

Online Extra

magazine

Drilling Jig

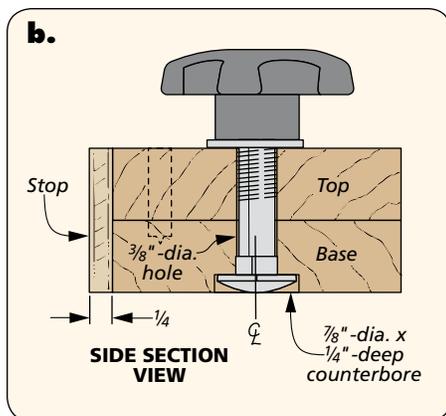
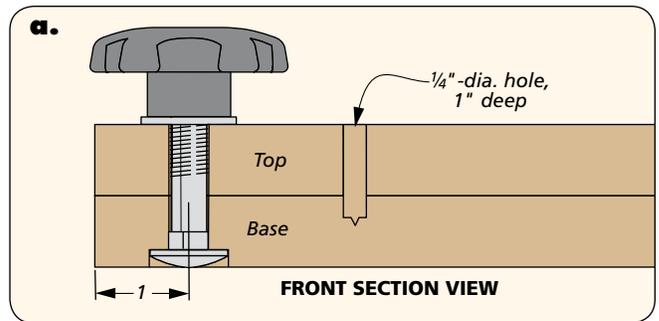
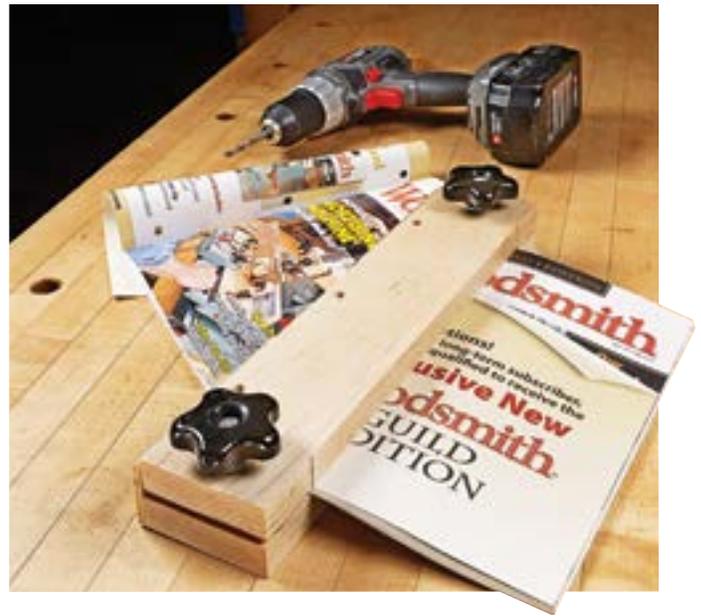
For those of us really into woodworking, it doesn't take long before magazines and catalogs start piling up in the shop. If you're like me and keep them around for inspiration, one of the more convenient ways to store them is in three-ring binders. The challenge is creating holes in thick magazines and catalogs that simply won't fit into a standard three-hole punch.

The solution is to create the set of holes using a drilling jig, like the one in the photo at right. The jig works well using either a hand-held drill or drill press. (I found that a drill press set at the highest speed, along with a brad-point bit, produced the best results.)

JIG CONSTRUCTION. As shown in the main drawing below, the jig consists of four simple parts and a handful of hardware used to tightly sandwich a magazine (or catalog) in place (details 'a' and 'b'). The base and top are made from $\frac{3}{4}$ "-thick hardwood and the pair of stops are short strips of $\frac{1}{4}$ " plywood. After cutting all the parts to size, I glued the stops to the base, flush with the ends and bottom. The gap between the stops makes it convenient to lift the top up during use so you can insert a magazine or catalog for drilling.

SET UP THE JIG. With the stops glued in place, I used double-sided tape to temporarily attach the top, butting it tight against the stops and flush with the edges of the base. This keeps everything in place while you drill the holes and counterbores for the carriage bolts, washers, and knobs. Next, drill a set of three stopped holes to guide a $\frac{1}{4}$ " drill bit (details 'a' and 'b'). Finally, I scored a line near each end to match the height of an issue of *Woodsmith*. This makes it easy to center the magazine for drilling.

USING THE JIG. Using this jig couldn't be simpler. Just loosen the knobs, lift up the top, and insert your magazine. After ensuring the magazine is centered using the reference lines, tighten the knobs securely and then drill the holes.



NOTE: Top and base are $\frac{3}{4}$ "-thick hardwood. Stops are $\frac{1}{4}$ " plywood

