

BENDING JIG

1. The face of a bending jig should be slightly wider than the stock you want to laminate. For instance. If you want to glue together 2"-wide layers, make the bending jig face about 2-1/4" wide. Glue up the stock (if necessary).
2. Scribe the inside and outside shapes you want to bend.
3. Scribe additional shapes 1-1/4" from the inside and outside shapes.
4. Divide the outermost shape into 3" lengths and number each length – these will become cauls. Between each caul, draw a 20° wedge as shown. If you are making very small-radius bends, you may have to increase the angle of the wedges where the curves are tight.
5. Estimate the middle of each caul. Directly across from it mark the center of a 1-1/4"-diameter clamping hole along the innermost shape.
6. Cut the radii and the wedges on a band saw, creating the mold and the cauls.
7. Drill the clamping holes.
8. Join the cauls in the proper order with strips of duct tape.
9. Apply a generous amount of paste wax to all wooden surfaces before each glue up. This prevents the laminated parts from sticking to the jig.

