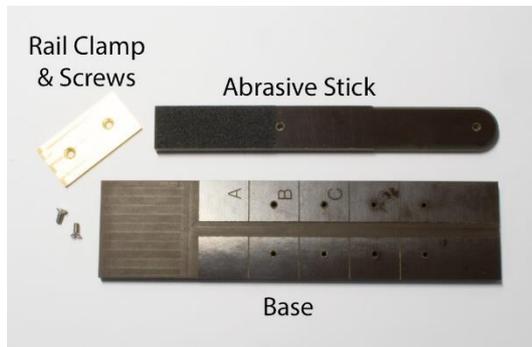


Planing Jig for Turnout Blades

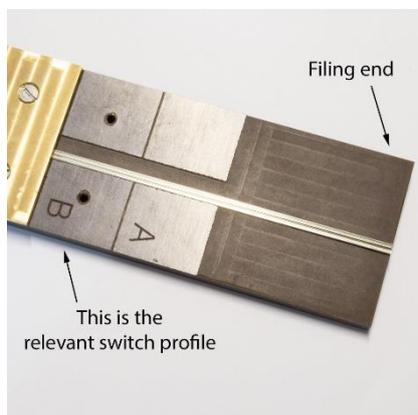


This jig has been designed to help you accurately manufacture switch blades for 2FS turnouts using Bullhead rail. The jig comprises:



- A base
- Rail clamp with fixing screws (spare screws included)
- Abrasive stick with replaceable abrasive pad

The base is divided into sectors with letters and/or screw holes in them. The rail clamp is attached to the base by the screws and the switch blade designation is indicated by the letter above the clamp. So, in this instance we will be making B blades for, say, a B7 turnout.

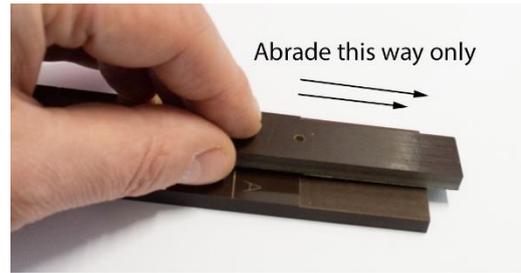


Insert your rail stock into the jig, between the base and the clamp. Align the ends of the rail with the filing end and tighten the screws. You should ensure that your rail is oriented such that you get a left hand and a right hand blade, so have the rail heads facing each other while they are in the jig.

Hold the abrasive stick so that the abrasive pad part is over the rail ends and the smooth part is over the rail clamp. Gently resting the smooth part on the rail clamp, move the stick to abrade the end of the rails.



Only abrade the material on the outward stroke, not as the stick comes back, as there is a possibility of the abrasive catching on the rail ends.



Work carefully until the abrasive stick is almost, but not quite, catching the end of the jig. At this point your switch blades will be correctly profiled.

Before using the jig, you may wish to use this technique to ensure that as much of the rail material as possible remains at the tapered end of your switch blade. The initial taper need only be a few mm long and its length is not critical. The second taper is the one that you will file on this jig. Extracted from 2mm Scale Assn publication "Track":



Fig 5.1 BH rail filed to a taper on one side only showing the wafer thin web. The presence of the very thin metal is just visible in the right hand picture as a pale area.

