

Shop Notes

Small Knobs for Clamps and Hold-Downs

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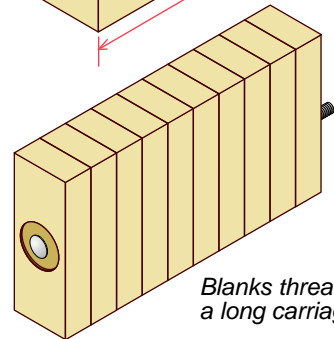
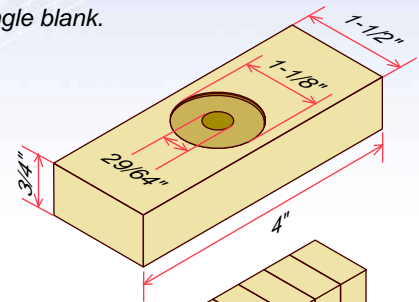
The blanks are 4 inch long sections of hardwood 1X2. Drill through the center of each using a bit appropriate to the t-nut you'll be using. Since I'm using 3/8" bolts and t-nuts, I drilled 29/64. Counter bore with a 1-1/8 forstner bit just deep enough to sink the t-nut flush with the surface of the knob. Do not insert the t-nuts yet.

Thread the blanks onto a 3/8" carriage bolt. Square them up against a flat surface and secure with a washer and nut. be sure to make the stack very tight.

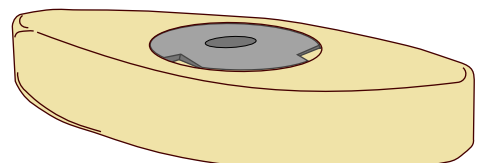
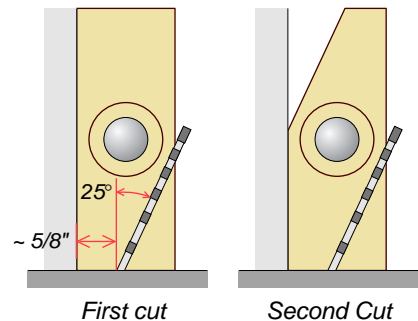
For this size knob, I set the tablesaw to 25° and leave 5/8" clearance between the inside edge of the blade and the fence. Check to be certain the blade clears the bolt, nut, and washer before cutting. Two passes through the blade remove opposite corners of the stack. Be careful and feed slowly.

Rough sanding to shape is done with a belt sander or stationary sander while the blanks are still together. Round the ends and sides to eliminate sharp corners. Final sanding and rounding all edges is done after the parts have been separated. Apply a finish if you wish, and insert a t-nut into the recess.

A single blank.



Blanks threaded onto a long carriage bolt.



A finished knob. Edges rounded and t-nut in place.