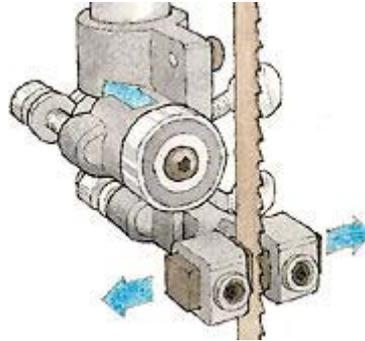


CLOSE WINDOW

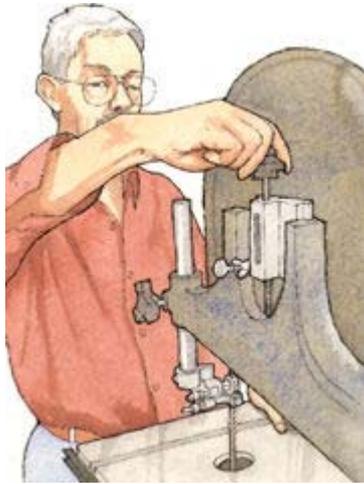
Installing a bandsaw blade

1. Position the blade

With the saw unplugged, pull back the guides and the thrust bearings and place the new blade on the wheels. Raise the upper guide assembly to clear the stock you'll be cutting by 1/4 in. to 1/2 in.



2. Tension and track

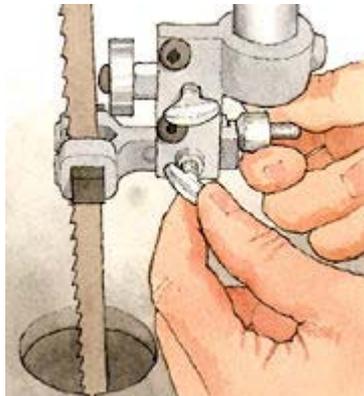


Rotate the upper wheel by hand while alternately increasing the tension and adjusting the tracking to keep the blade centered on the upper wheel.

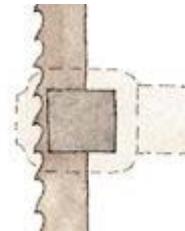


Turning the tracking adjustment in adjusts the blade toward the back of the wheel.

3. Adjust the guide assemblies

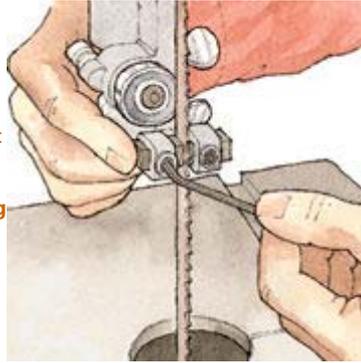


Move the upper and lower guide assemblies forward or backward to align the leading edge of the guide blocks or bearings with or just behind the back of the sawblade's gullets.



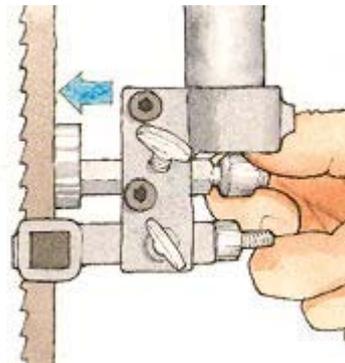
4. Adjust the guide blocks

Move one of the guide blocks or bearings in each assembly so that it just touches the side of the blade. Lock it in place. Double-check that the block or bearing doesn't reach beyond the back of the blade's gullets. Bring the second block of each assembly against the blade. A soft block can be locked in place touching the blade. Hard blocks or ball-bearing guides should be spaced away from the blade with a single piece of paper. Rotate the blade by hand to check that a bad weld or kink in the blade won't cause problems.

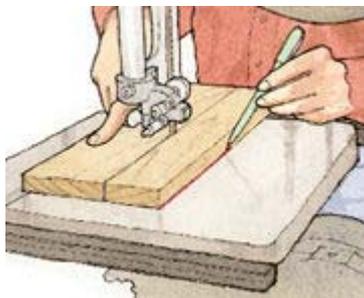


5. Position the thrust bearing

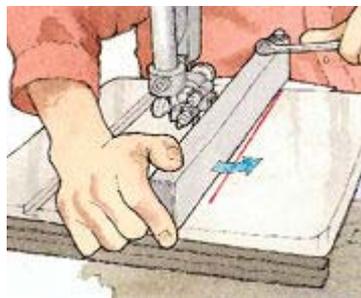
Bring the upper and lower thrust bearings forward to just barely touch the back of the blade. Rotate the blade by hand to make sure everything turns smoothly.



6. Align the fence for drift



Begin by drawing a straight line parallel to the edge of a test board. Rip the board freehand, adjusting your feed angle until the blade naturally follows the line.



Once the blade is following the line, hold the stock in place and turn off the saw. Use a marker to draw a line on the tabletop along the edge of the stock. Reinstall the fence and adjust its angle parallel with the mark on the table.

[CLOSE WINDOW](#)