

02 - Planer Operation

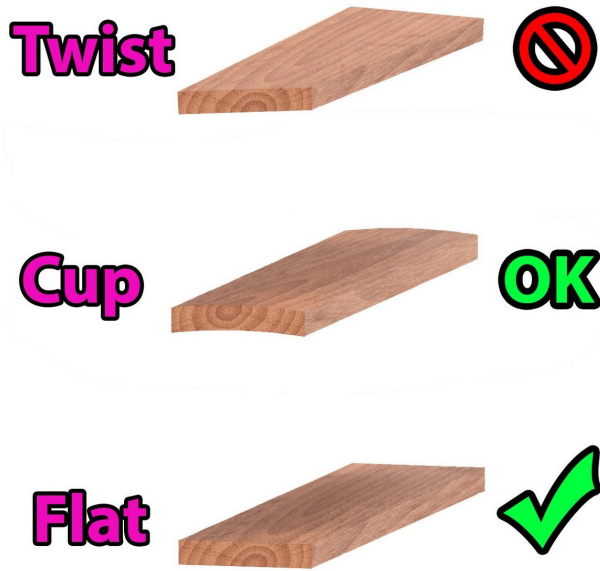


Step 1 — 02 - Planer Operation



- **Plane only solid, natural wood.** Do not plane composites like MDF, particle board, or plywood. The glue in these materials is very hard on the knives.
- **Plane only dry wood .** Wet materials will not plane well, and will wear out the blades quickly.
- **Wood must be clean.** All dirt and grit must be thoroughly removed before planing with a stiff brush or by sanding, exposing clean surfaces. Any wood that has been in contact with the ground must be thoroughly inspected and cleaned.
- **No excess glue.** Remove as much glue as possible from a glue-up with a scraper before planing.

Step 2



Check that your material is flat enough to run through the machine.

- Your workpiece must be able to pass through the machine without wobbling or rocking. Otherwise the rollers will not securely control it, and it may kick back
- A slightly cupped board that does not rock when placed concave (cupped) side down can be planed.
- If your material is twisted or too warped to pass through the planer, you may be able to flatten one side on the jointer, and then plane the other side.
- It may be possible to plane a twisted or warped board using a planer sled and shims, but this is an advanced operation, and is not covered here.

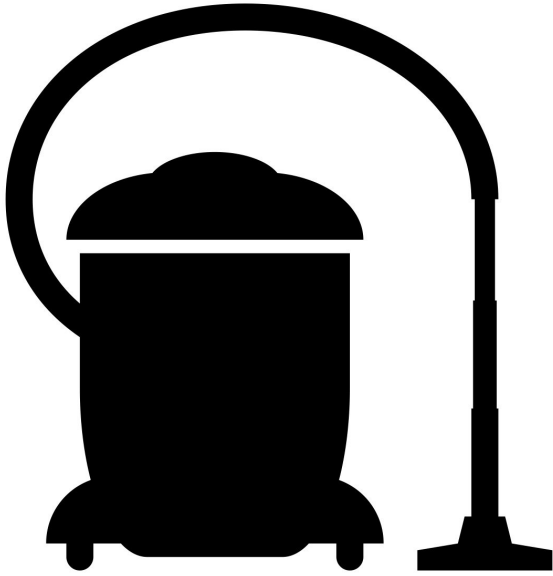
Step 3 — Inspect your material



Check that there are no nails, screws, staples or other foreign objects in your workpiece.

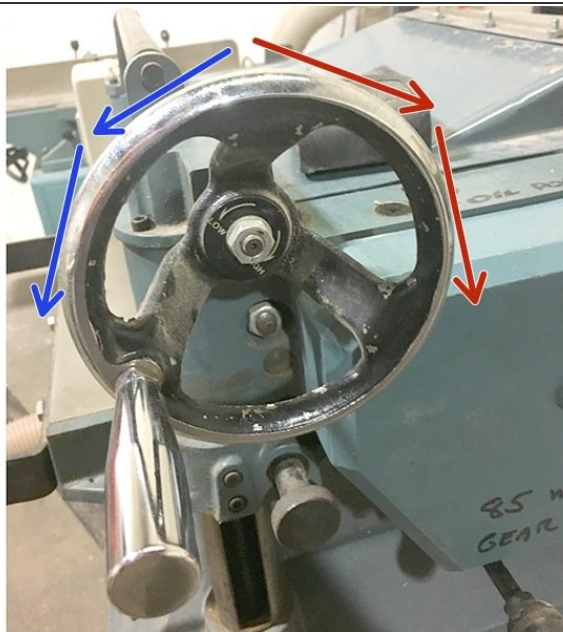
- New wood from a big-box store often has staples in the ends. These need to be removed prior to planing.
- Reclaimed wood should be checked very carefully for metal.
- A hand-held metal detector is located near the planer for this purpose. USE IT.

Step 4 — Check the vacuum



- Make sure the vacuum hose is properly attached
- Check for kinks and sawdust clogs in the hose.
- ⚠ This machine **MUST** be run with dust collection. Running it without will cause chips to accumulate in the head, potentially causing damage to the machine.
- Open the blast gate, and close any others on the same vacuum system.
- Turn on the dust collector

Step 5 — Adjust the table height



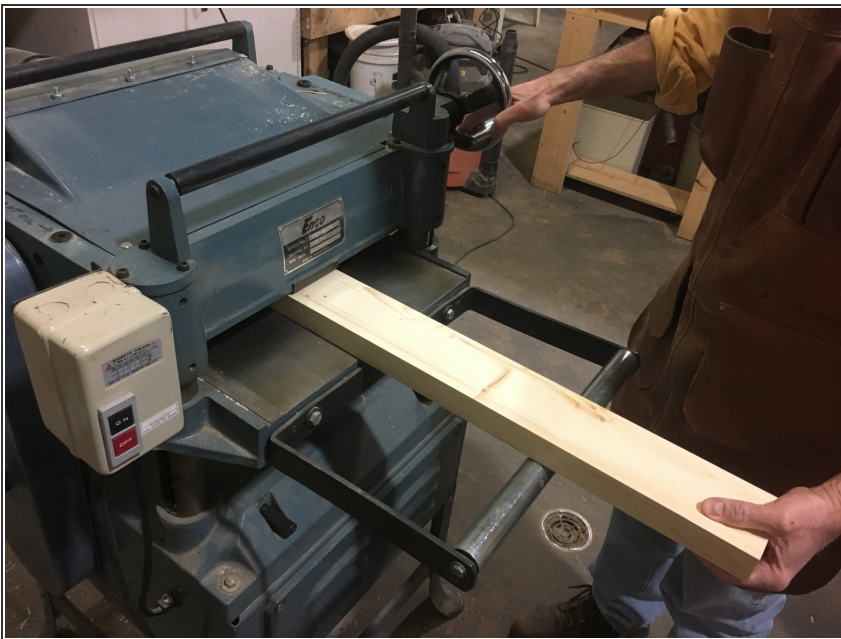
- Turn the adjusting wheel counter clockwise to lower the bed and produce a thicker piece.
- Turn the adjusting wheel clockwise to raise the bed and produce a thinner piece.
- Crank the table up or down so that the opening is just a bit larger than your material thickness.

Step 6



- Place the leading edge of the material into the machine, with about 4-5" under the cutter head.
- This will position the material under the infeed roller, but not under the cutters.

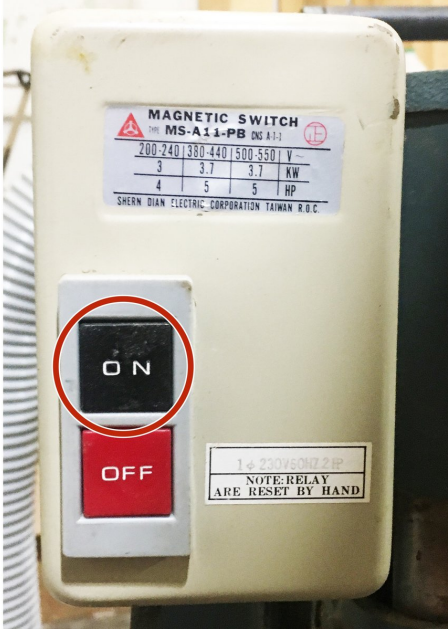
Step 7



 The machine should be off during this step.

- Turn the crank clockwise until the board is gripped between the table and the infeed roller.
- Turn the crank counter-clockwise about one full turn to release the board.
- With the board out of the machine, turn the crank back to where it was.

Step 8



- Turn the machine on by pressing the "ON" button.

⚠ Wait for the machine to come up to speed before continuing.

Step 9

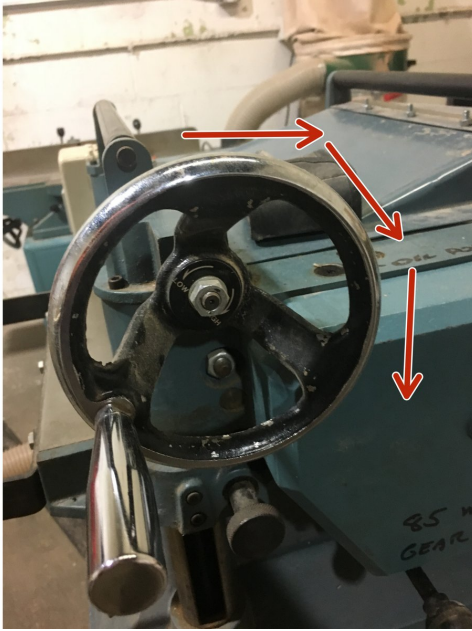


- Ensure that the feed speed control lever is pulled out.

⚠ Only shift the feed control lever when the machine is running, and never while material is passing through.

ⓘ Our machine's high speed setting is not functional.

Step 10



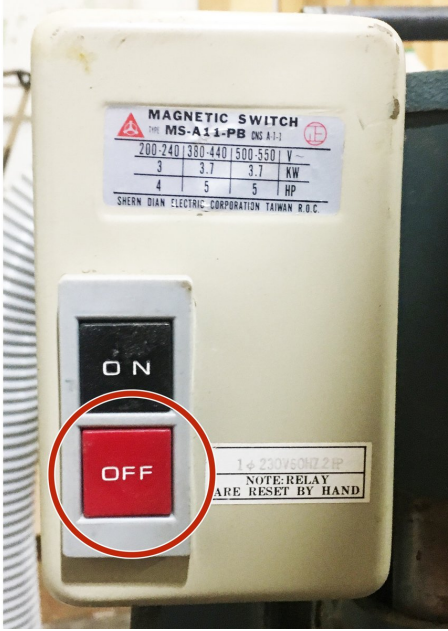
- Slowly turn the table height crank clockwise until the board begins to move into the machine.
- Keep your hands clear, and let the board pass through the machine.
- Your first pass may not engage the knives in the material

Step 11



- Continue passing your workpiece through the machine until you reach your desired thickness.
 - Turn the crank 1/8 to 1/4 turn clockwise between passes to raise the table.
 - Hard woods require shallower passes than soft woods, and a wider board requires shallower passes than a narrower board.
 - Let the sound of the knives on the material guide you. If the sound of the knives is too aggressive, or if the machine is bogging down, take shallower passes.
 - Shallow passes produce a better result, and produce less wear on the cutting knives.
- ☒ When your board's width allows, pass it under a different part of the head each time. This will wear the blades more evenly, reducing the need for sharpening.

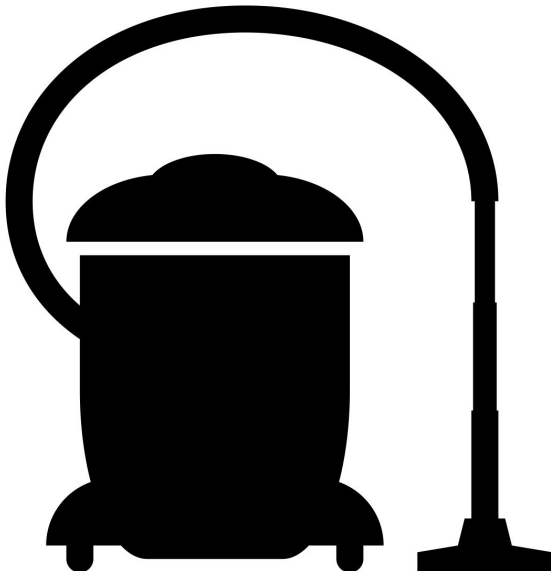
Step 12 — Turn off the machine.



- Turn off the machine by pressing the "OFF" button.

 The motor can take some time to spin-down after your press the off button. **Be sure the machine has fully stopped before working inside the machine**

Step 13 — Turn off dust collector



- Turn off the dust collector and close the blast gate.

 Friends don't let friends leave blast gates open.

Step 14



- Clean up after yourself, sweeping up any saw dust remnants and leaving the machine better than you found it.



If the dust collection bag needs emptying after your planing project **empty it!**