

# A Modified Stop plus Cut Line Indicator for a 4x6 Horizontal/Vertical Bandsaw, version 1.1

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No matter that I have been using this bandsaw for many decades, I still find minor areas for improvement. Recently I was cutting some small diameter rod and realized that the built in stop did not reach it. I also realized that the only way to determine exactly where the blade would come down on the rod was to, well, bring the blade down. Not a big deal but it got me thinking about how else this could be done.

Previously, I solved the problem of being able to move the stop out of the way and not have it drop back into position while I was cutting. I will review that mod first.

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<sup>1</sup> You are free to distribute this article but not to change it.



A few years ago I built this collar. On one side I cut a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide slot deep enough to accept a small magnet. The magnet is flush with the surface and glued in place.



This magnet has just enough pull to hold the stop against the collar regardless of angular position.

It is important to be able to set the workpiece's position with the stop and then swing the stop out of the way. Otherwise, the workpiece can bind against the blade at the end of the cut.



The modified stop is shown here. I first bolted the right side down on my mill table and took a light cut across the end to square it up.



A quick trip to my scrap drawer turned up a small bit of Cold Rolled Steel<sup>2</sup>. I drilled a 6-32 tap hole first. Then I match drilled through the CRS and into the end of the stop. The CRS hole was then enlarged to a 6-32 clearance hole and countersunk to match the screw I found. The stop was tapped 6-32.

With the screw securing the bit of CRS, I match drilled an 1/8" hole through both and pressed in a roll pin. Then I free hand shaped the CRS and buffed it on my 3M<sup>®</sup> wheel.

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<sup>2</sup> This is called "feeding the disease". Many people would have tossed this tiny scrap of metal but I tend to keep them. Each time I use such a bit, I am further convinced not to throw anything away.



The cut line modification consists of a small block of wood. I first cut it to be a snug fit at the top of the slot that runs under the blade. Then I used the saw to make a cut about 1/8" deep. Finally, I ran my belt sander to taper the sides of the block so it would be a snug fit in the slot. I've been using this gage for a few days and it has proven to be useful. Painting it white might help give more contrast. The slot does tend to fill up with swarf.

I welcome your comments and questions.

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

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