

A Power Feed For a Horizontal/Vertical Bandsaw Vise, Version 1.0

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[Here](#) is an overview video of the modification.



I use my horizontal/vertical bandsaw a lot. The vise jaws are never in the right location, so my setup ritual starts with cranking this wheel for far longer than it is enjoyable. Those days are over.

Notice that hex drive? I place my electric screwdriver on it and, in an instant, can move the jaws from fully closed to fully open. The final adjustment is with the handwheel.

I could tighten the vise with the impact feature of the screwdriver, but I have already sheared off the bit once. The silver braze wasn't strong enough. I have since added more braze, but I don't want to risk repairing it again.

For the smoothest operation, the hex drive must align with the major axis of the vise's lead screw. Here is how I did it.

The first step was to remove the lead screw. I unbolted the vise jaw, removed the handwheel, and popped off the E clip on the shaft. The lead screw then drops out the bottom of the table.

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Next, I located a spare hex bit. After mounting it in my homemade pin vise, I used my belt sander to reduce the “fins,” so the area below this area was a larger diameter.

A “B” drill was the closest larger diameter.

I mounted the lead screw in my lathe, center drilled, and then drilled in about $\frac{1}{4}$ ” with the B drill. I wanted a sliding fit so the silver braze could flow in there.



I secured the bit using silver braze flux, my MAPP torch, and a tiny amount of silver braze.

It came out a little crooked, so I unclamped it, turned the lead screw upside down, and pushed it down on the bit while reheating it. That seated the bit, and everything was aligned.

I then quickly cooled the bit with water so it would not aneal.



Being such a quick project, I didn't bother to turn on my shop's A/C. After living in Phoenix for 20 years, 110° is tolerable. Now, above 115° is uncomfortable.

I welcome your comments and questions.

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