

Router

- Decorative edges
 - Rabbets and dados
 - Large circles
 - Trim laminate
 - Cutting dovetails
 - Mortises
 - Carve signs
 - Form raised panels
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- 1. Use push blocks to position your hands a safe distance from the bit.
 - 2. Large-diameter bits are for use only in a router table. Using bits over 1 in. dia. in a handheld router can easily cause you to lose control of the tool.
 - 3. Always wear eye and hearing protection.
 - 4. Take light cuts. Heavy cuts invite kickback. If necessary, move the fence closer to the bit or switch to a larger guide bearing.
 - 5. Use a featherboard to support the workpiece against the router table or fence.
 - 6. Never climb-cut. Always feed the stock from right to left. (see illustration at right)
 - 7. Avoid shaping small stock. Instead, shape a larger piece and reduce it in size afterwards. If you must shape a small piece, build an appropriate jig or secure the work within the jaws of a wooden handscrew clamp.
 - 8. Always use a guard. If the fence didn't come with a guard, purchase an aftermarket guard or devise one of your own.
 - 9. Never start the router with the bit in contact with the stock.
 - 10. Don't force the bit or overload the router.
 - 11. Secure the motor in the base before starting the router.
 - 12. Don't bottom out the bit in the collet or partially insert the bit. Instead, completely insert the bit, and then back off approximately 1/16 in.

