

A Foldable Table for a Horizontal/Vertical Bandsaw, version 1

By R. G. Sparber

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This design is a minor change from the table presented by Mike Cox. See <http://mikesworkshop.weebly.com/bandsaw-table-and-fence.html> for his brilliant work and description.

I am constantly switching between sawing with the blade horizontal and sawing with the blade vertical. Other than lifting and lowering the blade frame, I have no patience for fiddling. Sure I can remove two screws, bolt on the table, secure the side brace, and have a very nice table when the blade is vertical. But years of



sawing have demonstrated that I simply will not bother. I was vertical sawing everything on that tiny plate screwed to the lower blade bearing support.

A few clever people developed vertical sawing tables that clamp into the vise. That is a big improvement over the stock table but still not easy enough to overcome my laziness. It was only when I saw Mike Cox's design was I moved to action. In no time I built a variation on Mike's fine design.

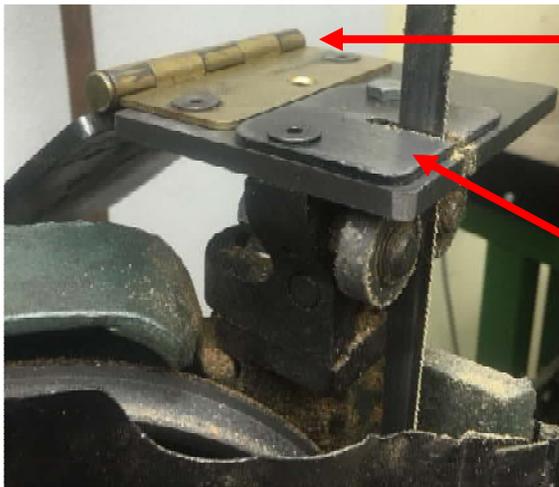
Mike built his own hinges but I had some door hinges in my junk drawer. Why not use one of them?

When the blade is vertical, the table looks normal enough.

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When the blade is in the horizontal position, the table folds back and does not interfere with the cut. It leans back about 45° so cannot flop forward due to vibration.



I am using a heavy gage 3 ½ inch wide door hinge. The lower part of this hinge is bolted to a piece of ¼" by 4 inch wide CRS that is secured to the lower bearing support.

Note that I have bolted the original guide plate onto this piece of CRS. The day may come when I want to restore the saw to its original condition. I won't have to go looking for this plate.

Do you see the hex head bolt partially hidden by the blade?



When the blade is vertical, the table folds down and contacts this bolt head. That bolt head is what keeps the table level. And since the table is then supported by essentially a line, the hinge, and a point, the bolt head, it can't rock and be unsteady. The downward force of cutting keeps the table seated.

There are no plans for this project. Everything was match drilled and nothing was measured. All 1/4-20 screws were cut to fit.

If you wish to be contacted each time I publish an article, email me with just "Article Alias" in the subject line.

Rick Sparber

Rgsparber.ha@gmail.com

Rick.Sparber.org

