

A Fence for a Vertical Bandsaw (Two Wrongs Make a Right), Version 1.1

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My heavily modified Enco Horizontal/Vertical bandsaw has a [flip-down table](#) which I use when the saw is in the Vertical position.



Here you see the table flipped out of the way.

To cut accurately in the horizontal position, the blade must have a specific orientation. When I change to the vertical position, the blade turns out to be out of square with my flip-down table. This makes fitting a traditional fence impossible.

I was lurking on group.io/4x6bandsaw, which is dedicated to these saws, and read about someone with this same problem. Various suggestions were made on how to rotate the table to be square to the path cut by the blade.

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I cannot easily rotate my flip-down table because it is bolted in place.



So how bad is the misalignment?

I took a piece of scrap sheet metal and made a cut with my blade that was parallel to the end of the material. This made it easier to see the path of the cut. This path is not always parallel to the flank of the blade².

I placed a machinist square against the front lip of the table to see the error.



Yup, it is off.

Then Jim Klessig of the 4x6bandsaw group pointed out that the table was fine, just the wrong shape. That lit up my brain with an idea.

I learned way back in Engineering school that if I can't solve a problem, change the problem.

² Sometimes the teeth are not symmetrical so the cut points off axis.



To use my fence, I first make contact between the guide and the front edge of the table. Then I slide it over to the desired distance. And finally, I clamp the fence down.

Here you see some MDF that I used for a trial cut.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to Jim Klessig for his astute observation.

I welcome your comments and questions.

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