



**CAUTIOUS EDGE WORK:** You want this joint to be strong because it will be regularly stressed. Take your time fitting the two pieces. Here I'm balancing one dog block on another and examining the seam for light.

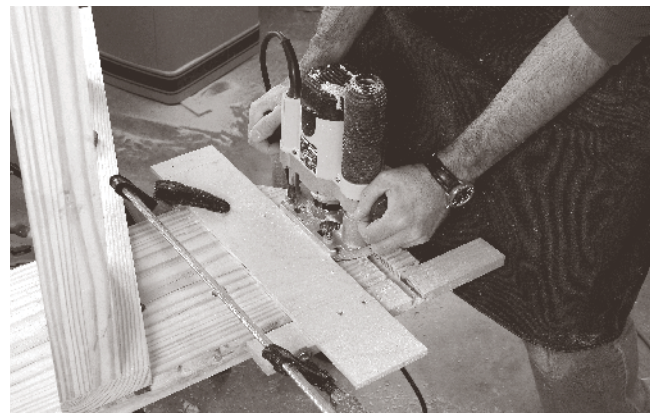
ran on what was cut before to make the final pass. It's a bit of a tricky setup that I boxed myself into. If I had to do it again, I would simply use a template guide and a straight bit.

Clamp the pattern and rout the shape. Then place a dog in the recess you have completed and make sure there's enough clearance. It's easier to fix now than when everything is assembled.

Now you can glue the two dog blocks back together and then glue the completed unit to the other two boards for the top. As you are creating this edge joint between two dog blocks you need to be careful. Jointing the dog block that has the dog holes in it has consequences. Every pass you make with your jointer or jointer plane will tighten up the dog holes. This can be good or bad, depending on how tight or loose your dog holes are.

I jointed this dog block once, and then I simply worked its mate until I got the fit I wanted. When satisfied, glue up the two dog blocks by putting glue only on the edge with the dog holes. Don't overdo it or you'll have lots of unpleasant squeeze-out in your holes. Once the dog block is glued up, joint the edges of your other top boards and glue up the remainder of the top.

The top is essentially complete; now turn your attention to the bench and the guts that will make the vise work. The vise screw needs to be fastened to something that is stout — it will bear a good deal of the pressure from the vise when it is engaged. Although a properly used wagon vise shouldn't see extreme pressure, you can bet that it will be misused during its lifetime. It's better to make it stronger.



**DADO AFTER ASSEMBLY:** Don't try to do this process before assembly. You want the dados to be exactly in line with each other. The only way to ensure that is to rout them after the base is assembled.

The end cap piece is the key to the vise. The vise screw mounts to it. And the end cap is attached to the workbench's aprons with dados, steel corner brackets and bolts. The first step to installing the end cap is to mill two dados across the aprons to accept the end cap. Whenever I want to mill dados in wide pieces, I turn to a straightedge guide and a router. The straightedge guide is essentially two pieces of wood attached at right angles. One piece sits tight against the apron; the other guides the router.

You'll need to make these 1/4"-wide x 1/2"-deep dados using a couple of overlapping passes. It's simple work. Simply mark out the location