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Subject: First routing experiences less than rousing

Posted by [lon](#) on Sun, 01 Aug 2004 19:24:34 GMT

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I am using a rotozip-type tool with a 3/8 rabbeting bit on a 1/4 shank and collet. As might be expected, this tool has its prob.'s from being too lightweight to do much. The bit is cheap too because this is all trial work for me on a first-from-scratch project. So before I make any more pieces just suitable to roast weenies over, my first question is this: I'm using the tool counter-clockwise in the prescribed manner but I'm getting way too much tearout on the edges to make these baffle cuts worth finishing off. Also there's some smoke involved and the bit edges have blackened. The material is birch ply from the local home Depot. I have a few blanks left to get this technique down. How can I eliminate the tearout? Is it just a dull bit or something to do with grain direction? Or is it a problem handling the tool itself? A couple of my samples turned out pretty good with rabbets front side and chamfers on the rear. But I can't get any consistency. One practice piece looks like a daisy from what looks like hitting a knot. :-| Well enough of that for today. I have a filing cabinet to put together of the "Insert Flap "A" and Throw It Away" type. :-)  
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