

Dowel Centering Jig

This simple jig is useful to quickly locate the center of wooden dowels for boring a hole. This is useful for projects like meat hook handles or feed scoop handles. NOTE: These will wear in time, but are very easy to construct.

Materials:

- Scrap hardwood,
- 8d duplex nails

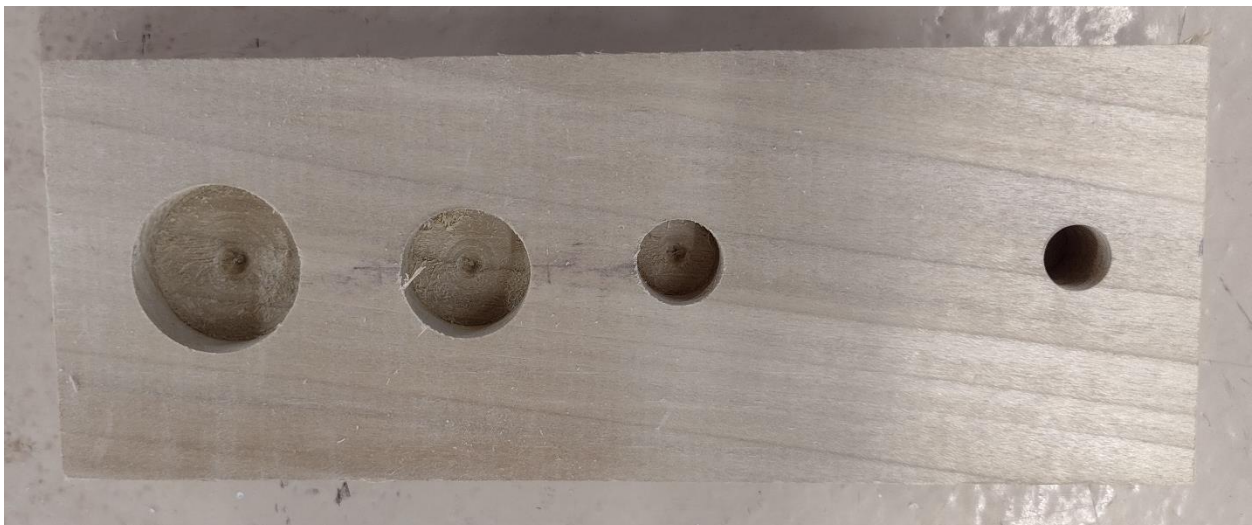
Directions:

1. Find a scrap of hardwood approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6"
2. Locate the center for three holes $\frac{1}{2}$ ", $\frac{3}{4}$ " and 1" (see photo).
3. Using a drill press and Forstner bits drill $\frac{1}{2}$ way through the wood (about $\frac{3}{8}$ ") with each size.
4. Select a drill the same diameter as the 8d nail (usually $\frac{1}{8}$ ")
5. From the inside drill the hole for the nail(s) with the drill press. Use the dimple left by the Forstner bit as a guide.
6. On a grinder sharpen the nail point at a 45° angle.
7. Insert the nail into the jig as shown in the photo.
8. Optional: Drill a $\frac{3}{8}$ " hole for hanging.

Use:

Simply place the dowel in the proper sized hole and then tap the nail to make a mark on the dowel.

Photos:



Holes drilled with Forstner bit. This jig is constructed for 3 dowel sizes, but they can be easily may for just one size.



Holes drilled for nail.



Dowel inserted into the hole.



Center of the dowel marked.

Dowel Drilling Jig

This metal jig holds wooden dowels (or any round stock) vertical for drilling in a drill press.

Materials:

- scrap angle iron (1" x 1/8" works well)

Directions:

1. Cut 2 pieces XX" and 1 piece YY".
2. Carefully tack the pieces in place as shown in the photo. The vertical piece must be square with the base.
3. Complete the welds.
4. Recheck the square to insure it remained square.
5. Use a grinder to round the edges.
6. Paint as desired.

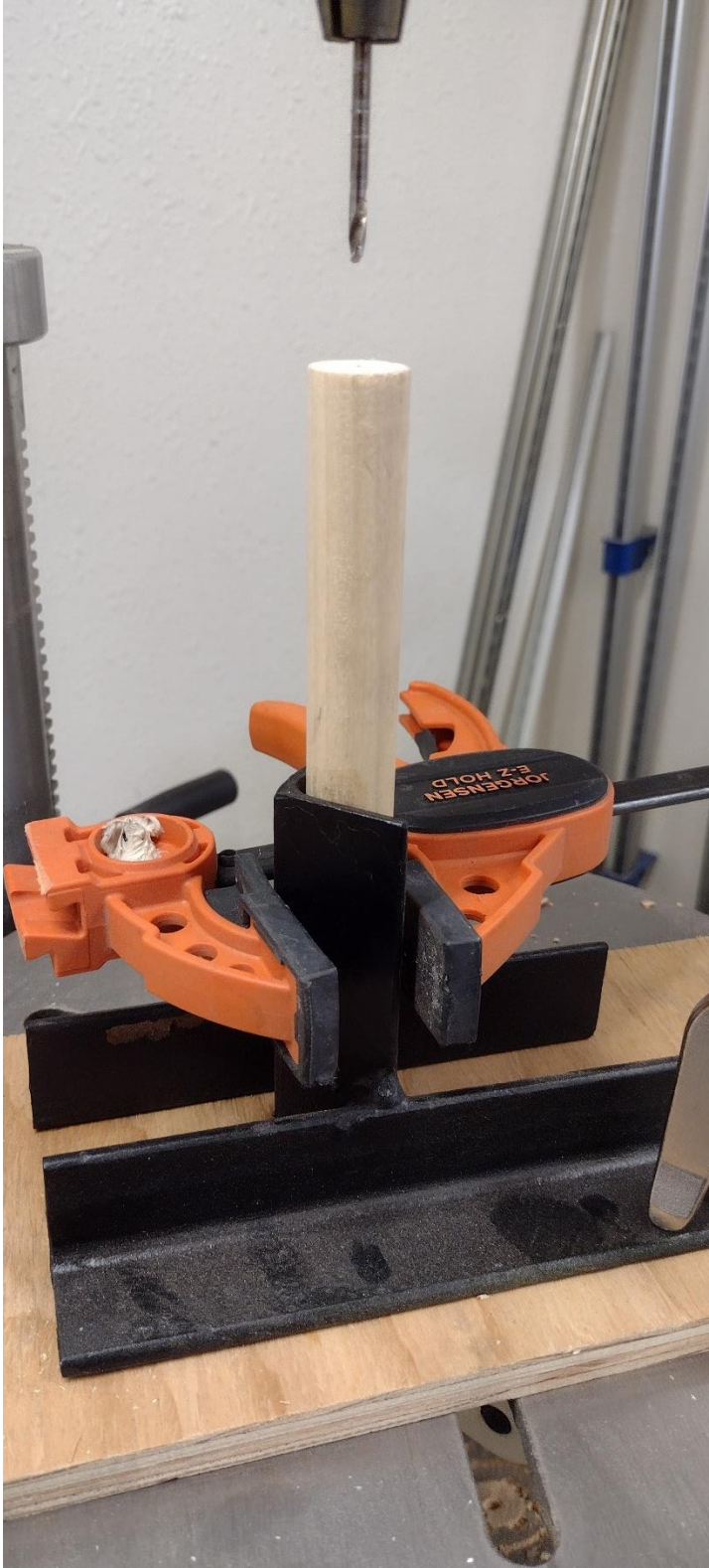
Use:

1. Mark your dowel center.
2. Clamp the dowel using a wood clamp in the jig.
3. Position the dowel under the drill and clamp the jig.
4. Drill the dowel.
5. Note: Once positioned and clamped, multiple dowels can be drilled without the need to find the center.

Photos:



Assembled Jig.



Jig in use to bore a hole down the middle of a dowel.