Hogan’s Jig For Cutting Handholds in Hive Bodies/Supers

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The base on my $39.00 Skil Saw is 10-3/4” x 6”. If the base on your saw is different, you will need to modify this jig. I use a 20 tooth blade.

MATERIAL LIST

(1) piece 16” x 1-3/4” x 3/4” Back Brace
(2) pieces 7” x 4” x 3/4” Clamp Base
(2) pieces 6-1/2” x 2” x 1-1/2” Ramp Wedge
(cut from a 2 x 8. This will be a 17 degree angle.)
(2) pieces 6-1/2” x 2-1/2” Left & Right Saw Guide
(1/4” plywood or masonite. This will be a 17 degree angle.)
(1) piece 12” x 3/8” x 3/4” Front Saw Stop
(I use a wax cleat for this.)

Align one of the 7” x 4” clamp base on the left end of the back brace and nail. The back brace nails into the end of the clamp base. Repeat for the right side.
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Align the 6-1/2" x 2" ramp wedge to the inside on the left and right, tight to the back brace, and nail. This will leave an opening 8" wide.

Nail the two 6-1/2" x 2-1/2" x 1/4" saw end stops to the ramps. These can be made of 1/4" plywood or masonite. These stops are what holds the saw inside the jig.

Attach the 12" x 3/8" front saw stop to the clamp bases. I use a wax cleat for this. The jig is complete.
Place the jig on top of the super end or side you wish to cut the handhold in, and align the ends of the jig and the end of the super. Align the front of the jig and the front of the super at the top. Use 2 welding clamps, or 2 “C” clamps to clamp the jig, and the super to a work table.

Tie the saw guard open with a tie strap just enough to clear the saw base. Set the depth of cut at 2-1/2”. (You will have to experiment with this for the thickness of the wood.) Place saw in the cradle and slide down the ramp, holding pressure against the left ramp saw guide, until blade makes contact with the wood. While holding pressure against left ramp saw guide, raise right end of saw and allow saw to slide down ramp about 1/4”. Push down on right end of saw. Repeat raising right end of saw and allow saw to slide down ramp 1/4”. Repeat until the front of the saw base contacts the front stop.

If you want the handhold to be wider than just the width of the saw blade, return the saw to the top of the jig, slide saw slightly to the right and slide down ramp. Repeat until the saw side base contacts the right ramp stop and the front stop.

**NOTE: CAUTION**
Release saw trigger and allow blade to STOP before removing saw from jig. Place saw on table and place next super on table and clamp jig to super.

*Instructions are for a left-handed saw. Photos show a right-handed saw.*

This is the handhold that will be made with this jig. With practice you can make a handhold about every 30 to 45 seconds.

Watch the video to see how this jig is used:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eaWRjpJ5f0w