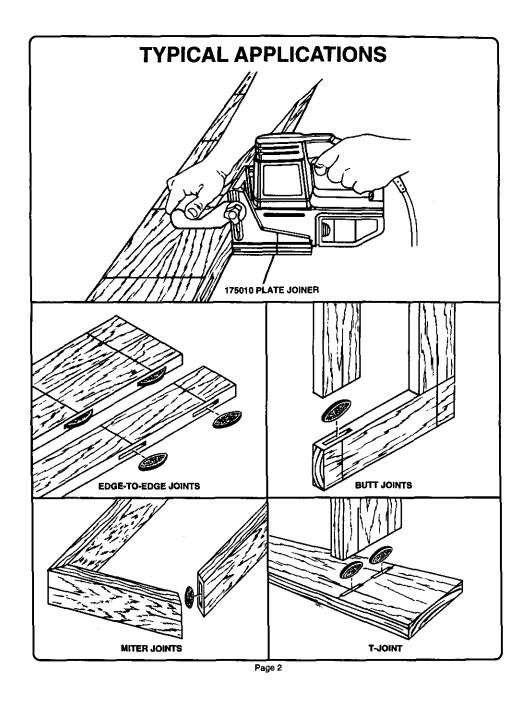
SEARS **OWNER'S** MANUAL MODEL NO. 315.175010 **CRAFTSMAN**° CAUTION: **Read Rules for DUSTLESS** Safe Operation and All Instruc-**PLATE JOINER** tions Carefully **DOUBLE INSULATED** Save This Manual For Fature Reference Thank You for Buying Craftsman Tools Designed exclusively for and sold only by SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO., Hoffman Estates, IL 60179

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#### FULL ONE YEAR WARRANTY ON CRAFTSMAN PLATE JOINER

If this Craftsman Plate Joiner fails to perform properly due to a defect in material or workmanship within one year from the date of purchase RETURN IT TO (OR CONTACT) THE NEAREST SEARS SERVICE CENTER / DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES and Sears will repair it, free of charge.

If this plate joiner is used for commercial or rental purposes this warranty applies for only 90 days from the date of purchase.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO. DEPT. 817 WA HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60179

## INTRODUCTION

Spline joinery is one of the strongest methods of joinery used in woodworking. When glue is properly applied to a spline and to the joint area of the wood pieces being connected, a large surface area receives the adhesion properties of the glue. This forms a very strong joint.

Traditional spline joinery requires cutting slots with a router or table saw. Small, thin strips of wood must then be cut to fit inside the slots and act as splines.

Newer methods of spline joinery use a plate or biscuit joiner to cut precise mating oval slots in adjoining boards. Your new plate joiner is a fast, simple, and accurate plunge cutting tool that can be used for this purpose. It can be used to cut slots in hard wood, soft wood, particle board, and other pressed woods.

Football shaped waters, called biscuits, are then placed inside the slots with glue and used to help line up adjoining surfaces. When a water based glue is used, the biscuits swell in the joint making an extremely strong and firm bond. White glue, yellow glue, carpenters glue, hide glue, and aliphatic resin glue are examples of water based glues.

This bonding technique has traditionally been limited to making edge-to-edge joints. However, with the use of your new plate joiner, biscuits can now be easily used to connect butt, miter, and T-joints. Biscuit joining can be as strong as mortise and tenon, tongue and groove, standard spline, and doweled joints. In most cases the material around the biscuit will break before the biscuit itself will break. A greater surface area is exposed to glue in a biscuit joint, making the seams stronger.

> CAUTION: Carefully read through this entire Owner's Manual before using you new Plate Joiner.

## **RULES FOR SAFE OPERATION**

WARNING: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO OPERATE THIS TOOL UNTIL YOU HAVE READ THOROUGHLY AND UNDERSTAND COMPLETELY ALL INSTRUCTIONS, SAFETY RULES, ETC. CONTAINED IN THIS MANUAL. FAILURE TO COMPLY CAN RESULT IN ACCIDENTS INVOLVING FIRE. ELECTRIC SHOCK, OR SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY. SAVE OWNER'S MANUAL AND REVIEW FREQUENTLY FOR CONTINUING SAFE OPERATION, AND INSTRUCTING OTHERS WHO MAY USE THIS TOOL.

#### **READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS**

- KNOW YOUR POWER TOOL Read owner's manual carefully. Learn its applications and limitations as well as the specific potential hazards related to this tool.
- 2. GUARD AGAINST ELECTRICAL SHOCK BY PREVENTING BODY CONTACT WITH GROUNDED SURFACES. For example: Pipes, radiators, ranges, refrigerator enclosures.
- 3. KEEP WORK AREA CLEAN. Cluttered areas and benches invite accidents.
- AVOID DANGEROUS ENVIRONMENT. Don't use power tools in damp or wet locations or expose to rain. Keep work area well lit.
- KEEP CHILDREN AND VISITORS AWAY. All visitors should wear safety glasses and be kept a safe distance from work area. Do not let visitors contact tool or extension cord.
- STORE IDLE TOOLS. When not in use tools should be stored in a dry, high or locked-up place – out of the reach of children.
- 7. DON'T FORCE TOOL. It will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it was designed.
- USE RIGHT TOOL. Don't force small tool or attachment to do the job of a heavy duty tool. Don't use tool for purpose not intended – for example – Don't use a circular saw for cutting tree limbs or logs.
- DRESS PROPERLY. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. They can be caught in moving parts. Rubber gloves and non-skid footwear are recommended when working outdoors. Also, wear protective hair covering to contain long hair and keep it from being drawn into air vents.
- ALWAYS WEAR SAFETY GLASSES WITH SIDE SHIELDS. Everyday eyeglasses have only impact resistant lenses; they are NOT safety glasses.
- 11. PROTECT YOUR LUNGS. Wear a face or dust mask if operation is dusty.
- 12. PROTECT YOUR HEARING. Wear hearing protection during extended periods of operation.

- DON'T ABUSE CORD. Never carry tool by cord or yank it to disconnect from receptacle. Keep cord from heat, oil, and sharp edges.
- 14. SECURE WORK. Use clamps or a vise to hold work. It's safer than using your hand and it frees both hands to operate tool.
- DON'T OVERREACH. Keep proper footing and balance at all times. Do not use on a ladder or unstable support.
- MAINTAIN TOOLS WITH CARE. Keep tools sharp at all times, and clean for best and safest performance. Follow instructions for lubricating and changing accessories.
- DISCONNECT TOOLS. When not in use, before servicing, or when changing attachments, blades, bits, cutters, etc., all tools should be disconnected.
- REMOVE ADJUSTING KEYS AND WRENCHES. Form habit of checking to see that keys and adjusting wrenches are removed from tool before turning it on.
- AVOID ACCIDENTAL STARTING. Don't carry plugged-in tool with finger on switch. Be sure switch is off when plugging in.
- 20. MAKE SURE YOUR EXTENSION CORD IS IN GOOD CONDITION. When using an extension cord, be sure to use one heavy enough to carry the current your product will draw. An undersized cord will cause a drop in line voltage resulting in loss of power and overheating. A wire gage size (A.W.G.) of at least 16 is recommended for an extension cord 100 feet or less in length. A cord exceeding 100 feet is not recommended. If in doubt, use the next heavier gage. The smaller the gage number, the heavier the cord.
- OUTDOOR USE EXTENSION CORDS. When tool is used outdoors, use only extension cords intended for use outdoors. Outdoor approved cords are marked with the suffix W-A, for example - SJTW-A or SJOW-A.
- 22. KEEP BLADES CLEAN AND SHARP. Sharp blades minimize stalling and kickback.

### **RULES FOR SAFE OPERATION (Continued)**

- 23. KEEP HANDS AWAY FROM CUTTING AREA. Keep hands away from blades. Do not reach underneath work while blade is rotating, WARN-ING: BLADES COAST AFTER TURN OFF.
- 24. NEVER USE IN AN EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERE. Normal sparking of the motor could ignite flammable liquids, gases, or fumes.
- 25. INSPECT TOOL CORDS PERIODICALLY and if damaged, have repaired by an authorized service facility. Stay constantly aware of cord location and keep it well away from the rotating blade.
- 26. INSPECT EXTENSION CORDS PERIODICALLY and replace if damaged.
- KEEP HANDLES DRY, CLEAN, AND FREE FROM OIL AND GREASE. Always use a clean cloth when cleaning. Never use brake fluids, gasoline, petroleum-based products, or any strong solvents to clean your tool.
- STAY ALERT AND EXERCISE CONTROL. Watch what you are doing and use common sense. Do not operate tool when you are tired. Do not rush.
- 29. CHECK DAMAGED PARTS. Before further use of the tool, a guard or other part that is damaged should be carefully checked to determine that it will operate properly and perform its intended function. Check for alignment of moving parts, binding of moving parts, breakage of parts, mounting, and any other conditions that may affect its operation. A guard or other part that is damaged should be properly repaired or replaced by an authorized service center.
- 30. DO NOT USE TOOL IF SWITCH DOES NOT TURN IT ON AND OFF. Have defective switches replaced by an authorized service center.
- 31. DO NOT OPERATE THIS TOOL WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS, ALCOHOL, OR ANY MEDICATION.
- 32. GUARD AGAINST KICKBACK. Kickback occurs when the blade stalls rapidly and the plate joiner is driven in the direction opposite blade rotation. Release switch immediately if blade binds or joiner stalls.

#### USE ONLY 4 INCH DIAMETER SPECIFIED BLADES. Do not use blades with incorrect size holes. Never use blade washers or bolts that are defective, incorrect, or not specified.

- 34. AVOID CUTTING NAILS. Inspect for and remove all nails from lumber before cutting.
- NEVER touch the blade or other moving parts during use.
- NEVER start a tool when the blade is in contact with the workpiece.
- 37. NEVER lay a tool down before the blade has come to a complete stop.
- 38. POLARIZED PLUGS. To reduce the risk of electric shock, this equipment has a polarized plug (one blade is wider than the other). This plug will fit in a polarized outlet only one way. If the plug does not fit fully in the outlet, reverse the plug. If it still does not fit, contact a qualified electrician to install the proper outlet. Do not change the plug in any way.
- 39. When servicing use only identical Craftsman replacement parts.
- 40. SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS. Refer to them frequently and use them to instruct others who may use this tool. If you loan someone this tool, loan them these instructions also.

WARNING: SOME OUST CREATED BY POWER SANDING. SAWING. GRINDING. DRILLING. AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES CONTAINS CHEMICALS KNOWN TO CAUSE CANCER. BIRTH DEFECTS OR OTHER REPRODUCTIVE HARM. SOME EXAMPLES OF THESE CHEMICALS ARE:

- + LEAD FROM LEAD-BASED PAINTS,
- CRYSTALLINE SILICA FROM BRICKS AND CEMENT AND OTHER MASONRY PRODUCTS AND
- ARSENIC AND CHROMIUM FROM CHEMICALLY-TREATED LUMBER.

YOUR RISK FROM THESE EXPOSURES VARIES. DEPENDING ON HOW OFTEN YOU DO THIS TYPE OF WORK. TO REDUCE YOUR EXPOSURE TO THESE CHEMICALS: WORK IN A WELL VENTILATED AREA. AND WORK WITH APPROVED SAFETY EQUIPMENT. SUCH AS THOSE DUST MASKS THAT ARE SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO FILTER OUT MICROSCOPIC PARTICLES.

### WARNING:



The operation of any power tool can result in foreign objects being thrown into your eyes, which can result in severe eye damage. Before beginning power tool operation, always wear safety goggles or safety glasses with side shields and a full face shield when needed. We recommend Wide Vision Safety Mask for use over eyeglasses or standard safety glasses with side shields, available at Sears Retail Stores.

## FEATURES

. Your Plate Joiner has been designed for making fast, accurate, and simple plunge cuts in wood, etc. so that biscuits can be used to join two or more boards together. When used property and only for what it is intended, this versatile tool will give you years of trouble-free performance. It is professionally engineered, but its ease of operation allows the amateur to produce work that is beautiful and precise.

#### DOUBLE INSULATED

This tool is double insulated. Double Insulation is a concept in safety, in electric power tools, which eliminates the need for the usual three wire grounded power cord and grounded supply system. Wherever there is electric current in the tool there are two complete sets of insulation to protect the user. All exposed metal parts are isolated from internal metal motor components with protecting insulation.

IMPORTANT - Servicing of a tool with double insulation requires extreme care and knowledge of the system and should be performed only by a qualified service technician. For service we suggest you return the tool to your nearest Sears store for repair. Always use original factory replacement parts when servicing.

#### SWITCH

To turn your plate joiner "ON", depress the switch trigger. Release switch trigger to turn your plate joiner "OFF".

#### 5/8 HORSEPOWER MOTOR

Your plate joiner has a powerful 5/8 horsepower motor with sufficient power to handle tough cutting jobs. It develops a no load speed of 10,000 RPM.

#### CARBIDE TIPPED BLADE

Your plate joiner has an 8 tooth carbide tipped blade for cutting biscuit slots.

#### BISCUITS See Figure 1.

Biscuits are available in three standard sizes:

- #0 (5/8 in. x 1-13/16 in.)
- #10 (13/16 in. x 2-1/16 in.)
- #20 (15/16 in. x 2-5/16 in.)

NOTE: Biscuits swell rapidly upon contact with water-based woodworking glues.

#### **ADJUSTABLE FENCE / FRONT HANDLE**

Your plate joiner has an adjustable fence. By loosening the height adjustment knobs, the angle of the fence can be set at angles up to  $60^\circ$  above and  $45^\circ$  below  $90^\circ$ , with positive stop settings in increments of  $15^\circ$ . The height of the fence can be set between 0 in. - 2 in. with a scale showing 0 in. - 1-1/2 in.

The front handle is a molded part of the adjustable fence and should always be used to guide and balance your plate joiner, providing ease of operation and maintaining safe control.

#### NON-SKID BACKING PAD

The fence on your plate joiner is padded with a non-skid backing pad to hold it stationary against the workpiece. It helps prevent skidding when making cuts. It also prevents marring of the workpiece from your plate joiner when making cuts.

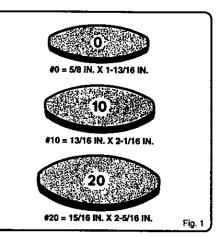
#### APPLICATIONS

#### (Use only for the purpose listed below)

 Cutting precise mating oval slots in hard wood, soft wood, plywood, particle board, etc. for spline joinery applications.

#### **ELECTRICAL CONNECTION**

Your plate joiner has a precision built electric motor. It should be connected to a power supply that is 120 volts, 60 Hz, AC only (normal household current). Do not operate this tool on direct current (DC). A voltage drop of more than 10 percent will cause a loss of power and overheating. If your plate joiner does not operate when plugged into an outlet, double-check the power supply.



#### DEPTH ADJUSTMENT KNOBS

A spring loaded depth adjustment knob makes it possible to make proper settings for three standard size biscuits. Fine adjustments to the cutting depth can be made with two knurled adjustment knobs located behind the depth adjustment knob. Once the correct depth setting has been made for one biscuit size, the other two depth settings will be automatically set.

#### DUSTLESS FEATURE

The dust box on the rear of your plate joiner provides a dust collection system. Wood particles are drawn up through a tunnel in the base and collect in the dust box during cutting operations.

#### **HIGHLIGHTED INDICATOR MARKS**

Highlighted centerline and line of cut indicator marks have been provided on your plate joiner.

## **FEATURES**

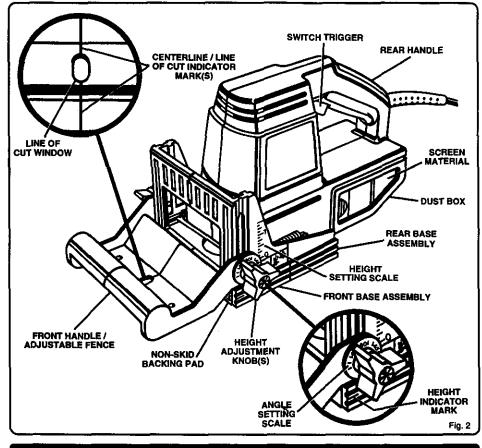
#### KNOW YOUR PLATE JOINER See Figure 2.

Your plate joiner has been shipped completely assembled and ready for use. Inspect it carefully to make sure no breakage or damage has occurred during shipping. If any parts are damaged or missing, contact your local Sears store or Sears authorized service center to obtain replacement parts before attempting to operate your plate joinèr.

The dust box is also installed on the rear of tool. Its use will help keep the work area clean. For most efficient pick-up of wood particles, empty dust box often.

Before attempting to use any tool familiarize yourself with all operating features and safety requirements.

WARNING: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO MODIFY THIS TOOL OF CREATE ACCESSORIES NOT RECOMMENDED FOR USE WITH THIS TOOL. ANY SUCH ALTERATION OF MODIFICATION IS MISUSE AND COULD RESULT IN A HAZARDOUS CONDITION LEADING TO POSSIBLE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY.



WARNING: DO NOT ALLOW FAMILIARITY WITH TOOLS TO MAKE YOU CARELESS. REMEMBER THAT A CARELESS FRACTION OF A SECOND IS SUFFICIENT TO INFLICT SEVERE INJURY.

### **ADJUSTMENTS**

WARNING: IF ANY PARTS ARE MISSING DO NOT OPERATE TOOL UNTIL THE MISSING PARTS ARE REPLACED. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN POSSIBLE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY.

#### DEPTH OF CUT ADJUSTMENTS

Your plate joiner can be adjusted to three standard cutting depths to accommodate three standard size biscuits — #0, #10, and #20. Adjustments are made by engaging slots on depth adjustment knob with tabs on rear base assembly. For example, when using a #0 size biscuit, rotate the depth adjustment knob to the slot marked 0. When using a #10 size biscuit, rotate the depth adjustment knob to the slot marked 10, and when using a #20 size biscuit rotate the depth adjustment knob to the slot marked 20.

### TO SET DEPTH ADJUSTMENT KNOB

1. Unplug your plate joiner.

WARNING: FAILURE TO UNPLUG YOUR PLATE JOINER COULD RESULT IN ACCIDENTAL STARTING CAUSING POSSIBLE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY.

- Pull knurled adjustment knobs in the direction of the arrow shown in figure 3. NOTE: Knobs are spring loaded, therfore pulling them in the direction of the arrow shown puts pressure on the spring and releases pressure from the depth adjustment knob.
- Rotate depth adjustment knob until desired slot setting aligns with tabs on rear base assembly — 0, 10, or 20.
- Next release knurled adjustment knobs applying pressure from the spring on depth adjustment knob.

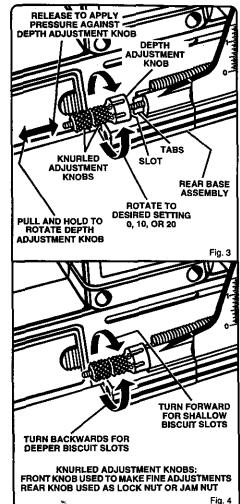
Make a test cut in a scrap piece of wood. Fit the correct size biscuit into biscuit slot. If biscuit slot is too deep or too shallow, fine adjustments to the depth setting can be made by loosening rear adjustment knob and making fine adjustments with the front adjustment knob. Turning front knob forward will cut shallow biscuit slots. Turning front knob backwards will cut deeper biscuit slots. The biscuit slot should be deep enough to allow slightly more than one-half of the biscuit into the slot. This extra room allows for proper alignment of the wood being ioined.

#### TO MAKE FINE ADJUSTMENTS See Figure 4.

See rigule 4.

#### 1. Unplug your plate joiner.

- Loosen rear knurled adjustment knob. This knob is used as a lock nut or jam nut only. Loosen by twisting it in the opposite direction away from front knob.
- Turn front knurled adjustment knob forward for a more shallow cut, or backwards for a deeper cut.
- Once desired depth of cut is reached, hold front knob so that it will not move out of adjustment. Next, tighten rear knob against front knob.
- Recheck depth setting by making a test cut in a scrap piece of wood. Also periodically check depth setting for accuracy.





## **ADJUSTMENTS**

#### FENCE HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT See Figure 5.

The adjustable fence on your plate joiner can be moved up and down to adjust the position of the blade in relation to the top of the workpiece. A scale on both sides of the fence indicates the height of the fence from the center of the blade. The fence can be positioned up to two inches from the center of the blade. However, the scale and indicator point can only be set up to 1-1/2 in, from the center of the blade. Scale marks are in increments of 1/16 in.

#### TO ADJUST HEIGHT SETTING

See Figure 5.

- 1. Unplug your plate joiner.
- Loosen the two height adjustment knobs. NOTE: Loosen each height adjustment knob approximately one turn.
  Slide the fence up or down until the indicator point is
  - aligned with the desired dimension on the scale.
- 4. Tighten height adjustment knobs securely.

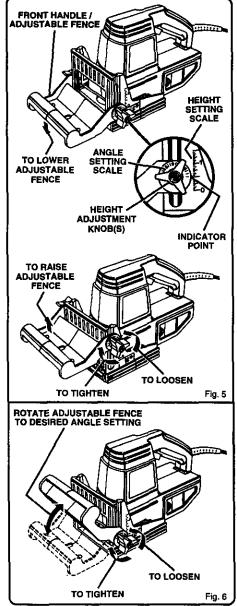
#### FENCE ANGLE ADJUSTMENT See Figure 6.

The adjustable fence on your plate joiner can be set at angles ranging from 60° above 90° to 45° below 90°, with quick, accurate positive stops set in 15° increments. A scale is located on both sides of the front handle for identifying these positive stop angles. Each click you hear when rotating the adjustable fence from one angle setting to another equals a 15° positive stop angle change.

### TO ADJUST ANGLE SETTING

See Figure 6.

- 1. Unplug your plate joiner.
- 2. Loosen the two height adjustment knobs. NOTE: Loosen each height adjustment knob approximately one turn.
- 3. Rotate adjustable fence up or down to the desired angle.
- 4. Tighten height adjustment knobs securely.



WARNING: ALWAYS WEAR SAFETY GOGGLES OR SAFETY GLASSES WITH SIDE SHIELDS WHEN OPERATING TOOLS. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN OBJECTS BEING THROWN INTO YOUR EYES, RESULTING IN POSSIBLE SERIOUS INJURY.

A variety of spline joints can be made using your plate joiner. The number and size biscuits needed for each joint depends on the thickness of the wood and the length of the joint. In general, the small #0 biscuits should be used for miter cuts in 3/4 in. materials. The larger biscuits should be used for edgeto-edge joinery.

When joining 1-1/2 in. thick materials, stack two biscuits, one above the other. For example, joining 2 in. x 4 in. dressed lumber. See Figure 9. When joining even thicker materials, use additional biscuits, stacked above each other.

When making edge-to-edge joints for tabletops, workbenches, cutting boards, etc. the more biscults you use, the stronger the joint will be.

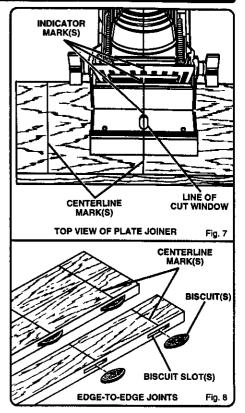
The following sections illustrate how to make various spline joints using your plate joiner.

#### EDGE-TO-EDGE JOINTS See Figures 7 and 8.

Edge-to-edge joinery is one of the most basic and easiest joints to construct. In general, two basic adjustments have to be made for all biscuit joinery applications. One is the depth of cut and the other is the location of the cut.

HOW TO MAKE EDGE-TO-EDGE JOINTS

- 1. Unplug your plate joiner.
- 2. Prepare the workpieces by laying them side by side on a workbench in the order in which they will be assembled.
- 3. Using a square, determine the location of each biscuit spline joint and mark the center of each joint by drawing a line across each workpiece. NOTE: Mark the edges 2 In, from the ends of workpieces. The joint will be stronger if you use multiple biscuits placed close together.
- Loosen height adjustment knobs and set fence angle at 90°.
- Slide the fence up or down until the indicator point is aligned with the desired dimension on the scale. RE-MEMBER: The scale indicates the height of the fence from the center of the blade.
- 6. Tighten height adjustment knobs securely.
- Select the correct depth of cut setting to match the biscuit size you are planning to use. We suggest that you make a test cut in a scrap piece of wood from the same workpiece if possible.
- 8. Clamp workpiece securely so that it will not move during the cut.
- Plug your plate joiner into power supply and prepare to make your first cut. Grasp and hold your plate joiner securely with both hands by the front and rear handles as shown on page 2.
- Place the fence against the board and align the indicator marks on the fence with the centerline mark(s) on the board. See Figure 7.



- Depress the switch trigger to turn the power on your plate joiner, then push it forward to extend the blade into the wood.
- 12. When the base assembly bottoms out against the depth of cut adjustment knob setting, pull back releasing pressure on the spring. Blade will retract from biscuit slot.
- 13. Repeat this procedure for all desired biscuit slots.
- Once all biscuit slots have been cut, place a biscuit in each joint and dry assemble the workpieces. Make sure each joint lines up and fits.
- 15. Finally, disassemble the workpieces and place a bead of glue in each slot. Also, spread a bead of glue over the entire surface of the joint. Reinsert the biscuits and assemble the workpieces. See Figure 8.
- 16. Clamp workpieces together until the glue sets up.

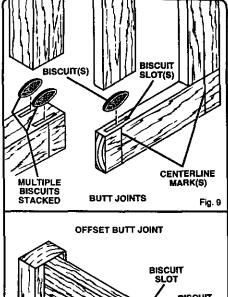
#### BUTT JOINTS See Figure 9.

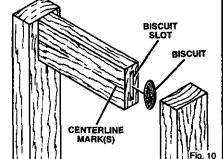
See rigute a.

A butt joint is one of the weakest joints in woodworking. This type of joint is mating the end grain of one board with the edge grain of another. The bonding of glue on this type of surface is poor. However, by using biscuits you can create a very strong joint that gives a mortise-and-tenon effect.

#### HOW TO MAKE BUTT JOINTS

- 1. Unplug your plate joiner.
- Place the two pieces of wood to be joined on a level workbench. Align them against each other in the arrangement in which they will be assembled.
- Using a square, determine the location of each biscuit spline joint and mark the center of each joint by drawing a line across the edges of the two boards.
- Loosen height adjustment knobs and set fence angle at 90°.
- Slide the fence up or down until the indicator point is aligned with the desired dimension on the scale. RE-MEMBER: The scale indicates the height of the fence from the center of the blade.
- 6. Tighten height adjustment knobs securely.
- Select the correct depth of cut setting to match the biscuit size you are planning to use. We suggest that you make a test cut in a scrap piece of wood from the same workpiece if possible.
- Clamp workpiece securely so that it will not move during the cut.
- Plug your plate joiner into power supply and prepare to make your first cut. Grasp and hold your plate joiner securely with both hands by the front and rear handles.
- Place the fence against the board and align the indicator marks on the fence with the centerline mark(s) on the board.
- Depress the switch trigger to turn the power on your plate joiner, then push it forward to extend the blade into the wood.
- 12. When the base assembly bottoms out against the depth of cut adjustment knob setting, pull back releasing pressure on the spring. Blade will retract from biscuit slot.
- Repeat this procedure for cutting the slot in the mating workpiece.
- Once all biscuit slots have been cut, place a biscuit in each joint and dry assemble the workpieces. Make sure each joint lines up and fits.
- 15. Finally, disassemble the workpieces and place a bead of glue in each slot. Also, spread a bead of glue over the entire surface of the joint. Reinsert the biscuits and assemble the workpieces. See Figure 9.
- 16. Clamp workpieces together until the glue sets up.





#### **OFFSET BUTT JOINTS**

#### See Figure 10.

The rails of a table or workbench are often offset from the front of the table legs. When offsets are required, it is necessary to cut the slots in the rails first, then re-adjust the fence to cut the slots in the legs.

Keeping this one exception in mind, the procedure for cutting offset butt joints is identical to the procedure for cutting butt joints.

For example — If a 1/4 in. offset is desired, you would mark the centerlines for cutting a butt joint as mentioned in the procedures for cutting butt joints, and cut the slots in the ends of the rails. Next you would raise the fence 1/4 in. to the desired offset and cut the slots in the legs.

### T-JOINTS

### See Figures 11-15.

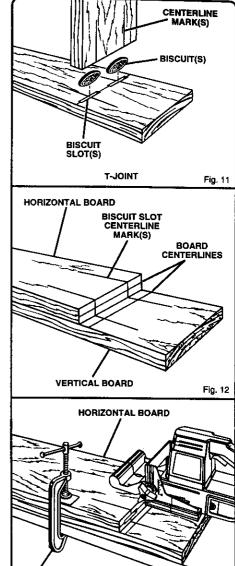
A T-joint is used when the end of a board is joined to the face of another board as shown in figure 11. Attaching shelves to bookcases and inner support braces to frames are typical applications. Actual cutting of a T-joint is as simple as any other cut. However, it is critical that you mark the centerlines, mark the intersection points for each slot, and cut each slot correctly.

#### HOW TO MAKE T-JOINTS

- 1. Unplug your plate joiner.
- Place the two pieces of wood to be joined on a level workbench as shown in figure 12. The inside face of the vertical board should be facing up.
- 3. Determine the location of each biscuit joint and mark the centerlines on each board as shown. The centerlines for both boards must line-up with each other. Measure carefully, these measurements must be accurate and precise. TIP: Measure twice and cut once. In addition to the centerlines lining up, the spacing of the biscuit slots from side-to-side must also match.
- 4. Plug your plate joiner into power supply and cut slots in all boards that require end slots. See Figure 13. Follow procedures explained in "Edge-To-Edge Joints". Set fence angle at 90°, set fence height at desired dimension on the scale, select the correct depth of cut setting for the biscuit size you plan to use, clamp workpiece securely, then cut each slot at the marked centerline intersection.
- Next, you must remove the adjustable fence from your plate joiner in order to cut slots into the face of the vertical board.

#### TO REMOVE ADJUSTABLE FENCE:

- 6. Unplug your plate joiner.
- 7. Loosen and remove height adjusting knobs, square head bolts, angle adjustment lock plates, and adjustable fence. See Figure 14.
- Place your plate joiner on vertical board as shown in figure 15 and align indicator marks on base assembly with centerline on vertical board.
- 9. Place a straight piece of wood on the vertical board and securely clamp it flush against the base assembly. This piece of wood is used for a fence or guide. It must be square with the sides of the vertical board and parallel with the centerline.
- 10. Align centerline on bottom of base assembly with marked intersection for biscuit slot.
- 11. Plug your plate joiner into power supply and prepare to cut slot.
- Depress the switch trigger to turn the power on your plate joiner, then push it down to extend the blade into the wood.
- 13. When the base assembly bottoms out against the depth of cut adjustment knob setting, pull back releasing pressure on the spring. Blade will retract from biscuit slot.
- 14. Repeat this procedure for cutting all required slots in vertical boards.



TO CUT END SLOTS IN

HORIZONTAL BOARDS

Fig. 13



CLAMP

#### T-JOINTS (Continued)

- Once all slots have been cut, place a biscuit in each joint and dry assemble the workpieces. Make sure each joint lines up and fits.
- 16. Finally, disassemble the workpieces and place a bead of glue in each slot. Also, spread a bead of glue over the entire surface of the joint. Reinsert the biscults and assemble the workpieces. See Figure 11.
- 17. Clamp workpieces together until the glue sets up.

Upon completion of T-joint cutting operation, reassemble adjustable fence by reversing **"TO REMOVE ADJUSTABLE FENCE"** procedure. Align angle adjustment lock plates with mating angle adjustment plates. **NOTE:** Angle adjustment plates are located in adjustable fence. Place them in groove on each side of plate joiner as shown in figure 14. Once properly aligned, secure everything in place with square bolts and height adjusting knobs.

#### MITER JOINTS

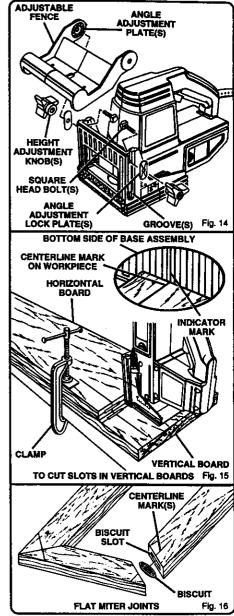
#### See Figures16-19.

There are two types of miter joints that can be made using biscuits: flat miters and edge miters. Flat miters are used when making picture frames. Edge miters are used when making boxes or things where you don't want to show the end grain of the wood. **NOTE:** Butt joints show the end grain in wood.

#### HOW TO MAKE FLAT MITER JOINTS

#### 1. Unplug your plate joiner.

- 2. Place the pieces of wood to be joined on a level workbench as shown in figure 16.
- Using a combination square, draw a line through the center of each joint perpendicular to the mitered edges.
  Set fence angle at 90°, set fence height at desired dimension on the scale, select the correct depth of cut
- setting for the biscuit size you plan to use, and clamp workpiece securely. 5. Align indicator mark on fence with the centerline on the
  - workpiece.
  - 6. Plug your plate joiner into power supply and prepare to cut slot.
  - Depress the switch trigger to turn the power on your plate joiner, then push it forward to extend the blade into the wood.
  - When the base assembly bottoms out against the depth of cut adjustment knob setting, pull back releasing pressure on the spring. Blade will retract from biscuit slot.
  - 9. Repeat this procedure for cutting mating slot and all required miter joint slots.
- Once all slots have been cut, place a biscuit in each joint and dry assemble the workpieces. Make sure each joint lines up and fits.
- 11. Finally, disassemble the workpleces and place a bead of glue in each slot. Also, spread a bead of glue over the entire surface of the joint. Reinsert the biscuits and assemble the workpleces. See Figure 16.
- 12. Clamp workpieces together until the glue sets up.

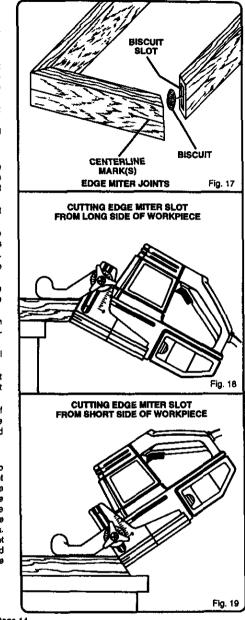




### HOW TO MAKE EDGE MITER JOINTS

- 1. Unplug your plate joiner.
- Place the pieces of wood to be joined on a level workbench as shown in figure 17.
- 3. Mark centerline of the joint on each board.
- 4. When making edge miter joints with workpleces that have different thicknesses, clamp securely to a workbench with the long sides up. This will assure that the outside surfaces will match. See Figure 18.
- 5. Loosen height adjusting knobs and set fence angle at 45°.
- Slide the fence up or down until fence height is at desired setting.
- 7. Tighten height adjustment knobs securely.
- Place your plate joiner on workpiece with the adjustable fence resting on the long side of workpiece as shown in figure 18. The base or vertical fence should be against the mitered edge of the workpiece.
- Recheck fence height setting to make sure it will not cut through the workpiece.
- Align indicator mark on fence with the centerline on the workpiece. Make sure the base or vertical fence is pressed flat against the mitered edge of the workpiece.
- 11. Plug your plate joiner into power supply and prepare to cut slot.
- Depress the switch trigger to turn the power on your plate joiner, then push it forward to extend the blade into the wood.
- 13. When the base assembly bottoms out against the depth of cut adjustment knob setting, pull back releasing pressure on the spring. Blade will retract from blscuit slot.
- Repeat this procedure for cutting mating slot and all required miter joint slots.
- Once all slots have been cut, place a biscuit in each joint and dry assemble the workpieces. Make sure each joint lines up and fits.
- 16. Finally, disassemble workpieces and place a bead of glue in each slot. Also, spread a bead of glue over the entire surface of the joint. Reinsert the biscuits and assemble workpieces. See Figure 17.
- 17. Clamp workpieces together until the glue sets up.

If the workpieces are the same thickness, clamp securely to a workbench with the short sides up. See Figure 19. Set adjustable fence angle at 45° above the 90° setting on the scale. Place your plate joiner on the workpiece with the adjustable fence resting on the short side of the workpiece and the base or vertical fence against the mitered edge of the workpiece. Follow steps 9-17 above to cut required slots. **REMEMBER:** Before cutting slots, make sure blade will not cut through the workpiece and that both the vertical and horizontal fences are pressed flat against the mitered edge and face of the workpiece.



### AUXILIARY FENCE

See Figures 20-21.

When cutting biscuit slots in workpieces less than 1-1/2 in. wide, it is necessary to make an auxiliary fence and mount it to the bottom of the adjustable fence. This fence will provide a positive stop for the height setting of these small workpieces.

#### HOW TO MAKE AUXILIARY FENCE

- 1. Unplug your plate joiner.
- Cut a thin piece of wood 3-5/8 in. x 5-1/4 in. NOTE: The thickness of the wood will cause the scale on the vertical fence of your plate joiner to be incorrect. Height adjustment settings must allow for the thickness of the auxiliary fence when preparing to cut slots.
- 3. Cut a notch as shown in figure 20 for viewing indicator mark and centerline markings on boards.
- 4. Place auxillary fence against bottom of adjustable fence. See Figure 21.
- Using screw holes in adjustable fence for a pattern, mark screw hole locations on auxiliary fence. NOTE: See figure 20 for screw hole locations and dimensions.
- Drill 3/16 in. screw holes in auxiliary fence. Screw holes must be countersunk on the bottom so that screwheads will be flush with or below the surface of the auxiliary fence.
- Secure auxiliary fence to adjustable fence with 3/16 in. x 3/4 in. flat head machine screws, washers, and hex nuts as shown in figure 21.
- Tighten screws securely, making sure screw heads are flush or subflush with bottom surface of auxiliary fence.

### DUSTLESS FEATURE

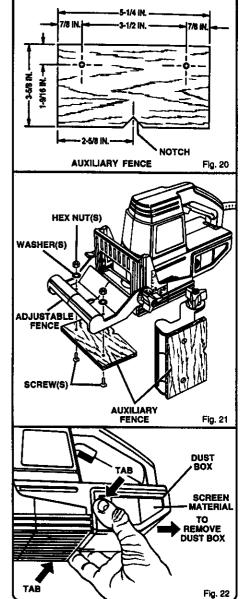
#### See Figures 22-23.

The dust box located on the rear of your plate joiner provides a dust collection system. Wood particles are drawn up through a tunnel in the base and collect in the dust box during cutting operations. For more efficient operation, empty dust box when half full.

#### TO REMOVE DUST BOX FOR EMPTYING See Figure 22.

- 1. Unplug your plate joiner,
- i. onpidg your plate joiner.
- 2. To release dust box, depress tabs located on each side of dust box as shown by the arrows in figure 22.
- 3. Slide dust box to the rear of plate joiner as shown by the arrow in figure 22, and remove.
- DO NOT press on the screen material with your hand or fingers. Screen material can be damaged. NOTE: Screen material is located on the sides and rear of dust box.
- 5. DO NOT break tabs that secure dust box to plate joiner.

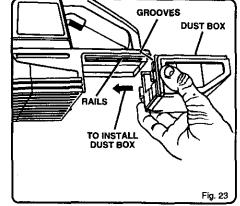
6. Empty dust box.





#### TO INSTALL DUST BOX See Figure 23.

- 1. Unplug your plate joiner.
- 2. Realign dust box with rear of plate joiner. Grooves in dust box align with rails on plate joiner.
- 3. Slide dust box on plate joiner as shown by the arrow in figure 23. You will feel a soft click as the tabs snap into place. NOTE: As mentioned previously, be careful not to break the tabs that secure dust box to plate joiner.



#### HELPFUL HINTS

- Always clamp workpiece securely before cutting.
- A safe operator is one who thinks ahead.
- Always wear eye protection when cutting slots. ./
- Make set-up adjustments carefully. Then double check. Measure twice and cut once.
- Always dry assemble your project before gluing it together.
- The more biscuits used, the stronger the joint will be. ∕
- 1 Keep blade clean and properly sharpened.
- Don't let familiarity make you careless.
- Study all safety rules and do the job safely.
- 1 NEVER place your hands in jeopardy.
- ✓ Make certain clamps can't loosen while in use.
- ٦ Test difficult set-ups on scrap-Don't waste lumber.
- Plan each operation before you begin.
- 1 Provide for smoother operation by cleaning your plate joiner frequently. Shake plate joiner or blow with an air jet to remove wood particle build-up.
- DO NOT ABUSE POWER TOOLS. Abusive practices can damage tool as well as workpiece.
- 1 THINK SAFETY BY THINKING AHEAD.

WARNING: YOUR PLATE JOINER SHOULD NEVER BE CONNECTED TO POWER SUPPLY WHEN YOU AHE ASSEMBLING PARTS. MAKING ADJUSTMENTS ASSEMBLING OR REMOVING BLADES, CLEANING, OR WHEN NOT IN USE. DISCONNECTING YOUR PLATE JOINER WILL PREVENT ACCIDENTAL STARTING THAT COULD CAUSE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY

Page 16

### **EXTENSION CORDS**

The use of any extension cord will cause some loss of power. To keep the loss to a minimum and to prevent tool overheating, follow the recommended cord sizes on the chart below. When tool is used outdoors, use only extension cords suitable for outdoor use and so marked. Outdoor use extension cords are marked with the letters "WA" on the cord's jacket. Extension cords are available at Sears Retail Stores.

Extension Cord Length	Wire Size A.W.G.
0-25 Feet	18
25-100 Feet	16

WARNING: CHECK EXTENSION CORDS BEFORE EACH USE. IF DAMAGED, REPLACE IMMEDIATELY. NEVER USE TOOL WITH A DAMAGED CORD SINCE TOUCHING THE DAMAGED AREA COULD CAUSE ELECTRICAL SHOCK RESULTING IN SERIOUS INJURY.

CAUTION: Keep extension cords away from the cutting area and position the cord so that it will not get caught on lumber, tools, etc. during cutting operations.

#### LUBRICATION

All of the bearings in this tool are lubricated with a sufficient amount of high grade lubricant for the life of the unit under normal operating conditions. Therefore, no further lubrication is required.

### MAINTENANCE

WARNING: WHEN SERVICING USE ONLY IDENTICAL CRAFTSMAN REPLACEMENT PARTS. USE OF ANY OTHER PARTS MAY CREATE A HAZARD OR CAUSE PRODUCT DAMAGE.

# CLEANING BASE ASSEMBLY / DUST BOX TUNNEL

#### See Figures 24-26.

After extended use, wood particles and resin may build up inside the base assembly of your plate joiner and clog the path for wood particles going into dust box. Wood particles packing up in this area, not only defeats the dustless feature of your plate joiner, it also makes cutting biscuit slots more difficult.

#### HOW TO CLEAN BASE ASSEMBLY

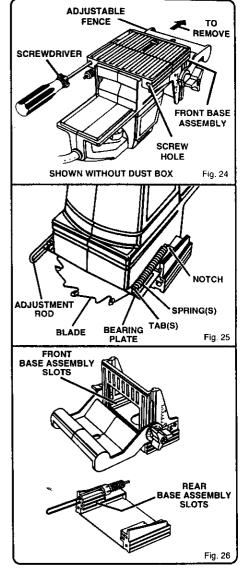
1. Unplug your plate joiner.

WARNING: FAILURE TO UNPLUG YOUR PLATE JOINER COULD RESULT IN ACCIDENTAL STAT-ING CAUSING POSSIBLE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY.

- 2. Remove dust box. Depress tabs on each side of dust box and slide it to the rear of plate joiner to remove.
- 3. Place your plate joiner upside down on a workbench as shown in figure 24.
- Using a screwdriver remove the two screws securing front base assembly.
- 5. Pull adjustable fence in the direction shown by the arrow in figure 24 and remove front base assembly.
- Using a pair of needle nose pliers, stretch and release springs from tabs on bearing plate. See Figure 25.
- Push adjustment rod away from bearing plate and remove rear base assembly.
- With front and rear base assemblies removed, place your plate joiner upside down on a workbench and clean wood particles and resin from blade, bearing plate and surrounding areas.

CAUTION: Be aware of cut hazard, carbide tips on blade are sharp.

- Clean wood particles and resin from slots and surrounding areas on front and rear base assemblies. See Figure 26. Apply a thin coat of general purpose grease in slots or on bearing plate where base slides.
- Replace rear base assembly. Position adjustment rod in its proper place as shown in figure 25.
- 11. Secure rear base assembly in place with the two springs. Hook one end of each spring in notch on each side of base assembly. Using needle nose pliers, stretch each spring and hook it over tabs on bearing plate.
- 12. Reassemble front base assembly.
- 13. Replace screws and tighten securely with a screwdriver.
- 14. Remove screwdriver.



### MAINTENANCE

#### BLADE REPLACEMENT See Figures 27-30.

After extended use, the blade on your plate joiner may become dull and need replacing. If you accidentally hit a nail or other blunt object, it will break the carbide tips on the blade. These situations also require replacing the blade.

#### HOW TO REPLACE THE BLADE

1. Unplug your plate joiner.

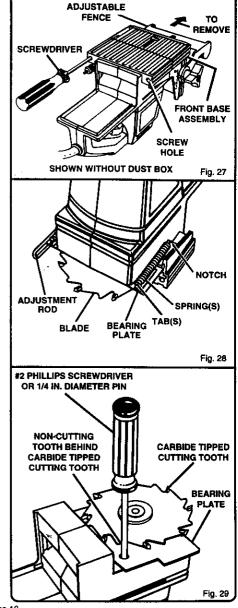
#### WARNING: FAILURE TO UNPLUG YOUR PLATE JOINER COULD RESULT IN ACCIDENTAL STARTING CAUSING POSSIBLE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY.

- 2. Remove dust box. Depress tabs on each side of dust box and slide it to the rear of plate joiner to remove.
- 3. Place your plate joiner upside down on a workbench as shown in figure 27.
- Using a screwdriver remove the two screws securing front base assembly.
- 5. Pull adjustable fence in the direction shown by the arrow in figure 27 and remove front base assembly.
- Using a pair of needle nose pliers, stretch and release springs from tabs on bearing plate. See Figure 28.
- Push adjustment rod away from bearing plate and remove rear base assembly.
- 8. With base assemblies removed, place plate joiner upside down on a workbench as shown in figure 29.
- 9. Place a #2 Phillips screwdriver or 1/4 in. diameter pin in one of the two holes provided in bearing plate.
- 10. Place one of the non-cutting teeth located behind each carbide tipped cutting tooth against the screwdriver or pin and lock blade preventing it from rotating. DO NOT lock blade against one of the cutting teeth. Carbide tips will break.
- 11. Using a 3/16 in. hex key, remove blade screw. NOTE: Turn blade screw counterclockwise to remove. See Figure 30.
- 12. Remove outer blade washer and blade.
- 13. Clean wood particles and resin from blade washer, dust box area, base assembly slots, and all surrounding parts.

WARNING: IF INNER BLADE WASHER HAS BEEN REMOVED, REPLACE IT BEFORE INSTALLING NEW BLADE. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD CAUSE AN ACCIDENT SINCE BLADE SCREW WILL NOT TIGHTEN PROPERLY.

14. Place inner blade washer on gear spindle. See Figure 30.

 Place new blade onto shoulder of blade washer and secure with outer blade washer and blade screw.
NOTE: Blade screw fits into cupped side of outer blade washer.



### MAINTENANCE

### HOW TO REPLACE THE BLADE (Continued)

NOTE: Blade teeth point toward the right of the plate joiner when held in normal operating position. The direction of rotation is marked on the blade. An arrow on the bottom of the front base assembly also indicates direction of rotation. See Figure 27.

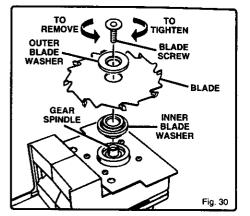
- 16. Tighten blade screw securely. NOTE: Turn blade screw clockwise to tighten.
- 17. Replace rear base assembly. Position adjustment rod in its proper place as shown in figure 28.
- 18. Secure rear base assembly in place with the two springs. Hook one end of each spring in notch on each side of base assembly. Using needle nose pliers, stretch each spring and hook it over tabs on bearing plate.
- 19. Reassemble front base assembly.
- 20. Replace screws and tighten securely with a screwdriver. 21. Remove screwdriver.

#### GENERAL

Only the parts shown on parts list, page twenty three, are intended to be repaired or replaced by the customer. All other parts represent an important part of the double insulation system and should be serviced only by a qualified Sears service technician at an authorized service facility.

Avoid using solvents when cleaning plastic parts. Most plastics are susceptible to various types of commercial solvents and may be damaged by their use. Use clean cloths to remove dirt, dust, oil, grease, etc.

WARNING: DO NOT AT ANY TIME LET BRAKE FLUIDS, GASOLINE, PETROLEUM-BASED PRODUCTS, PENETRATING OILS, ETC. COME IN CONTACT WITH PLASTIC PARTS, THEY CONTAIN CHEMICALS THAT CAN DAMAGE, WEAKEN OR DESTROY PLASTICS.



When electric tools are used on fiberglass it has been found that they are subject to accelerated wear and possible premature failure, as the fiberglass chips and grindings are highly abrasive to bearings, brushes, commutator, etc. Consequently it is not recommended that this tool be used for extended work on any fiberglass material. During any use on fiberglass it is extremely important that the tool is cleaned frequently by blowing with an air jet.

WARNING: ALWAYS WEAR SAFETY GOGGLES OR SAFETY GLASSES WITH SIDE SHIELDS DURING POWER TOOL OPERATION OR WHEN BLOWING DUST. IF OPERATION IS DUSTY ALSO WEAR A DUST MASK.

### **ACCESSORIES**

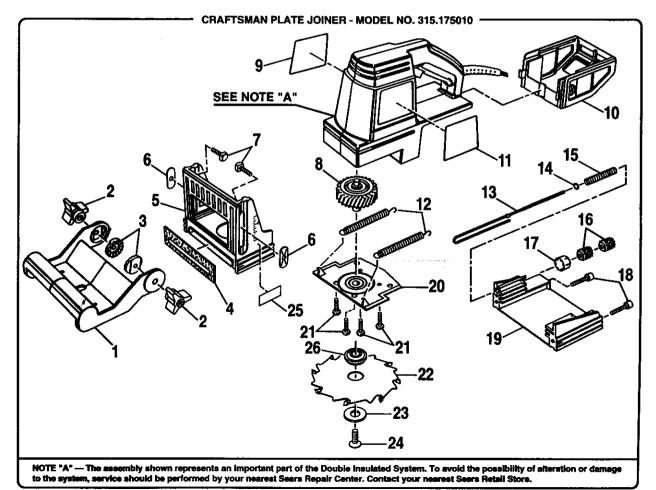
- THE FOLL	.OWIN	G RECOMMENDED ACCESSORIES ARE CURRE	
WERE	Ε ΑΥΑΙ	LABLE AT THE TIME THIS MANUAL WAS PRINT	ÉD.
Item No. 9-25424	#0	Biscuits (5/8 in. x 1-13/16 in.)	. Package of 50
Item No. 9-25425	#10	Biscuits (13/16 in. x 2-1/16 in.)	. Package of 50
Item No. 9-25426	#20	Biscuits (15/16 in. x 2-5/16 in.)	. Package of 50
WARNING:	The us	e of attachments or accessories not listed above might be	hazardous.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

	PROBLEM	SOLUTION
1.	Biscuits do not fit slots. Biscuits not fitting slots may also cause misalignment of boards being joined.	A. Biscuit slots are too deep or too shallow. Make f adjustments to depth setting. See <b>"TO MAKE F</b> ! ADJUSTMENTS" section on page 8.
		B. Biscuit thickness may be out of tolerance. Compression biscuits in a vise if they are too thick.
		C. Check to see if biscuits are the correct size for i size slots that have been cut: #0, #10, or #20.
		D. Check to see if biscuits have gotten wet and swoll
2.	Wood particles begin to backup on front of unit.	A. Dust collection system is not functioning prope Dust box may be full. Empty dust box often. See " REMOVE DUST BOX FOR EMPTYING" and " INSTALL DUST BOX" sections on pages 15 and
		B. The tunnel in the base may be clogged prevent wood particles from being drawn into the dust b Remove front and rear base assemblies and cle blade, bearing plate, base assembly slots, a surrounding areas. See "CLEANING BA ASSEMBLY / DUST BOX TUNNEL" section page 17.
з.	Blade becomes difficult to push in when cutting slots. Blade does not retract properly when cutting slots.	A. Wood particles and resin have built up on ba assembly slots and surrounding areas. Remo front and rear base assembly slots and clean bla bearing plate, base assembly slots and surround areas. Apply a thin coat of general purpose gree in slots or on bearing plate where base slides. See "CLEANING BASE ASSEMBLY / DUST Bu TUNNEL" section on page 17.
4.	Cutting performance is poor and there is a loss of power or stalling of motor when cutting slots.	A. Blade is dull. Sharpen or replace blade. S "BLADE REPLACEMENT" section on pages and 19.
		B. Resin has built up on blade. Remove blade a clean blade with gurn and pitch remover. S "BLADE REPLACEMENT" section on pages and 19 for removing blade to clean and replac clean blade.

# NOTES

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#### - CRAFTSMAN PLATE JOINER - MODEL NO. 315.175010 -

The model number will be found on a plate attached to the motor housing. Always mention the model number in all correspondence regarding your PLATE JOINER or when ordering repair parts.

### SEE BACK PAGE FOR PARTS ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

		PARTS LIST		
	Key No.	Number	Description	Quan.
	1	971484-001	Adjustable Fence / Front Handle	1
	2	999529-001	Height Adjustment Knob	2
	3	971503-002	Angle Adjustment Plate	2
	4	971483-001	Non-Skid Backing Pad	1
	5	971479-001	Front Base	1
1. Contract (1997)	6	971508-002	Angle Adjustment Lock Plate	2
	7	623166-002	Bolt (#1/4-20 x 3/4 in. Sq. Hd.)	
	8	972715-000	Gear And Spindle Assembly	1
	. 9	971476-001	Data Plate	1
	10	971475-001	Dust Box	1
	11	981244-001	Logo Plate	1
	12	971496-001	Spring	2
	13	971473-001	Adjustment Rod	t
	14	703493-811	Washer **STD551210	1
	15	971499-001	Compression Spring	1
	16	971498-001	Knurled Adjustment Knob	2
	17	971497-001	Depth Adjustment Knob	1
	18	623275-003	* Screw (#10-24 x 3/4 in. Fil. Hd.)	2
	19	971480-001	Rear Base	1
	20	972714-000	Bearing Plate With Bearing	1
	21	968703-011	* Screw (#8-32 x 3/4 in. Pan Hd.)	4
	22	971478-001	Blade	1
	23	973606-001	Outer Blade Washer	1
	24	975100-001	Biade Screw (Includes Key No. 23)	
	25	971481-001	Warning Label	
	26	971491-002	Inner Blade Washer	
		972000-339	Owner's Manual	

\* Standard Hardware Item - May Be Purchased Locally

\*\* Available From Div.98 - Source 980.00

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	-	www.se	ars.com	
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				s and owner's manuals Sears PartsDirect <sup>sw</sup> !
		0-366-PA1 -800-366-7278)		. – 11 p.m. CST, ays a week
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