and screw the plywood to it that way.

Plug saw in and carefully cut through the plywood (making sure the blade does not make contact with anything as it comes through the bottom of the plywood).



The most crucial measurement is the distance between the bottom of the guide and the center of the saw blade (A in above image).

Sash are always placed on the workbench with the flat surface facing up (so the beveled portion of the meeting rail or lock rail faces down). When you do this wrong, you will discover that when you move the saw sideways to cut the groove, the base plate will run into the beveled rail and prevent you from cutting the groove the full length of the sash rail or stile you are cutting.

The grooves for the weather-stripping should always be cut off center in the stile (or rail), in such a way that the groove (and therefore the rib of the weather-strip) is closer to the parting bead. So: closer to the interior face of the upper sash, and closer to the exterior face of the lower sash.

Match the width of the weather-stripping rib strip to the width of the sash. 1 3/8" sash thickness = 1 3/8" rib strip, etc.

Match the distance between the bottom of the guide and the center of the saw blade (A in the image above) so that the rib of the weather-strip and the groove in the sash match up (the weather-striping should not protrude past the faces of the sash).

For 1 3/8" weather-stripping you want a 1/8" wide groove, just over 3/8" deep. Thus you will want to fasten the guide (with a few wood screws) to the base plate, parallel to the saw blade cut in the plywood base plate a little less than 3/8" (how much less depends on the thickness of the saw blade; the distance should be 1/2 the saw blade's thickness less than 3/8").

Some saw blades are a bit narrower than the groove you want to cut. If this is the case you can make two or three passes with the saw, ever so slightly angling the saw blade up on the second pass, and down on the third pass. EVER SO SLIGHTLY! A groove that's too narrow will inhibit smooth gliding of the window. A groove that's too wide will allow too much air infiltration.

Note that if you make the plywood guide more than 3/4" thick, you will end up with a much too wide groove because when you angle the blade for that second and third pass the thickness of the guide increases the angle too much.

Make a few practice cuts in a piece of scrap wood (2" x 4" is great) to make sure everything aligns properly.

**PLEASE BE VERY CAREFUL WHEN SETTING DOWN THE SAW. THE BLADE IS PROTRUDING THROUGH THE BASE PLATE.**