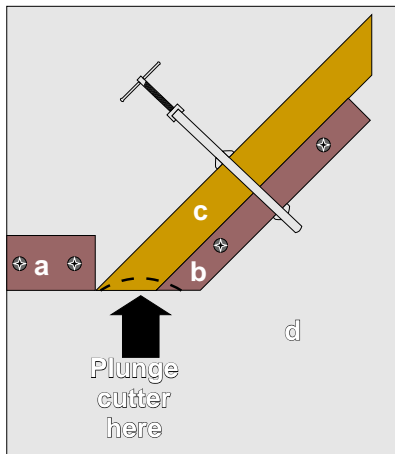


# More tips on mitered framing

by Don Butler

Cut away

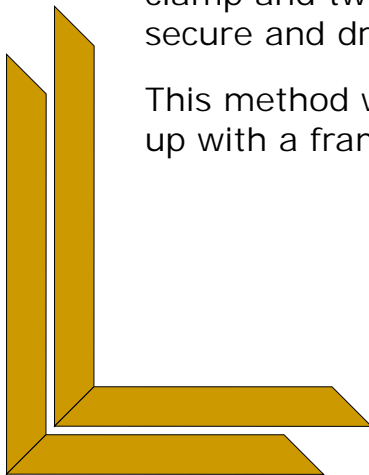
When making mitered frames, for whatever purpose, it's good to have a standardized work method to assure regular, well made pieces. Mitered corners can make use of biscuit joining, and it's not necessary to limit yourself to a size that can be concealed inside the moulding. If a large biscuit is offset to the inside of the corner, the excess can be cut away after the glue is dry. See right.



Use of a simple jig when cutting the biscuit slots can make it easier and quite regular. At left, 'a' is a stop block for the biscuit jointer, 'b' is a 45° guide block against which you clamp the workpiece 'c', and 'd' is the base. Lay out carefully and secure with glue and screws

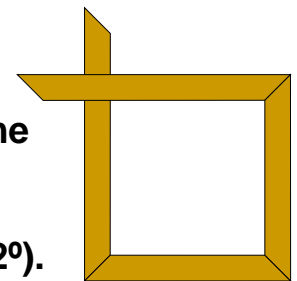
Another good habit is to establish a work rule when assembling mitered rectangles. When placing the pieces in a corner clamp (there are many), decide which piece will go on which side, and stick to it.

In the example below, left, the long sides always go on the left side of the clamp and two right angle assemblies are made separately. When they are secure and dry, put them together to form the completed rectangle.



This method will keep your pieces in order and you won't wind up with a frame that looks like the drawing at lower right.

**Finally, be sure the mitered angles are exact. If each of the four pieces are cut with only a ¼° error, the frame will have 2° mismatch in the last corner. Remember, there's eight 45° cuts in the complete frame (8x.25°=2°).**



Regards,

Don Butler