

MORTISING MACHINE

The Mortising machine is used to cut mortises (square holes) into a work piece. Controls on the machine permit accurate placement, length, width and depth of the mortise. The mortise is formed by making multiple plunge cuts into the work piece. The cutting tool is a square, hollow chisel that encases a rotating auger bit. Chisel/auger combinations are available in various sizes. Properly installing the desired chisel/auger is critical to successful use of the machine and prevention of damage to the chisel/auger cutter.

SAFETY

Remove wrenches and screwdrivers used to install the cutter from the machine area before turning on the machine.

Clear the work area of wood, measuring tools, debris, and other items not required for the cuts to be made.

Unplug the machine when installing/removing cutters.

Make sure switch is in the “Off” position before plugging in the machine.

Eye and hearing protection are recommended for this machine.

Do not leave machine running unattended.

Adjust Operating Handle to insure firm footing. (This machine can also be used with operator sitting in a chair.)

Securely clamp work piece to the fence using integrated vise.

Handle cutters carefully. They are very sharp and will be damaged if dropped.

OPERATION - CHECK OUT

Install cutter. Use bushing that is appropriate for the selected cutter. Chisel must be square to the fence. The open side of the chisel must be to the right or left – never to the front or back. Clearance between the auger and the chisel must be such that the auger does not make contact with the chisel when machine is in operation.

Set work piece on table and clamp it to the fence. Set Work Stop and Table Stops as appropriate for the mortise to be cut. Use hand wheels to move work piece through the range necessary to make the desired mortise. Re-set stops if required.

Set depth stop.

Plug-in the machine and turn it “On”. Make sure the rotating auger does not make contact with the chisel.

Make the first plunge cut at one end of the mortise. Feed the cutter into the wood at a rate that is fast enough to prevent burning at the tip of the bit, but not so fast as to cause the machine to slow or stall. Proper feed rate will depend on the wood being cut and the size of the cutter.

Using the right hand wheel, position the work piece for the next cut. Movement must be such that the wood chips from the cut exit the open side of the chisel into the already cut part of the work piece.

When making deep mortises, make the cut in several stages of approximately 1 inch or less.

When cutting through mortises, use scrap wood under the work piece to prevent tear-out and damage to the machine table.

AFTER USE

Unplug the machine

Remove the cutter and bushing from the machine. Remove any wood chips retained in the cutter. Return cutter and bushing to the proper storage places.

Raise the Operation Handle so that it does not protrude into the work area in front of the machine.

Brush and/or use compressed air to clean all chips and sawdust from the machine.

Clean-up work area around the machine.

JDR 10/17/07