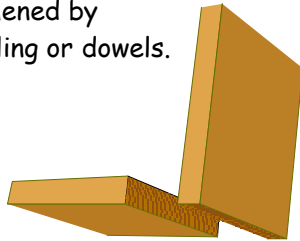


Wood joints for corners

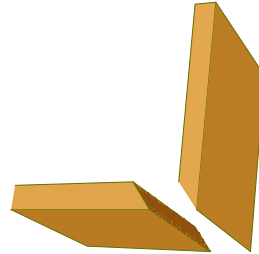
Square ended butt joint

Butt joints are the quickest and simplest joints to make. They are not very strong and must usually be strengthened by dovetail nailing or dowels.



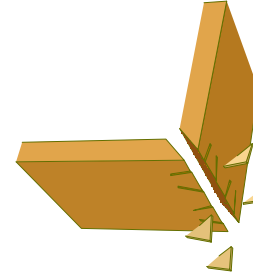
Mitred butt joint

Mitre joints are neater than butt joints because the end grain is hidden.



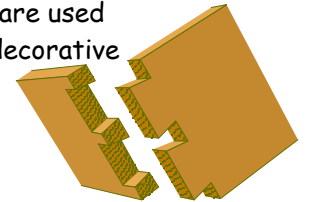
Mitre joint—with splines

The mitre can be strengthened by nailing or by inserting splines of veneer into saw cuts across the joint.



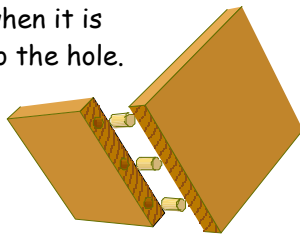
Through dovetail joint

Ideal for the corner joints on the backs of drawers, the tapered shape of the 'tails' resist the forces applied to the joints when the drawer is in use. Apart from being a strong joint in some situations dovetails are used primarily for their decorative qualities.



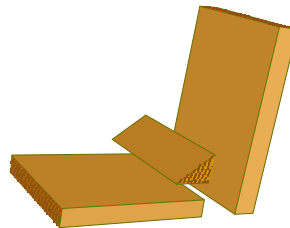
Dowelled butt joint

Dowels are often made from a hard wood called Ramin, they come in a range of diameters from 4 - 25 mm and typically have a grooved surface to allow the glue to flow easily along the dowel when it is inserted into the hole.



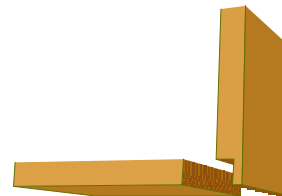
Butt rub joint

A butt rub joint is a square ended butt joint with a triangular section of wooden block glued to the inside. This reinforces the joint and gives it extra strength.



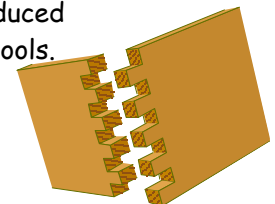
Lap joint

Lap or corner rebate joints are stronger than butt joints because they increase the area being glued. They are also neater because less end grain shows.



Finger joint

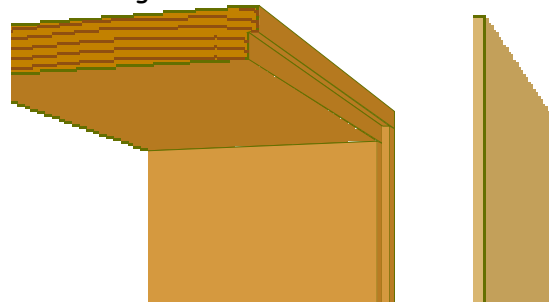
Finger or comb joints are fairly easy to make as there are no dovetail-type angles. The large gluing area gives the joint its strength. This joint is ideally suited to industrial situations where it is produced using machine tools.



Wood joints backs and boards

Rebate

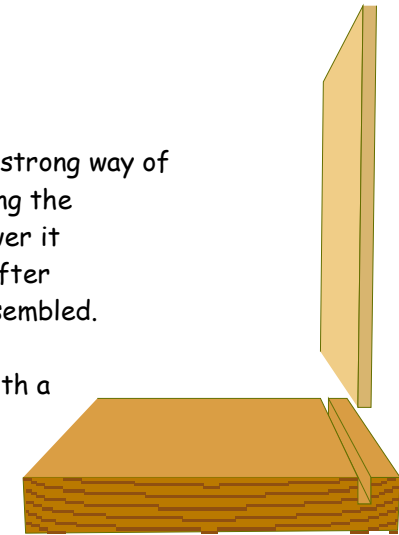
A rebate joint allows a panel to be easily inserted into a door or cabinet back after the frame or carcass has been assembled. Panels can be pinned or held in place using lengths of moulding.



Groove

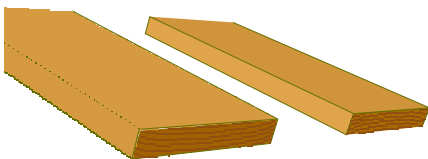
A groove joint is a simple and fairly strong way of attaching a drawer bottom. By leaving the groove open at the back of the drawer it is easy to slide in the drawer bottom after the rest of the drawer has been assembled.

Nowadays grooves are usually cut with a power router.

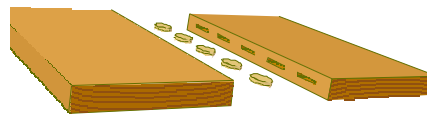


Edge to edge board

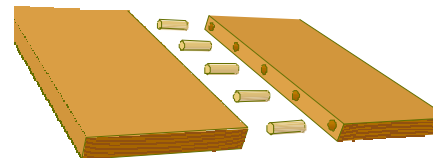
Solid timber is often too narrow for cabinet work and therefore must be joined along its edges to produce the desired width. Edge-to-edge butt joints are the simplest to make and, with modern glues, are normally strong enough for most situations.



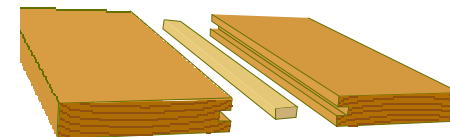
Biscuit joint board



Dowel edge board



Spline edge board



These joints can be reinforced by inserting biscuits, dowels, splines or tongues between the edges being joined. This type of joint is most suited for production using machine tools.

To ensure large areas such as table tops stay flat it is normal to 'match' the boards prior to gluing. This means reversing the direction of the end grain on each alternate board so that any movement that may occur later across the boards will be evened out.