

TEST CUTS — TABLE SAW MODE

CROSSCUTTING

If you haven't obtained the optional Folding Stand, set up the Workcentre on a stable and rigid base, approximately 570 mm high.

Fit and adjust the safety guard as in Fig. 20, and put on safety glasses. Make sure clothing, long hair and jewellery cannot become entangled in the blade.

Take a **straight** dressed piece of wood and arrow the straightest edge as shown opposite. Set the protractor at 0 degrees, and hold the workpiece with the arrowed edge against the protractor, as in Fig. 20.

Push down on the protractor with your other hand.

MAKE SURE YOU DO NOT CREATE A SMALL OFF-CUT WHICH WILL JAM IN THE SLOT BESIDE THE BLADE.

Either make the off-cut less than 1 mm wide (a paper-thin shaving), or more than 6 mm wide.

Make the cut and push the protractor as far as it will go, so that the workpiece is past the back of the blade. If the back of the blade re-cuts, or burns or rubs against the workpiece, your saw is mounted slightly askew, and its clamping brackets will have to be adjusted slightly as in Step 12.

CHECKING YOUR TRY SQUARE

Before checking the cut first check your try square for accuracy. Find a wide board which has an absolutely straight edge. Press the handle of the square firmly against it, and use a sharp pencil to trace the upper edge of the blade of the square as in Fig. 21. Flip the square over and press it against the edge again as in Fig. 22. Compare the blade of the square to the traced line. Any error in your square is seen as doubled, and therefore clearly visible.

CHECKING THE CUT

Remove any uncut fibres from the edge of the cut before taking a reading. Always take the reading off the face which was resting against the protractor, i.e. the arrowed face.

If you have an error **ALONG** the cut as in Fig. 23 re-adjust the protractor angle slightly and repeat the cut.

Now take a reading **ACROSS** the cut as in Fig. 24 (off the face which was resting on the table). If you have an error, re-adjust the wingnut or knob on the front of your saw, as in Step 9 on Page 5.

RIPPING TEST

Take a straight piece of wood at least 75 mm wide. Set the rip fence **exactly parallel to the blade**. The readings in both windows must be the same.

Set the fence so that you will create a substantial off-cut, which will not fall down between the blade and the slot. (The off-cut should be no less than 6 mm wide).

Keep your fingers well away from the blade (Fig. 25), and hold the arrowed (straight) edge against the fence during the cut. Keep pushing the workpiece until it is behind the back of the blade and the riving knife.

If the back of the blade re-cuts, burns or rubs against the workpiece, either your fence was set slightly askew, or your saw needs slight adjustment on the slide chassis.

If the workpiece hits the riving knife and jams, bump the power with your knee and wait until the blade stops before withdrawing the piece. Then re-check Step 13, Page 6.

If the workpiece was a tight fit between the fence and the riving knife, you can generally ease the rear setting of the fence outwards by no more than 1 mm without losing accuracy.



Fig. 20

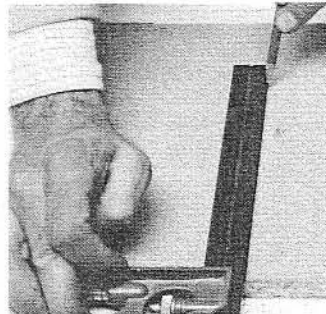


Fig. 21



Fig. 22

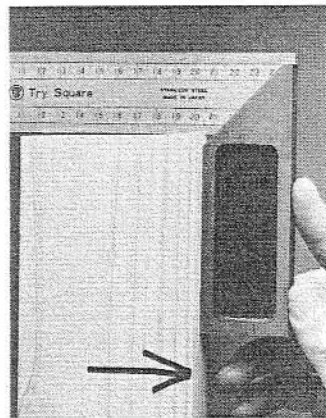


Fig. 23

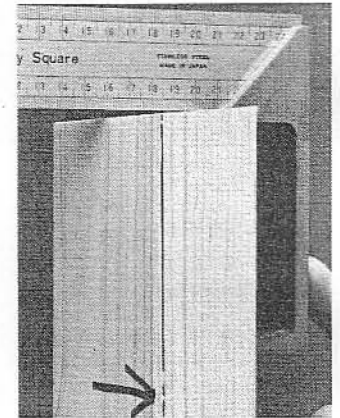


Fig. 24

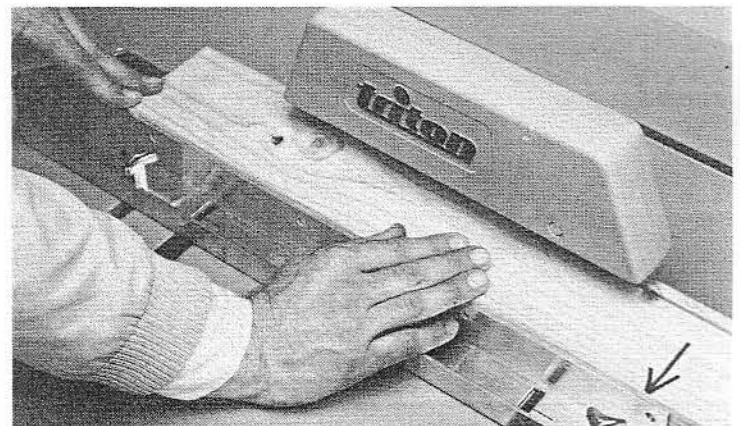


Fig. 25

CONVERTING TO A CROSSCUT SAW

Clear the table of all fittings. Remove the table and place it to one side. Invert the slide chassis, so that the saw is right-way up and facing the rear panel. Turn the table around so that the T-shaped holes are closest to the rear panel. Slide the table in under the blade, and insert the locking keys in the "C" holes.

NOTE: The saw blade will have to be raised slightly during this operation, to prevent the tip of the blade scratching the table surface. Either use the height adjuster on the saw itself, or leave the two freed bearings lying on top of the bearing channels (Fig. 26) while you fit the table.

If using this second method now and in future conversions, **MAKE SURE ALL FOUR BEARINGS ARE PLACED BACK INSIDE THE CHANNELS BEFORE MAKING A CUT.**

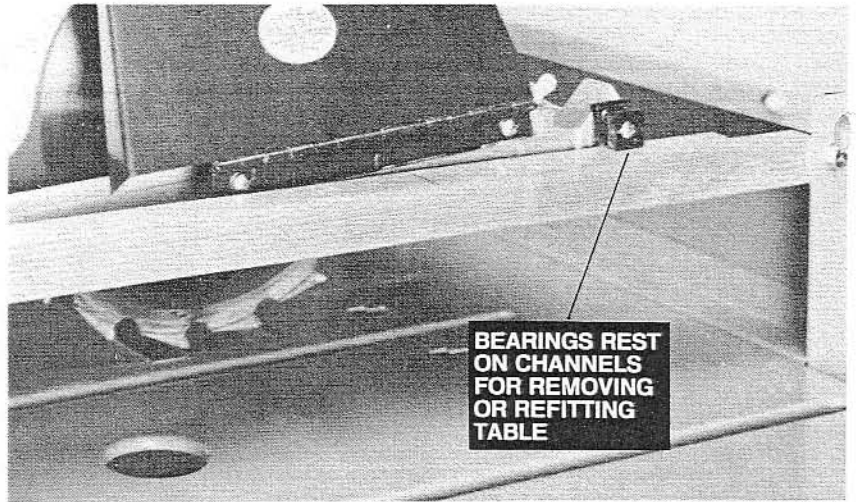


Fig. 26

FITTING THE WORK STOPS

The Notched Work Stop fits on the left hand side of the table. (The notch is for the saw blade to pass through when the blade is angled).

The work stops are meant to be a snug fit. Apply pressure **low down** on the work stops with both thumbs, or try tapping them into position with a piece of wood. They should click into place positively against the back of the T-shaped holes in the table.

If one of your work stops is too tight, you may have to **slightly** loosen the screws holding the nylon lugs in position. Do not undo the screws more than one turn or so, because the nylon lugs are very difficult to re-seat properly if completely removed.

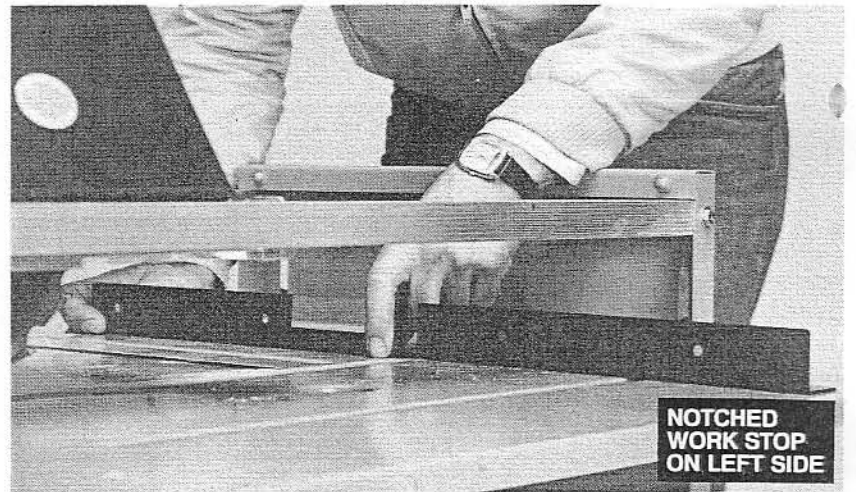


Fig. 27

TEST CUTS — CROSSCUT MODE

Position a piece of wood with its straight face against the plain work stop. Hold the workpiece with your right hand, and push the saw with your left hand. Hold the workpiece firmly, pushing it down on the table and against the work stop, as shown in Fig. 28, **and keep fingers well out of the path of the blade.** Squeeze the saw trigger and **gently** make the cut, trimming a small amount off. Do not force the saw to cut too fast, and do not jerk the saw into the cut.

DO NOT PULL THE SAW BACK TOWARDS YOU UNTIL THE BLADE HAS STOPPED SPINNING. The blade may hit the small off-cut which you've created, causing possible damage or even injury.

If you find that the back of the blade re-cuts the workpiece while the blade is slowing to a halt, you can move the workpiece sideways away from the blade as soon as you have cut through.

If your saw has a very long base-plate, it may stop you from completing the cut. The remedy is to screw two identical straight wooden packers to the work stops.

Check for square along the cut, and across it as shown in Figs. 23 & 24. You may find an error **across** the cut, caused by "slump" (or flex) in the saw. Read about Fig. 29 for the remedy. If you have an error **along** the cut, see Figs. 32 to 35.

If you do have significant slump you may be aggravating the problem by unconsciously twisting the saw hand-grip while pushing the saw. Try leaving the trigger strapped on, and pushing the back of the slide chassis rather than pushing the saw itself. This is called the "locked on" trigger technique. **Use the switch on the workcentre.**

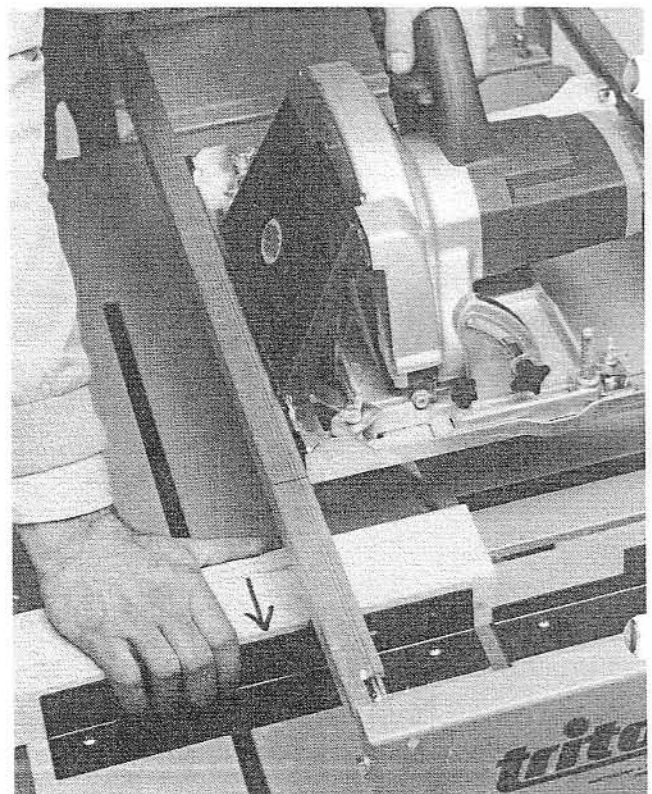


Fig. 28

ELIMINATING SAW SLUMP

Most portable saws have some "slump" in the motor and blade, caused by flexing or slack in the mountings between the saw motor and its base-plate. This slump should be dealt with to ensure squareness **across the cut** in both table saw and crosscut modes, without having to adjust the wingnut (or knob) on the front of the saw each time you convert.

If you have an error caused by saw slump, you have several options.

1. Tighten up the saw as described below; or
2. Obtain a saw Stabiliser Bracket from us (or through your Triton dealer). The bracket fits over the motor of all saws, as in Fig. 29(a) and provides good support for the saw even when raised for rebating (dadoing) or angled for bevelling; or
3. Adjust both table support rails, so there is a slight compensating slope in the table as in Fig. 29 . The amount of slope depends on the amount of slump in your saw, but if more than 6 mm of compensating slope is required, we suggest you obtain the stabiliser bracket. Make several test cuts, checking for square after each cut.

Always check after adjusting the table or the blade that there is no chance of the blade hitting the walls of the slot, or of cutting into the sub-frame bars underneath the table.



Fig. 29

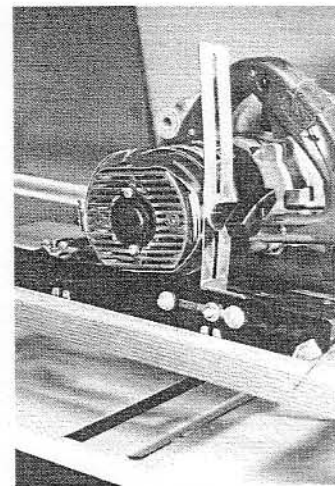


Fig. 29(a)

TIGHTENING UP YOUR SAW

Have the saw right-way up and disconnect the power. Take hold of the saw motor, and see how much movement there is up and down. The two most common troublespots are at the front and rear pivots of the saw motor. The rear pivot point is usually rivetted. Either find a way of tightening the rivet, or drill it out and replace it with a snug-fitting bolt and lock nut as in Fig. 30. If the saw is sloppy at the front pivot, either try tightening the bolt, or put some shim packing between the saw body and the pivot bracket, as shown in Fig. 31.

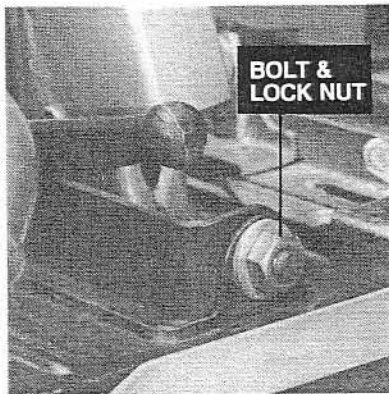


Fig. 30

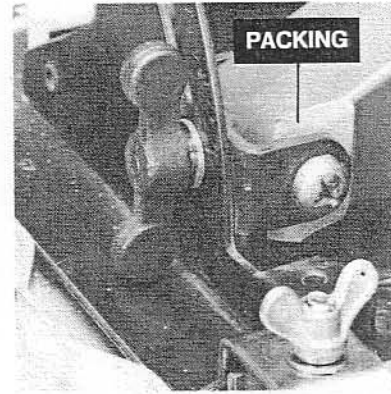


Fig. 31

ARBOR FLOAT & POOR BLADES

Arbor float in the saw — movement of the shaft **in and out** — is the major cause of inaccuracy along the cut. It can show up as a high spot (possibly burnt by the side of the blade), a re-cut, or a slight step in the cut. Try the remedies shown in Figs. 34 & 35. A fine-toothed tungsten tipped blade will help minimise the problem. If you intend to keep the saw for some time, go for a better quality blade.

Arbor float can sometimes be eliminated by a qualified power tool serviceman. If your saw is not repairable or not worth repairing, you should consider upgrading to a better saw. Please feel free to contact us or our area distributor for our current brand recommendations.

If you have extensive burning or re-cut problems along the cut, it is possible your saw is mounted slightly askew on the slide chassis. Check it as explained in Step 12 of the Assembly section.

The high spot shown in Fig. 33 will have a corresponding low spot on the off-cut. The curved ridge on the lower piece of wood is caused either by arbor float, or by the saw being mounted slightly askew.

Fig. 34 shows how to put some straight packers between the workpiece and the work stops. This may help reduce the effects of arbor float. Fig. 35 shows a method of cutting a little to one side of the marked line, and then making a finishing cut in which the blade is removing less wood than in a full cut, and is therefore under less load.

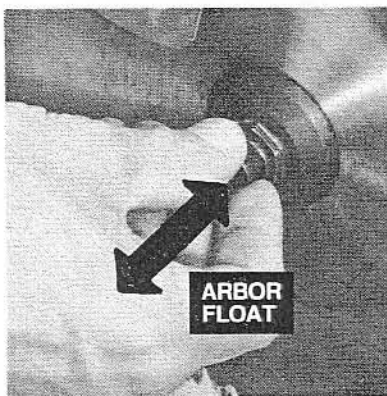


Fig. 32

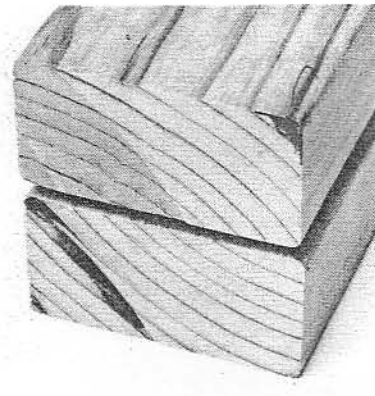


Fig. 33

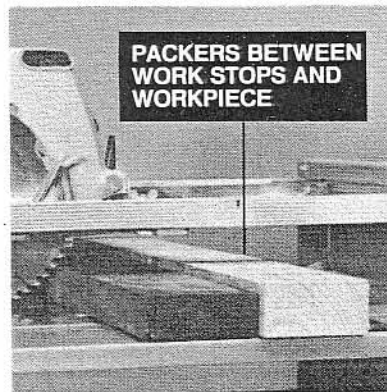


Fig. 34

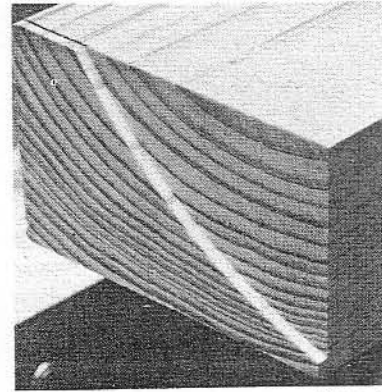


Fig. 35