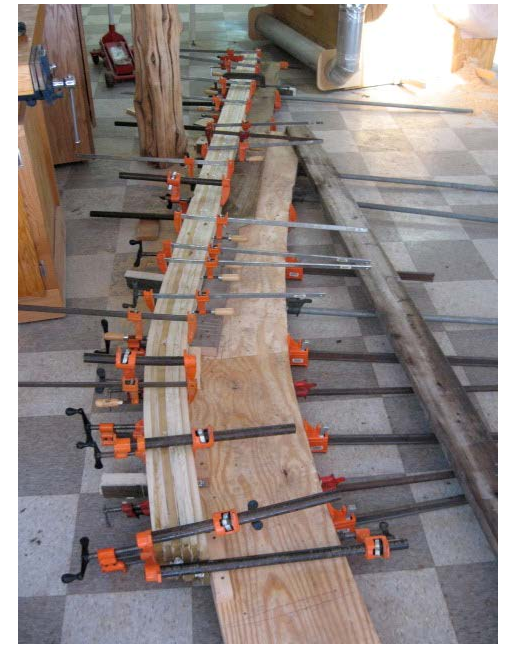
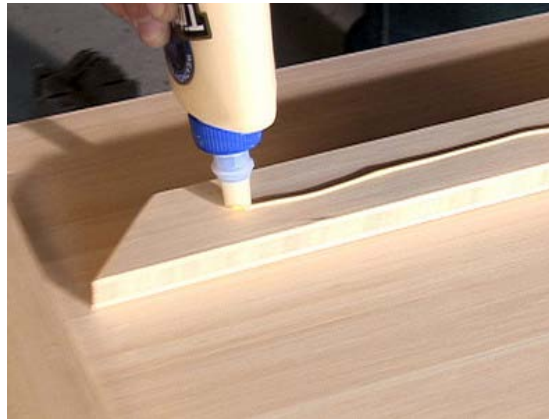


5 Steps for Successful Gluing

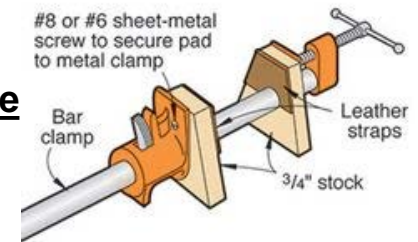
- Do a Dry Fit
- Prepare the Glue and Accessories
- Prepare Clean Up Items
- Glue up
- Allow to Dry/Cure



5 Steps for Successful Gluing

Do a Dry Fit

- [Clamp pieces](#) without glue to make sure the **joints come together tightly**
- Mark pieces for **proper alignment** (and to keep them from being glued in backwards)
- Test for **choice of clamps and blocks**
- Make blocks, strips or pads to **protect the wood from clamping pressure**
- Use double sided tape to **keep blocks, strips and pads in place**
- **Fix joints** which are too tight or too loose
- Water based wood glues don't fill gaps so **loose joints may require an epoxy adhesive**
- For easy clean up, put **masking tape on all joints** then cut apart to disassemble
- Bridge edge to edge joints with a clamp to **keep seams from creeping**
- Check [moisture content of all wood](#) to be sure **all parts are within 1% moisture content**
- **Clean** away any residual saw dust or contamination that may keep joints from fitting tightly



5 Steps for Successful Gluing

Prepare the Glue and Accessories

- Determine the [correct glue](#) for the project requirements
- Be sure glue is in good condition by mixing with a small stick
- If glue has settled stir in settled material before proceeding
- If unsure of glue, test on scrap piece of wood, clamp 24 hours then break with hammer
- Clean glue bottle applicator tip
- Clean glue brushes and remove any loose bristles
- Coat or mask any iron pipes to avoid [black stains](#)
- Arrange and orient clamps from the dry fit for easy access



5 Steps for Successful Gluing

Prepare clean up items

- For water-based wood glues have a bucket of water handy for spills
- For other types of adhesives, use acetone or mineral spirits for cleanup
- Spread plastic sheeting over work surface to protect against drips



5 Steps for Successful Gluing

Glue up

- Be sure the shop and substrate temperatures are above the [chalk point](#) of the adhesive
- Consider gluing in stages to reduce [open and total assembly time](#)
- A threaded rod or hand trowel (1/16" x 1/32" x 5/64" U-notch) works well as a tool to spread the correct amount of glue
- Wipe joints with acetone before gluing especially for [oily tropical woods](#)
- Apply approximately 6 mil wet film or 250 ft² per gallon
- Peel off any masking tape when glue is slightly rubbery
- Use wax paper under clamps if in contact with any glue squeeze out
- Allow squeeze out to dry for 10-20 minutes then remove with a putty knife
- After gluing remove cap from bottle and clean out glue, replace with clean cap



5 Steps for Successful Gluing

Drying

- Allow joints to dry for at least 2-3 hours before unclamping, **best to leave for 24 hours**
- Allow edge to edge joints to **dry for several days** before sanding or planing smooth to reduce the chances of [sunken glue joints](#)

