

# Closet, first cabinet carcass assembly

This is the carcass for the drawer base. Had to get it together since all else installs on top or around it. Kreg system worked well. Used a little glue during assembly. The wide board lying on the table is the front stretcher that gets installed under the top drawer slides.



Good thing I did this, 'cause I quickly found out that I'd made the shelf unit side panels that go on top too long – misread my own plans when I transferred from the plans to the cut sheet. A couple of quick cuts solved the problem – sure better than looking for the board stretcher!



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## Router Table Tweaks

Yesterday I changed out router bits in the table to setup for a 1/16" roundover bit for all of the solid edging on the cabinets/shelves. The refinements at such a small dimension get critical, so it was also time to pull out the router mounting plate, draw a template, and drill a hole thru the plate for the topside fine height adjustment key.

This is the Bosch 1617 mounted in a Bosch router table

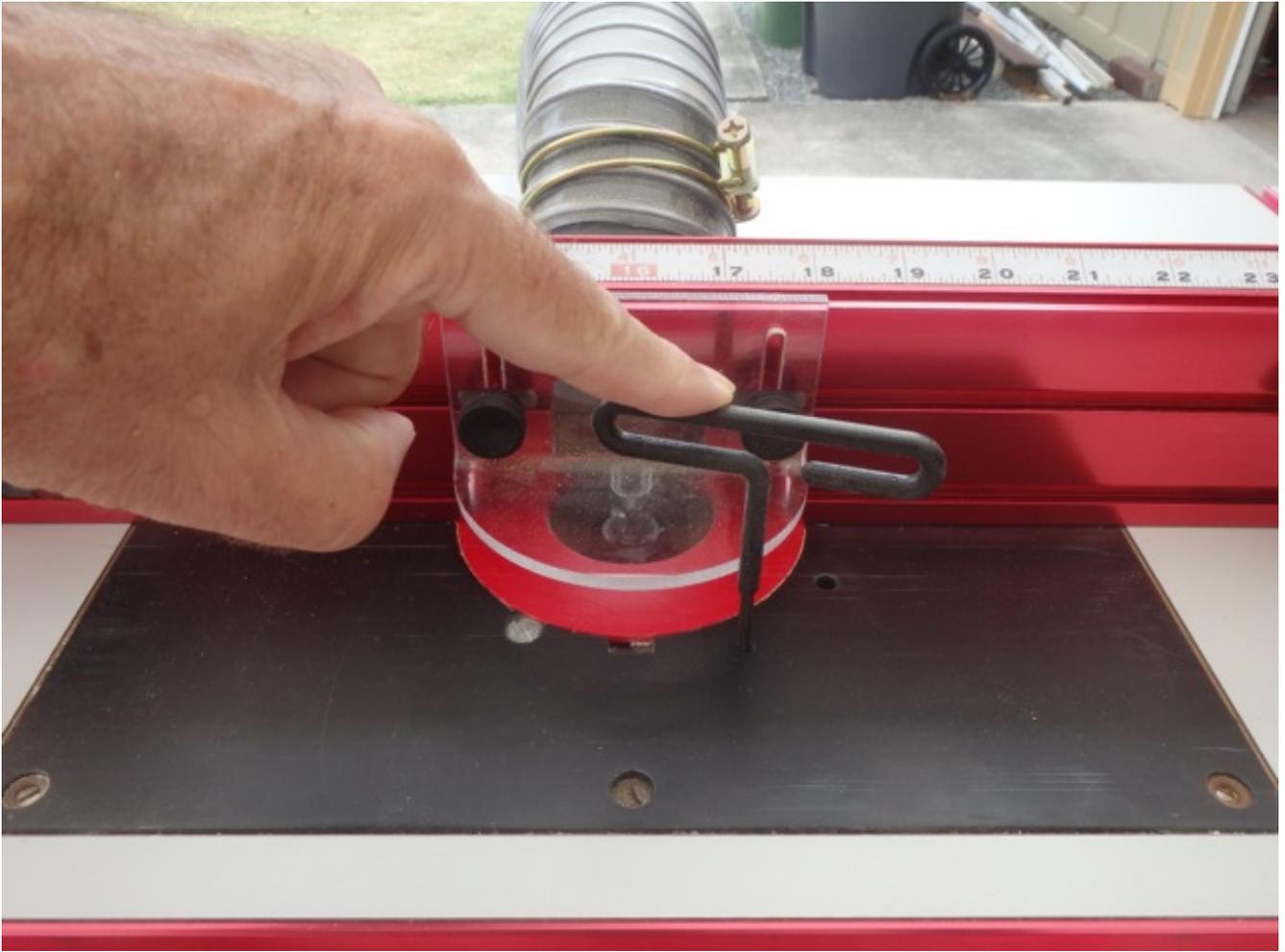
specific base. It is similar to a fixed base without handles, but has the ability to use the top mounted height adjustment (note the knob on the right).



Here is the router and top in profile. Here you can see the feather boards added to the fence to hold down the cabinet panels for smooth flow past the cutter head. The feather boards fasten to the fence with t-bolts (toilet bolts with heads filed to fit the track, and cut to length).



...and here is the fine adjustment – a t-hex wrench that fits into a female fitting in the router base adjustment knob.



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## **Solid Wood Edge Banding Prep/Finish**

For the closet organizer project, I've designed four cabinets that will integrate into a combined drawer base, shelf, and hanging rod system. I've chosen to use poplar solid wood edge banding applied to the exposed 3/4" birch plywood edges.

Poplar, and other stock hardwoods available locally come just slightly oversize of 3/4", but less than 1", and all of it wider than 3/4" plywood, which is really 1/32" less than 3/4".

Once glued on, the edge banding stands proud of the plywood and must be brought level with the plywood surface to be finished. I attempt to glue one side close to the plywood surface, and run most of the excess to one side, but as a practical matter I find that there is some excess of edge band on either side, so both sides of the banding need to be leveled. You could use a belt sander to bring the edge banding into level with the plywood and risk sanding thru a veneer layer, but there is a better way, use a pattern bit on the router table. Here is how it is done:

The rough edge after glue up

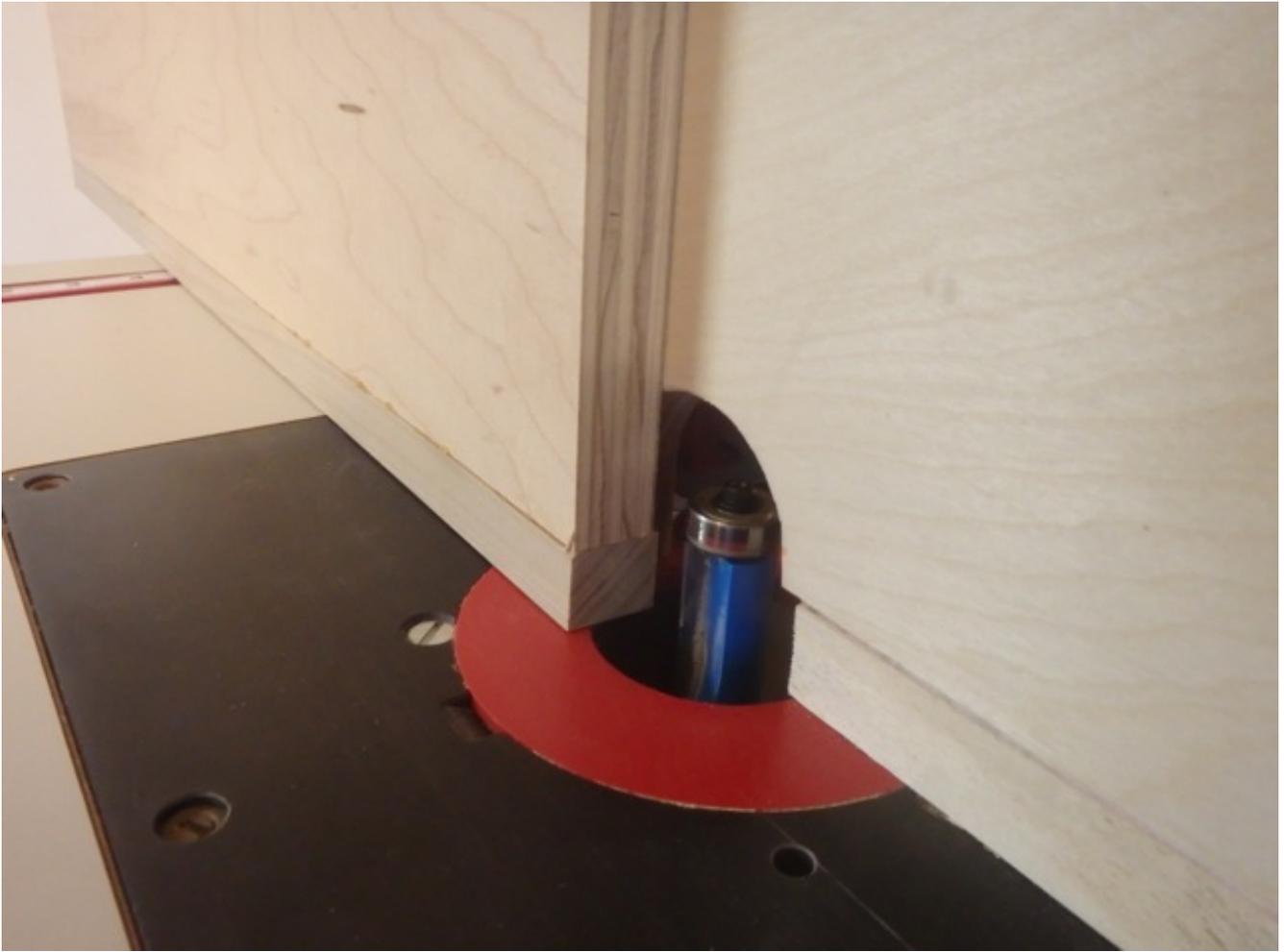


Router table high fence is made up of 3/4" birch ply, rabbeted

on the bottom facing edge approximately  $1/8 \times 1 \ 1/4$ , and secured to the router table fence using  $3/4$ " 10-24 bolts countersunk into the fence and Tee nuts that fit into the router table fence slots. Fence is about 12" high since I'm making 16" to 21" wide component parts.



The router bit I'm using is a  $3/4$ " pattern bit with a bottom bearing. The bearing rides on the surface of the plywood stock, while the cutter blades trim the edge band down nice a smooth to very close to the plywood.



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The result leaves a nice, clean surface to surface finish, ready for sanding with just a random orbit sander to ready the stock for sanding sealer prior to finishing.

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