

# SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Woodworking projects can be fun and rewarding, however, your first concern must always be safety. Please read and follow the safety instructions detailed below before commencing any woodworking project:

**⚠ WARNING - Failure to obey these warnings could lead to serious bodily injury or death:**

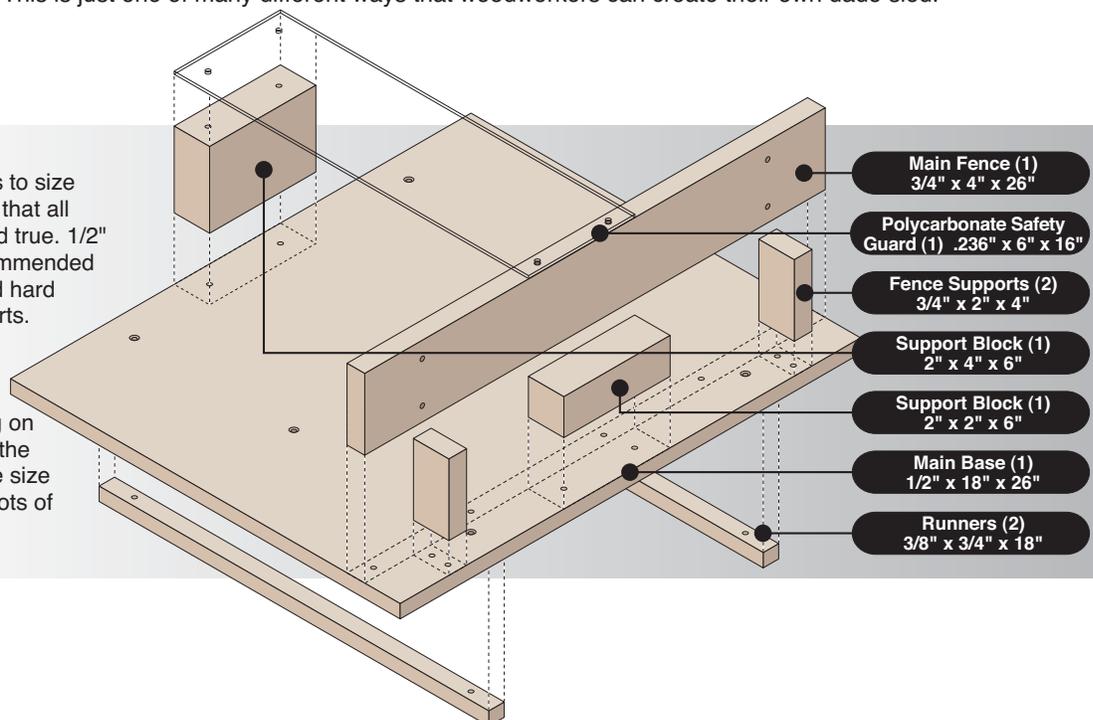
- Read and obey all warnings and instructions contained in the saw machine's user's manual and for any accessory that is from the manufacturer before using the cutter. Be sure that this cutter is compatible with your saw machine. If you do not have the user's manual, obtain one from the machine's manufacturer before using cutter.
- Only operate saw machine when proper saw guards and protections are in place and working properly.
- Always wear proper eye protection complying with current CSA standard Z94.1 or ANSI Standard Z87.1 and hearing protection.
- Disconnect saw from the power source when changing, removing or adjusting any blades, and use caution in handling the dado cutters during installation.
- Carbide is a very hard and brittle material. Slight shocks can damage the carbide. Before each use, check that the cutter is sharp and free from cracks, loose teeth, missing teeth, broken teeth or any other damage. Do not use if the cutter is dull or any damage is noticed or suspected.
- Use the cutter only for cutting wood. Do not use for cutting metal, masonry, or concrete.
- Never use cutter in the vicinity of small children.
- Be sure to keep hands and fingers a safe distance away from the blade while it is turning, and wait until the blade stops completely and the saw is disconnected from the power before handling.
- Keep body, clothing and hair clear of spinning blade. Do not wear jewelry while operating cutter. Keep hands away from cutter and cutting area. Never perform operations freehand.
- Mount cutter securely in proper rotational direction indicated on the face of the blade itself.
- Never use cutter in the saw machine that will exceed maximum recommended blade RPM indicated on the cutter.
- Make sure the saw is properly tuned, in good working order, and that the blade rotates freely within the saw before connecting the saw to the power supply.
- Clean Well. Be sure all components are clean and free from dust and chips. Chips between components may affect performance and damage tools.
- Be sure to obtain the proper insert or "throat plate" for your saw for dado cutters.
- Allow saw to reach full speed before cutting.
- Always use both outside blades of the dado set. Never use the chippers by themselves or with only one outside blade. Not using both outside blades can cause personal injury or damage to the tool.
- When making wide and or deep dado cuts always remove the material in several shallow cuts. Doing so will result in a cleaner cut and help reduce the chance of kickbacks.
- Use caution when handling the dado cutters during installation or adjustments.
- If you ever have any questions regarding your blade, please call Freud Customer Service at 800-472-7307. In Canada call 800-263-7016.
- Keep these warnings and instructions in a safe place for future reference.
- Para obtener una copia de estas advertencias en español llame: 800-472-7307.

## CREATING A DADO SLED

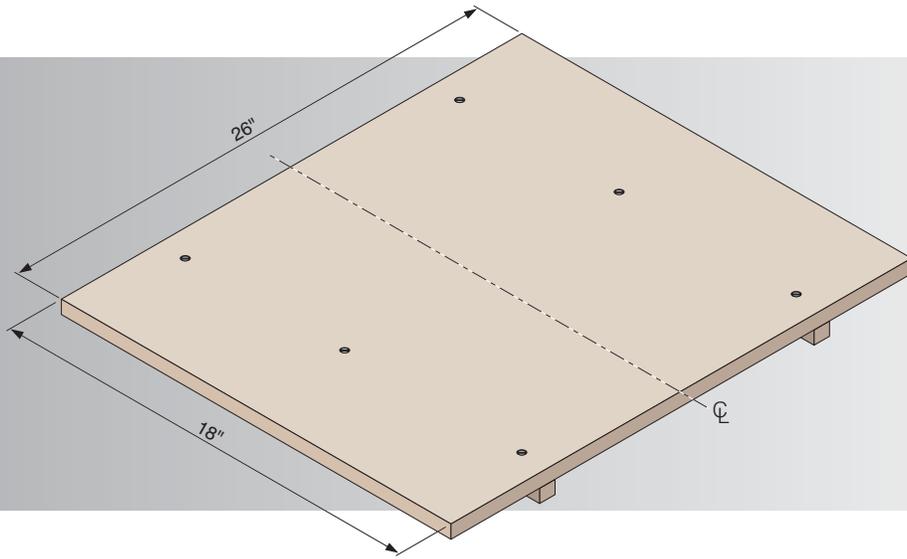
NOTE: This is just one of many different ways that woodworkers can create their own dado sled.

### FIGURE 1

**STEP 1** - Cut all parts to size taking care to ensure that all pieces are square and true. 1/2" thick plywood is recommended for the main base and hard wood for the other parts. The base dimensions may need to be increased or decreased depending on your saw. Make sure the runners are a suitable size for the miter gauge slots of your table saw.



**FIGURE 2**



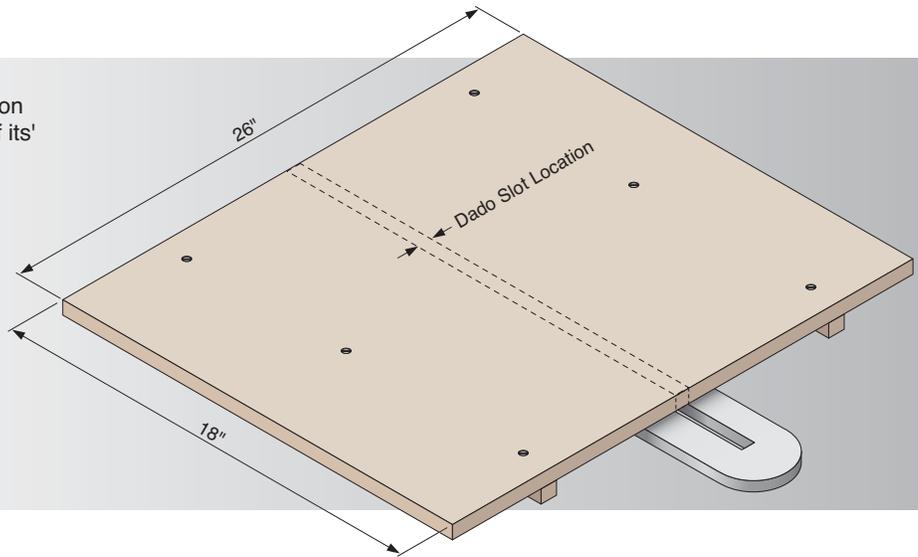
**STEP 2** - Place the runners in the miter gage slots of your table saw. Make sure they slide freely and have no sideways movement.

**STEP 3** - Lay the plywood base on the runners, and using the fence, make sure the base is parallel to and centered over the runners.

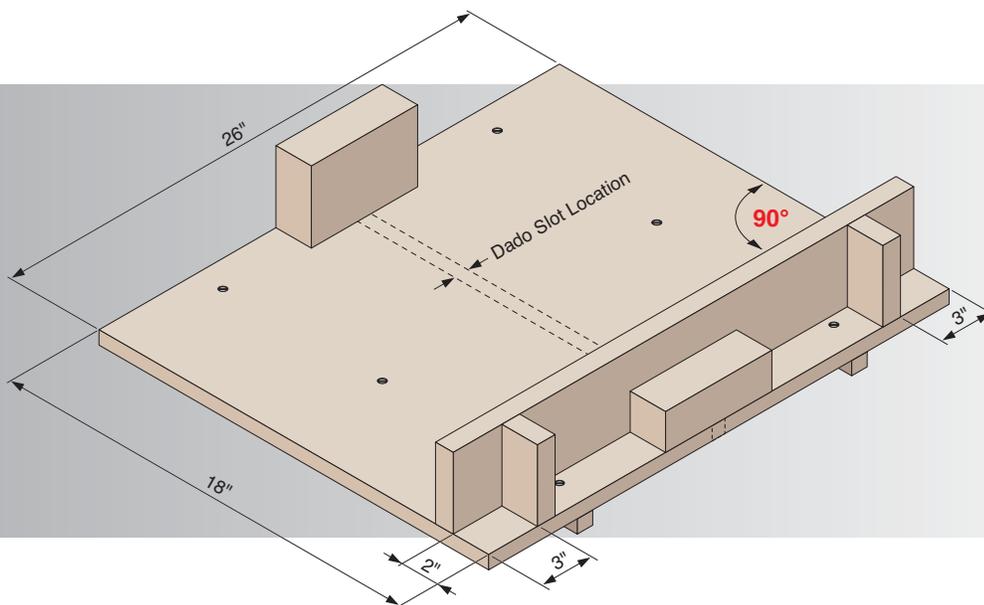
**STEP 4** - Drill, countersink, and screw the base onto the runners. Use flat head wood screws that do not protrude through the runners. Make sure the base fully contacts the saw table and that the assembly slides freely (figure 2).

**FIGURE 3**

**STEP 5** - Install the dado throat plate on the table saw and mark the location of its opening on the main base to indicate where the dado cut will be made.



**FIGURE 4**



**STEP 6** - Assemble the dado sled ensuring that the main fence is exactly 90 degrees to saw table fence. Center the support blocks over the path of the dado cut. Use glue and wood screws to secure the support blocks and fence supports to the main base.

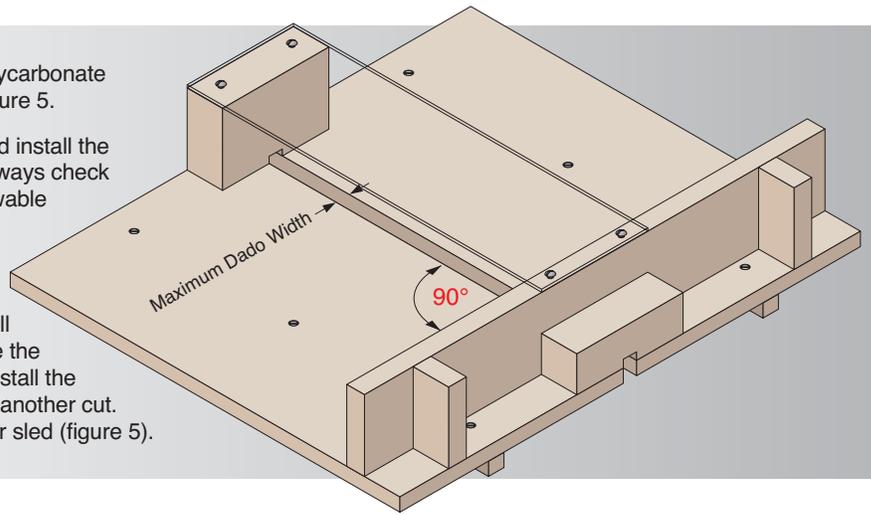
**NOTE:** Countersink all screws and take care not to place any screws in the path of your intended dado cut. Screws may damage the carbide teeth!

# FIGURE 5

**STEP 7** - Using pan head screws, attach the polycarbonate safety guard above the dado slot as shown in figure 5.

**STEP 8** - Disconnect the power from the saw and install the dado cutter set to its maximum cutting width. (Always check the saw's owner's manual for the maximum allowable dado width.)

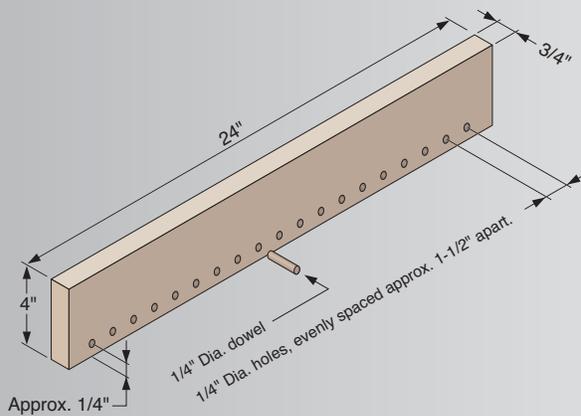
**STEP 9** - Adjust the dado cutter height to 1/4", place the sled in the miter gauge slots, reconnect the power and make a dado cut the full length of the sled. Disconnect the power, remove the sled and raise the dado cutter another 1/4". Reinstall the sled on the saw, reconnect the power and make another cut. Repeat this procedure a third time to finalize your sled (figure 5).



## CREATING AN INDEXING FENCE

An indexing fence is a simple useful addition to a dado sled. Use an indexing fence to create joints such as box joints or to create decorative effects such as dentil molding.

# FIGURE 6



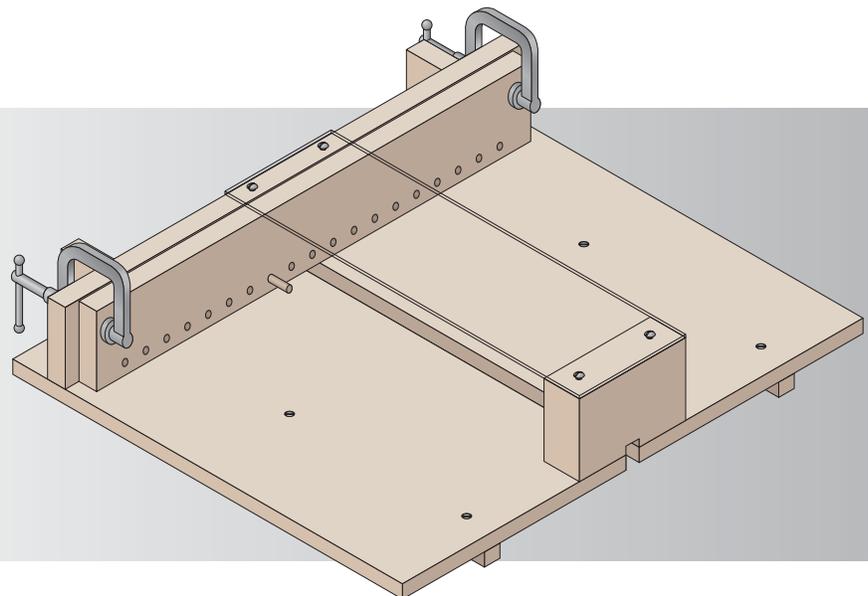
**STEP 1** - Cut a piece of 3/4" thick wood to 4" x 24" and drill indexing holes as desired. Only one 1/4" hole near the center of the board and 1/4" from the bottom edge is required, but evenly spaced holes approximately 1-1/2" apart (figure 6) will allow for more possible applications for the indexing fence.

**STEP 2** - Cut a piece of 1/4" diameter dowel approximately 1-1/2" long. Check the fit of the dowel in the hole(s) and adjust the diameter of the dowel with light sanding if required so that it firmly fits into the holes.

# FIGURE 7

**STEP 3** - Using 2 'G'-clamps, attach the indexing fence to the main fence of the dado sled as shown in figure 7.

The position of the indexing fence can be adjusted to suit the project or cut on which you're working.



# CREATING A PUSH STICK

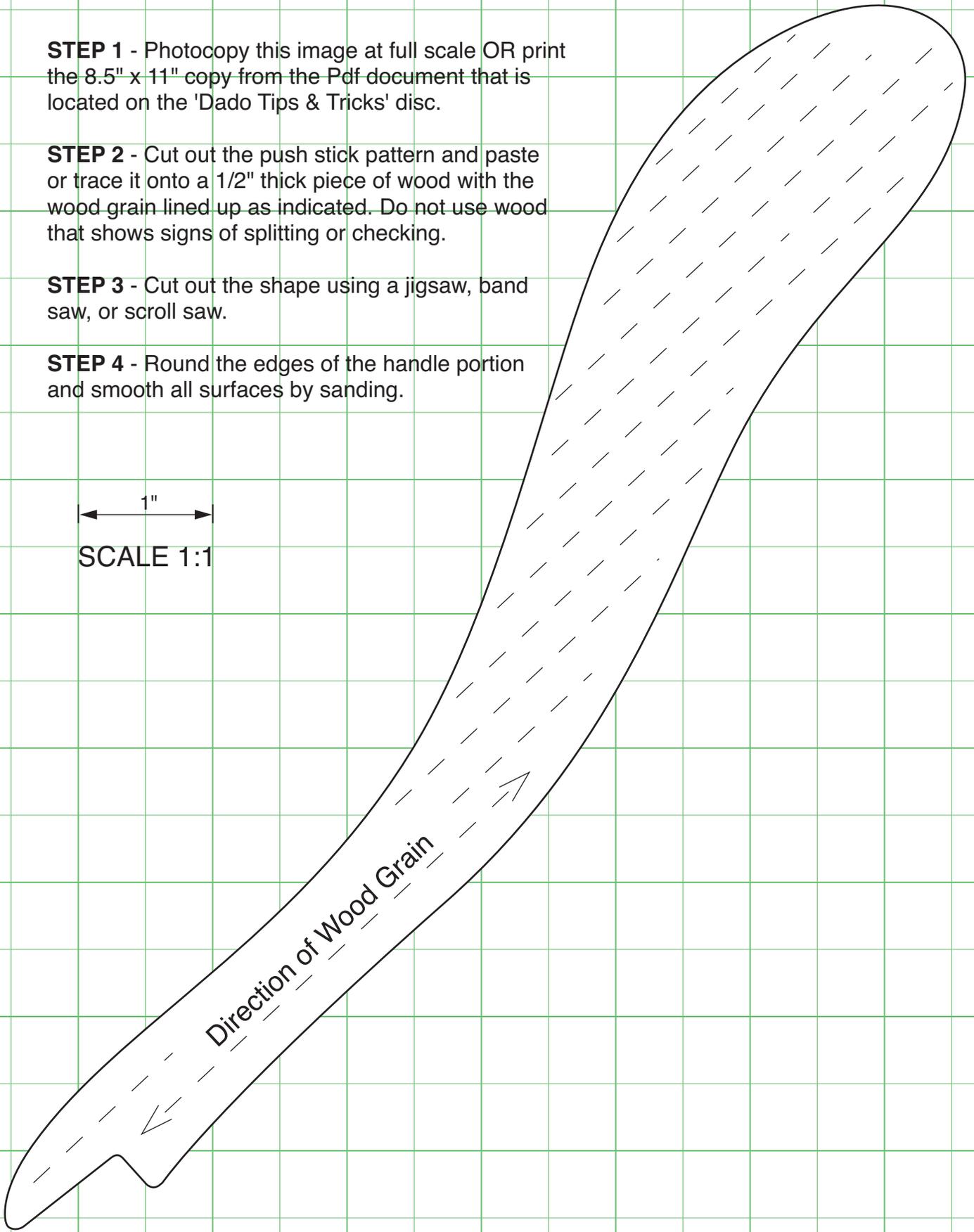
**STEP 1** - Photocopy this image at full scale OR print the 8.5" x 11" copy from the Pdf document that is located on the 'Dado Tips & Tricks' disc.

**STEP 2** - Cut out the push stick pattern and paste or trace it onto a 1/2" thick piece of wood with the wood grain lined up as indicated. Do not use wood that shows signs of splitting or checking.

**STEP 3** - Cut out the shape using a jigsaw, band saw, or scroll saw.

**STEP 4** - Round the edges of the handle portion and smooth all surfaces by sanding.

1"  
SCALE 1:1



# POPULAR DADO CUTS

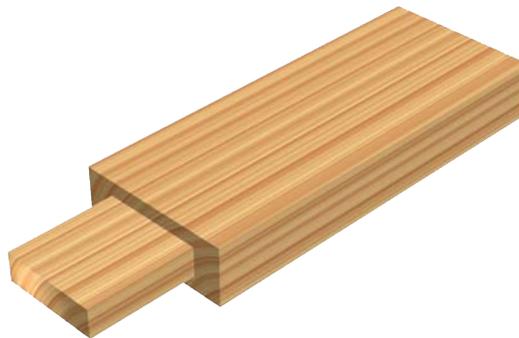
Below are some of the most popular joints and cuts that can be quickly and easily created using Freud dado sets.



**Half-Lap Joints**



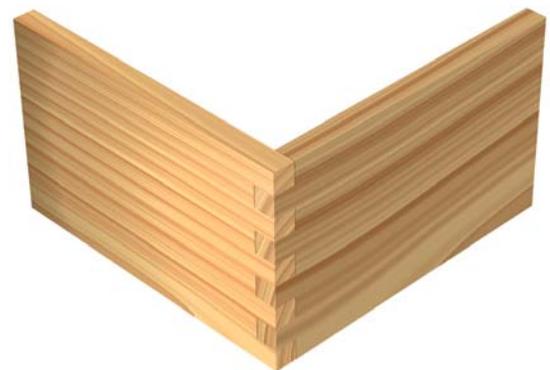
**Dentil Molding**



**Tenons**



**Corner-Lap Joints**



**Box Joints**

***freud***<sup>®</sup>

**To find out more about Freud products or to order a catalog visit:**

**[www.freudtools.com](http://www.freudtools.com)**

Freud America, Inc. 1-800-472-7307 (U.S.) 1-905-670-1025 (Canada)