

RIP MASTER™ SAW GUIDE USER INSTRUCTIONS

About the Rip Master Saw Guide

The Rip Master is designed as an accessory for use with most circular power saws. It will only work with circular saws that contain *Right-Hand Blades*.

When used properly, the Rip Master will improve the accuracy of long, straight cuts in any material that you would normally cut with your saw. The Rip Master also eliminates several time consuming steps normally needed when using a circular saw to make straight rip-cuts to a specific width:

- Eliminates the need for a tape measure
- Eliminates 'marking' the material
- Eliminates the use of chalk lines
- Because the Cut-Guide follows the edge of your material, you no longer need to carefully follow a line on the material

- Allows you to change cutting widths in seconds by simply adjusting the Cut-Guide.

You can use the Rip Master to make straight rip cuts as narrow as 1/16 inch, or as wide as 24 inches for splitting 48-inch material such as plywood, wafer board, paneling, or siding.

The design of the Rip Master allows adjustment to fit most current brands of saws. It has been tested with the current major brands of Right-Hand Blade circular saws. If you have an older circular saw, the Rip Master may not fit properly into the saw base plate.

Please read carefully all sections of this User Guide. The Operator Tips section gives useful information on ways to make your Rip Master perform at its best.

Important Safety Information - Please Read Carefully

- Always unplug your saw from the power source before attaching or removing the Rip Master.
- The Rip Master is designed to fit Right-Hand Blade circular saws only. Never attempt to use the Rip Master with other types of saws.
- When attaching the Rip Master to your circular saw, make sure that the L-Brackets and T-Bolts are located in areas that do not interfere with the saw's normal operation.
- When using the Rip Master, periodically re-tighten the T-Bolts.
- Follow the User instructions when adjusting, attaching, or using the Rip Master.
- Always follow the saw manufacturer's safety guidelines when operating or maintaining your saw.
- Keep hands away from saw blade when operating your saw.
- Always wear proper eye protection when operating your saw.

IMPORTANT!

ALWAYS DISCONNECT THE POWER SOURCE BEFORE ATTACHING THE RIP MASTER TO YOUR SAW.

NOTE: The Rip Master is fully assembled. The various screws and bolts should not be removed. You should only loosen and retighten these parts as you setup, attach, and remove the Rip Master.

The Rip Master is designed to allow you to adjust the tool to fit most circular saws with blades on the **RIGHT SIDE**. Some circular saws, particularly older saws, may have designs that prevent the use of the Rip Master with that saw.

HOW TO SET UP AND ATTACH THE RIP MASTER™ TO YOUR SAW

Make sure your saw is unplugged from the power source!

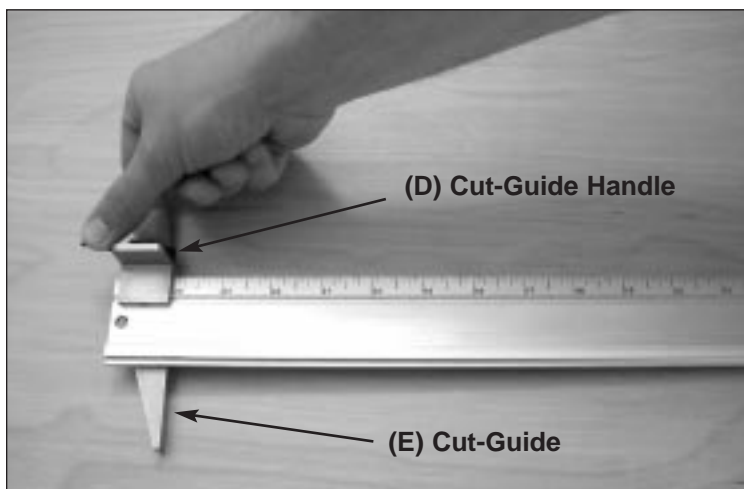


Fig. 1

1 Loosen the Cut-Guide handle (D), and slide the Cut Guide (E) to the 24" end of the scale, and retighten the handle (Fig.1). This will hold the guide out of the way during the setup.

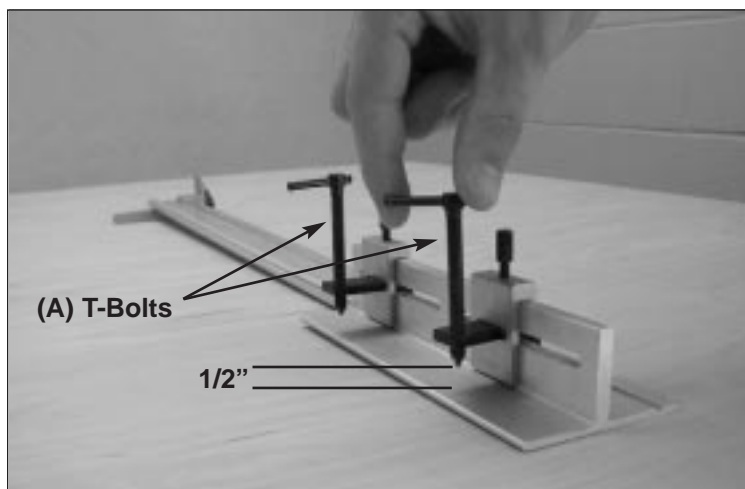


Fig. 2

2 Loosen the T-bolts (A) so that there is roughly 1/2 inch clearance between the Rip Master base and the points of the T- Bolts (Fig. 2) **Do not remove the T-bolts completely.**

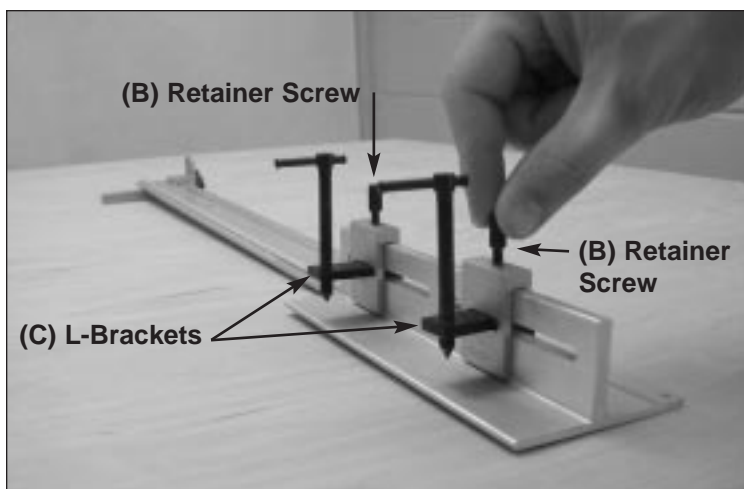


Fig. 3

3 Loosen the Retainer Screws (B) just enough to allow the L-Brackets (C) to move freely (Fig 3). **Do not remove the Retainer Screws completely.**

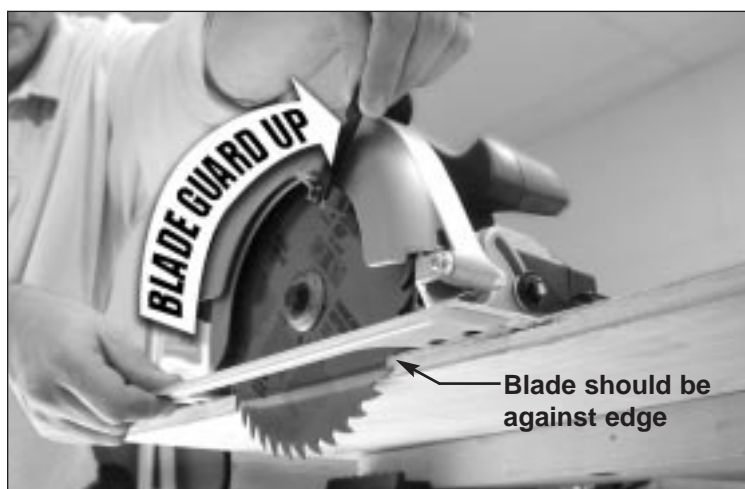


Fig. 4

4 Raise the saw blade guard. Position saw on a securely held in place flat surface, such as a worktable, so that the blade is firmly against the surface straight edge.



Fig. 5

5 Position the Rip Master on your saw base plate as shown in Fig. 5. You will need to slightly raise the saw to slide the base of the Rip Master under the saw base plate.

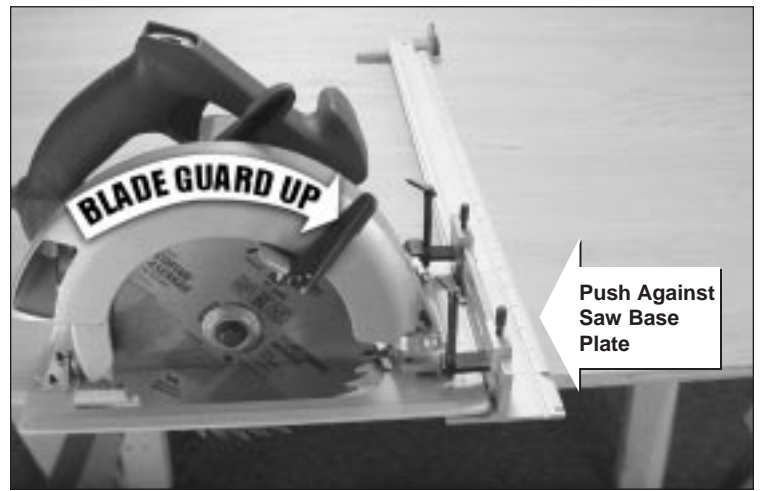


Fig. 5a

Push the Rip Master towards the saw until the Rip Master is flush against the front edge of the saw base as shown in Fig 5a. Depending on your saw's design, at this point you may need to loosen the T-Bolts slightly more to allow adequate clearance.

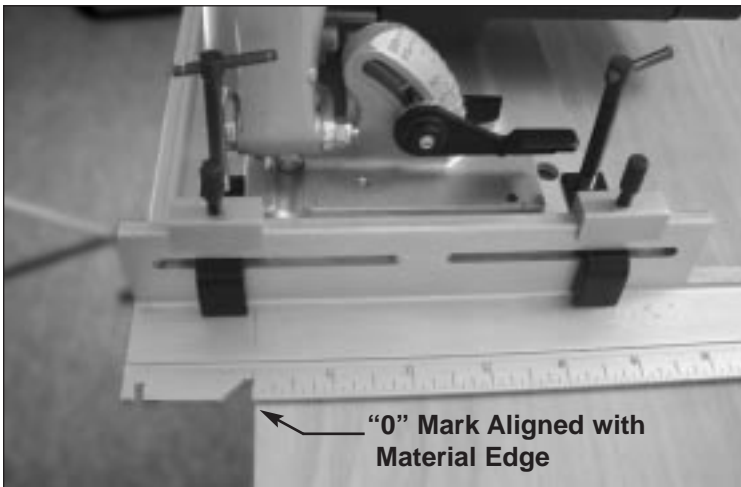


Fig. 5b

Important note on positioning your Rip Master Saw Guide: Make sure that the Zero mark on the Rip Master Saw Guide is aligned with the edge of your table or material as shown in Fig. 5b. Also, make sure that saw blade is firmly resting against the edge of the table or material as shown in Fig. 4., with the blade guard raised. This will align the saw blade properly with the Zero mark on the Rip Master Saw Guide, insuring correct cutting widths.

IMPORTANT:

To insure the maximum hold and stability during operation, try to position the L-Brackets as follows:

- 1) The L-Brackets (C) should be placed as far into the saw's base plate as possible, without interfering with the saw's operation. This position may be different on various saw designs, and is largely determined by the location of available space for locating the T-Bolts (A). You should be able to place your fingers firmly on the T-Bolts (A) to tighten and loosen.

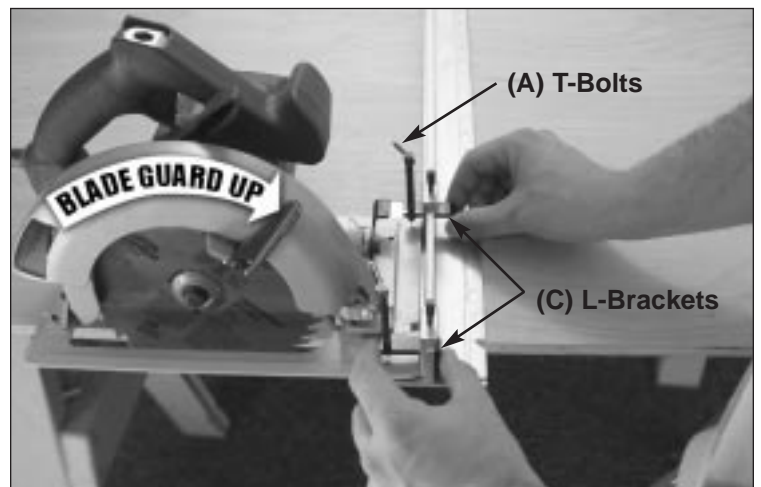


Fig. 6

6 With your Rip Master now positioned properly, adjust the L-Brackets (C) so that the T-Bolts (A) can be tightened down onto a relatively flat area of the saw's base plate, as shown in Fig. 6. The location of the L-Brackets (C) should also allow you to reach the T-Bolts (A), for tightening and loosening these onto the base plate.

NOTE: The exact positioning of the L-Brackets and T-Bolts will vary on different saw designs.

- 2) Position the L-Brackets as far apart from each other as possible on the saw base.
- 3) Be sure the location of the T-Bolts does not interfere with correct saw operation.

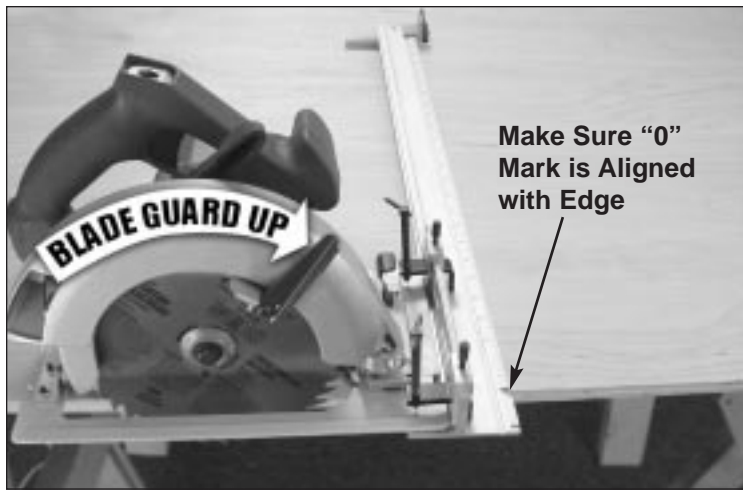


Fig. 6a

Fig. 6a Shows the L-Brackets positioned properly. Note that the T-Bolts are in an Open area for easy access, and that the L-Brackets “reach” into the saw. This may vary with different saw designs.

The Rip Master Saw Guide will work properly so long as the sharp points on the T-Bolts are tightened firmly into any area of the saw base. Because of the many designs of circular saws, you may need to try more than one position for the L-Brackets. Choose the position that works best for your saw’s design.

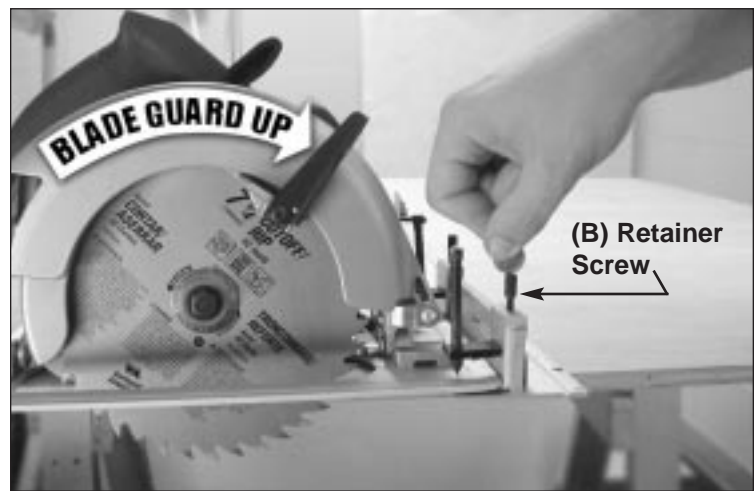


Fig. 7

7

With everything in position as instructed, now tighten the Retainer Screws (B). Use a **COIN OR SMALL SCREWDRIVER** to firmly tighten these screws as shown in Fig. 7. The Retainer Screws are designed to hold the L-Brackets and T-Bolts in the position you choose for **YOUR** saw. The next time you attach the Rip Master to your saw, the L-Brackets and T-Bolts will already be set in this position, making re-attaching the Rip Master quicker and easier. Your Rip Master is now set for your saw. Should it be necessary to reset the Rip Master for your saw, repeat steps 1 thru 7.

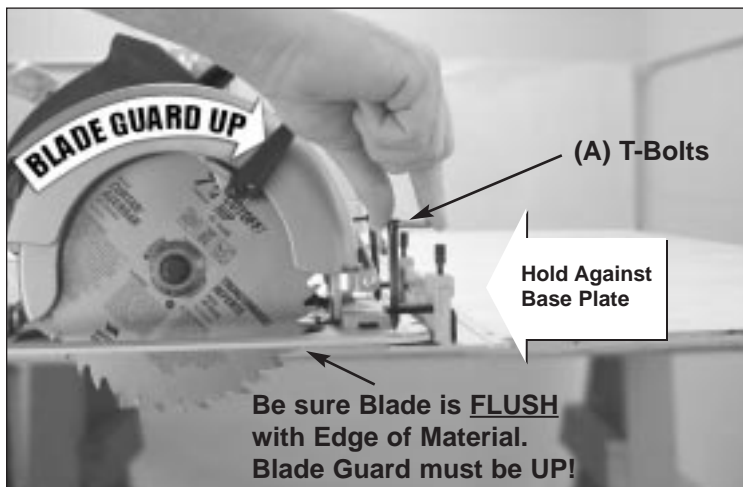


Fig. 8

8

Hand-tighten the T-Bolts (A) firmly onto the saw’s base plate as shown in Fig. 8. **You should not use a tool to tighten the T-Bolts.** The sharp points on the T-Bolts will make a slight indentation in the base plate of your saw. When securely tightened, the T-Bolts will prevent the Rip Master from moving during use. **This is very important to maintaining the accuracy of your cuts.**

Adjusting the Rip Master Saw Guide to fit other saws:

- A) Loosen the Retainer Screws to allow the L-Brackets to move freely.
- B) Repeat Steps 1-7 above to adjust for the proper position of the L-Brackets and T-Bolts for that particular saw.

MAKING RIP-CUTS WITH YOUR RIP MASTER™

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Before making cuts, always make sure the Zero mark on the Rip Master is precisely aligned with the Zero mark on your saw. Also, make sure that the vertical section of The Rip Master is pushed firmly against the front edge of your saw's base plate. If needed, make the necessary adjustments before proceeding.

1. Loosen the Cut-Guide Handle, and move the Cut-Guide to the desired dimension of your cut.
2. Hold the Cut-Guide at the desired dimension, and hand tighten the Cut-Guide Handle securely. **Do not use a tool to tighten the Cut-Guide handle. Firm hand tightening is adequate to keep the Cut-Guide from moving during use.**
3. You are now ready to make a cut. Simply make the cut as you normally would, keeping the face of the Cut-Guide (E) against the edge of your material as shown in Fig.9.

Use the "push-plate" on the top of the Cut-Guide (E) to hold the Cut-Guide face against the edge of the material during the cut. You should also use the "push-plate" to push the Cut-Guide forward at the same pace as your saw. **This is especially important when making wider cuts.**

4. **Pay particular attention to the last 1 to 2 inches of your cut.** You should reduce the amount of "sideways" pressure being applied, and slowly push both the saw and the Cut-Guide in a straight line through the last portion of the cut. **Too much pressure against the Cut-Guide or the saw during the last portion of the cut can cause the saw to move off the intended cut line.**

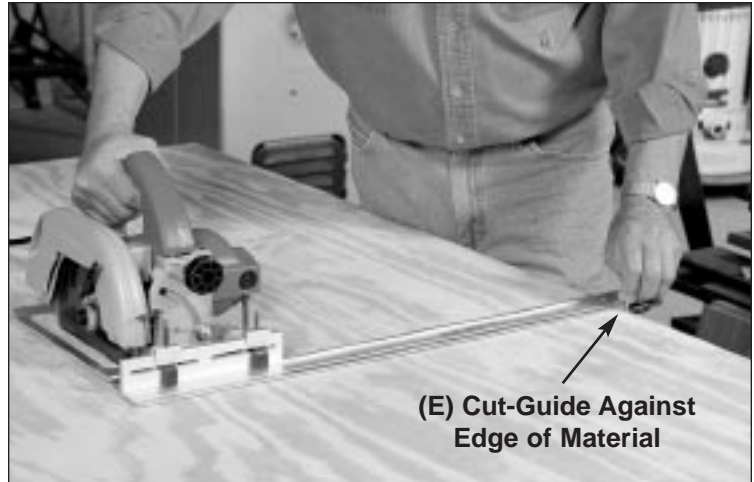


Fig. 9

Fig. 9 shows the proper method for using the Rip Master to make a wide cut. Note the user is pushing the Cut-Guide (E) through the cut, keeping it parallel with the saw.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- As with any new tool, you may want to make a few cuts of various widths, to become familiar with the operation. When making cuts using the Rip Master, you should push the Cut-Guide (E) in a FORWARD direction, while applying only the minimum amount of sideways pressure needed to hold the Cut-Guide against the edge of the material. **Pushing the Cut-Guide too hard against the edge of the material can cause binding, and may adversely affect the accuracy of your cut.**
- Various circular saws produce different levels of vibration during use. In some cases this vibration may be extreme, especially with older saws, or if a worn or incorrect blade is used. If you find that the Cut-Guide moves during use, it is probably due to excessive vibration from your saw. In this case, reset the Cut-Guide to the desired dimension, and tighten the Cut-Guide handle using more pressure.

MAKING BEVEL CUTS

IMPORTANT:

On many saws, the blade's Zero mark is different when you change the blade angle for Bevel cuts. (This is sometimes shown on the saw base plate with a 45° mark). Refer to your saw's operating instructions, or look closely at the base plate to determine if you should re-position the Rip Master Saw Guide before making bevel cuts.

The Rip Master™ is very useful when using your circular saw to make bevel or angle cuts. You should use the same procedure as with a normal cut, except adjust the angle of your blade according to the saw manufacturer's instructions. The Rip Master will remain level with the material, allowing you to use the Cut-Guide to make the cut straight and accurate. Fig. 10 shows a bevel cut being made with the Rip Master.

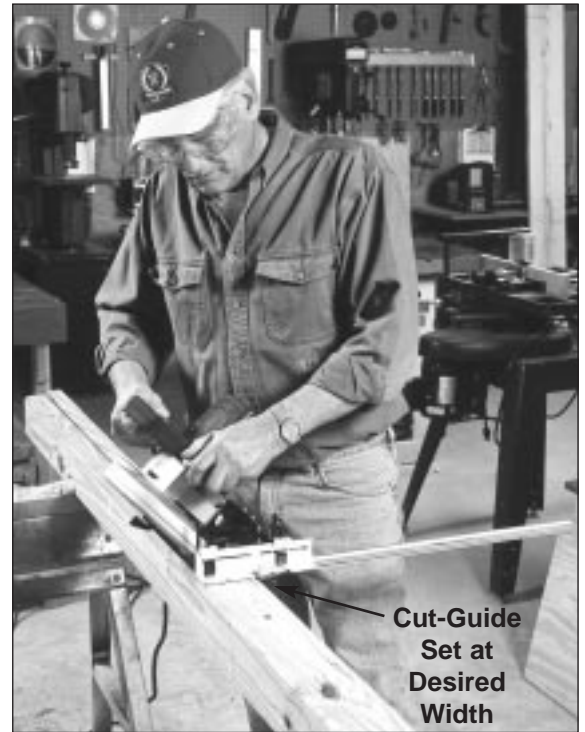


Fig. 10

MAKING CROSS-CUTS WITH THE RIP MASTER™ ATTACHED

To make a crosscut with the Rip Master attached to your saw, follow these steps:

If the length of your cross-cut is 24 inches or less:

- 1) Move the Cut-Guide to the desired dimension.
- 2) Make the cut as you normally would, using the Cut-Guide as you would for a rip-cut.

If the length of your cross-cut is greater than 24 inches:

- 1) Move the Cut-Guide to the 24-inch mark on the Rip Master and tighten the Cut-Guide Handle, to prevent interference while making your crosscut.
- 2) With the Cut-Guide held in place at the 24-inch mark, you can make a normal crosscut. The Cut-Guide will move across the top of the material as shown in Fig. 11, without interfering with the accuracy of the crosscut.

USEFUL TIP FOR CONTRACTORS/PROFESSIONALS:

Most rip guides must be removed from a circular saw to use that saw for cross-cutting. This is time consuming.

Because the Rip Master does not have to be removed from a circular saw to make normal crosscuts, the Rip Master can be left on the saw continuously on a job or project site. This eliminates the need to attach and remove the Rip Master from a circular saw to make various types of cuts.



Fig. 11

OPERATOR TIPS

Read these useful tips to get the best performance from your Rip Master:

- Always use a sharp blade. Dull or worn blades can produce binding that can result in cuts that are not accurate.
- Use the correct type of blade for the material that you are cutting.
- Make sure your saw is in good condition, and all adjustment screws are tight.
- Don't use excessive force when using your saw. The type of material you are cutting, and the sharpness of your saw blade will determine how hard you should push your saw during the cut. Light forward pressure should be used when making rip-cuts.
- Before making cuts, always check to make sure the Zero mark on your Rip Master is precisely aligned with the 'zero' mark on your saw.
- During repeated use, occasionally check and re-tighten the T-Bolts on your Rip Master.
- As you near the end of your cut, do not push the Cut-Guide excessively against the side of the material. Allow both the Cut-Guide and your saw to move in a straight line through the last portion of your cut. The blade will tend to track in its own kerf for the final 2 inches of the cut, keeping the cut accurate.

CARE AND STORAGE OF YOUR RIP MASTER™

- It is recommended that the Rip Master be removed from the saw for storing.
- The Rip Master is a precision tool, and should be stored in a safe place to avoid accidental damage. It is supplied with a hole at the end so it can be hung in a suitable location.
- All of the Rip Master components are corrosion resistant, however an occasional light coat of moisture displacing lubricant such as WD-40 will improve the performance.
- Keep your Rip Master clean. Remove any sawdust, wood chips, or other debris from the moving parts, and from the Cut-Guide slot.

LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY

Quality for Life

The Rip Master™ is warranted to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for its life. Normal wear and tear or damage caused by abuse, misuse, neglect, alteration, or use of the product in a manner inconsistent with the enclosed User Instructions are not covered. Should your Rip Master fail due to reasons stated in this warranty, send the defective product with your sales receipt to:

Choice Products, Inc., 2655 N. Friendship Rd. #43, Paducah, KY 42001

Your Rip Master will be repaired or replaced at the discretion of Choice Products, Inc. free of charge, excluding applicable shipping cost.

The liability of the guarantor is limited to the replacement and/or repair of the product. All other implied warranties and/or liabilities are disclaimed and/or limited to the full extent of the law. You may have other rights that vary from state to state.

Choice Products welcomes your comments or questions about your Rip Master.

Please write to the address above, or visit our website:

www.choiceproductsinc.com

TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Width of cut is not accurate</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rip Master Zero mark is not aligned with the Zero mark on your saw. 2. T-bolts have loosened on the Rip Master. 3. Cut-Guide Handle has loosened on the Rip Master. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-align Rip Master Zero mark and the Zero mark on your saw. Refer to Fig.5b. 2. Re-tighten T-bolts. Refer to Fig.8 3. Re-position Cut-Guide to desired cutting width and tighten Cut-Guide Handle. |
| <p>Cut is not straight</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Too much force is being applied against the Rip Master when making cuts. 2. Dull or worn saw blade 3. Improper saw blade for material. 4. Making a cut too quickly. 5. T-Bolts or Cut-Guide Handle has loosened. 6. Rip Master is not flush with Saw's base plate. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Only apply light pressure when holding the Cut-Guide against the edge of your material during a cut. Push the Rip Master in a forward motion, at the same pace as you push your saw. Refer to Fig.9. 2. Sharpen or replace blade. 3. Use only blades designed for the material being cut. 4. Slow down your cut speed. Do not apply excessive pressure when making a cut. 5. Re-align and re-tighten T-bolts and Cut-Guide Handle. 6. Re-attach the Rip Master to Saw's base plate, making sure that the Rip Master is flush with the front edge of the saw's base plate. Refer to Fig. 5 & 5a |
| <p>Cut-Guide does not slide smoothly</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cut-Guide Handle is not loosened. 2. Cut-Guide channel is clogged with sawdust or debris. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Loosen Cut-Guide Handle to make Cut-Guide slide smoothly 2. Remove sawdust or debris from Cut-Guide channel. |