

# Sawing Thin-Walled PVC Sewer Pipe, Version 1.0

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Sawing 4-inch diameter PVC sewer pipe on a horizontal bandsaw is trouble. It fits nicely in the vise jaws, but



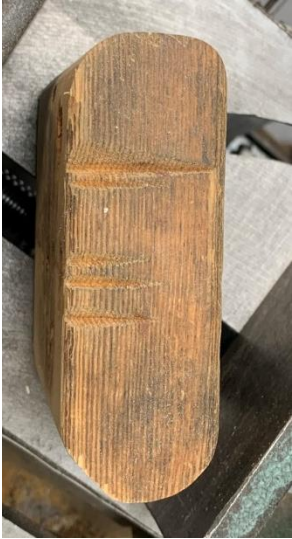
distorts as pressure is applied. Not enough clamping force is developed, so the pipe spins and slides axially as I start to cut. I end up with a helical gouge around the pipe.

If I had enough clamping force, the pipe would behave. However, this force must be both inside and outside of the pipe.

Time for a homemade tool!

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I took a block of scrap<sup>2</sup> 2 by 4 able to easily pass through the pipe after I rounded the ends.



Before clamping, I slide the block into the pipe until it is even with the movable jaw's pivot bolt (red arrow). This prevents the movable jaw from pivoting as I tighten it.



As I tighten the vise, there is a slight distortion of the pipe, but it does not affect the squareness of the cut.

The squirmy PVC pipe is solidly held in the vise. When done sawing, I release the vise and dump out the block.

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<sup>2</sup> You may notice that this little block of wood has been on many adventures. There are numerous saw cuts and holes. If this tool didn't work, the block would have gone back into my junk drawer to wait for the next proof-of-concept.

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