

TECHNICAL BULLETIN 2: BUILDING ROUND LEG TRESTLE BENTS

September 1, 2004

You may prefer to use round timbers for the legs. Black Bear jigs can be adapted to build a round leg trestle bent by following these recommendations.

Most Black Bear Jigs are designed to be used with scale 12" x 12" square timbers. Sometimes compromises are required when changing to the equivalent 12" diameter round timber. Table 1 shows the recommended dowel sizes to use. Some scales require shim to hold the dowel rods in place.

Experiment with your particular dowels and shims to determine the right combination. The square top cap size also needs to change to accommodate the different leg size. Table 2 shows typical shim sizes and the new top cap size.

Scale	Nominal 12" Square Timber	Dowel Diameter
N	3/32" x 3/32"	1/16" Midwest (.08" dia)
HO	.138" x .138"	1/8"
S	3/16" x 3/16"	3/16"
O	1/4" x 1/4"	1/4"

Table 1 - Recommended dowel sizes for round leg trestle bents.

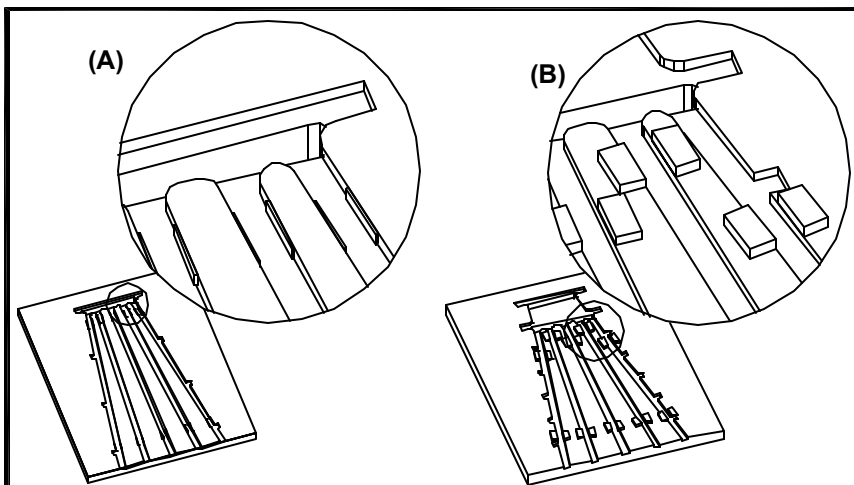


Figure 1 - Shim placement for trestle jigs. (A) HO Scale, (B) S and O Scale. Glue styrene shims in place with canopy glue or solvent cement designed for both styrene and acrylic.

<p>N Scale New Top Cap = HO Scale 6" x 6"</p>	<p>Midwest Products 1/16" Dowel No Shim 1/16" White Top 1/8" Gray Base</p>
<p>HO Scale New Top Cap = 1/8" x 1/8"</p>	<p>1/8" Dowel .010" x .080" Shim 1/16" White Top 1/8" Gray Base</p>
<p>S Scale New Top Cap = Old Top Cap = 3/16" x 3/16"</p>	<p>3/16" Dowel 1/16" x 1/8" Shim 1/16" White Top 1/4" Gray Base</p>
<p>O Scale New Top Cap = Old Top Cap = 1/4" x 1/4"</p>	<p>1/4" Dowel 1/8" x 1/8" Shim 1/16" White Top 1/4" Gray Base</p>

Table 2 - Recommended shim to adapt the Black Bear Trestle Jig for round leg trestle bents.

Figure 2 - "Distress" the dowels by scraping them with a razor saw or wire brush. Mark the side of and number each dowel. Keep this mark up while cutting and assembling the bent.

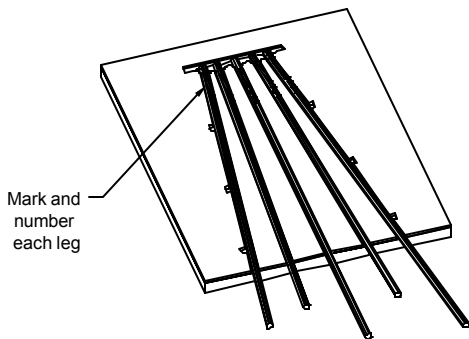


Figure 3 - Cut the legs off parallel with the bottom of the jig.

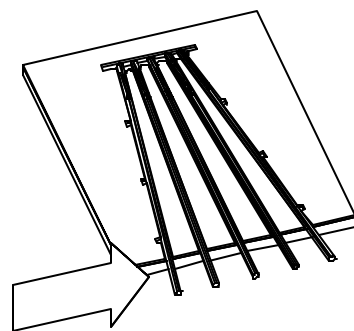


Figure 4 - Flip the legs around and glue them to the top cap. A good technique is to spray CA accelerator on the top cap, place a small drop of CA glue on the end of the leg, and slide the leg into contact with the top cap without the leg getting on the jig.

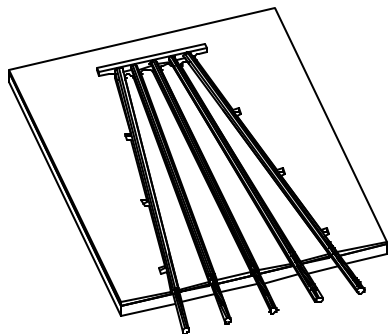


Figure 5 - Glue the side bracing to the legs and proceed with building the bents and trestle as before.

