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Subject: Jointer and Plywood

Posted by [Cantskienuf](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 17:10:37 GMT

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Can I use a jointer to get a flat edge on plywood, or will it splinter the outer surface? Seems that on my larger cuts I sometimes get a slight pinch on the table saw making the edge a bit less than perfect. The inner plys don't seem to be too happy if I try to smooth the edge up with a finish sander.

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Subject: Re: Jointer and Plywood

Posted by [BillEpstein](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 21:10:57 GMT

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I can't recall ever jointing plywood but why not try? When you say "pinch" I think you mean the workpiece moves toward and away from the fence a bit? Or do you have an "ear" sticking out on the last 1/2" that goes thru? The former is cured by cutting the first cuts off a large sheet 1/4"+ oversize then flipping the fence edge to be the cut edge and trimming to final length with a more manageable-sized piece. The latter is caused by the weight of the large off-cut falling away from the blade as you flinch a bit on the push through. When you get to the last few inches of the cut be sure and have a hand on each side of the blade pushing on the workpiece side and just following thru on the off-cut side. Despite the large size of either don't push just on the workpiece side. The offcut will always fall away and tear away, leaving that "ear".

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Subject: Re: Jointer and Plywood

Posted by [Bill Fitzmaurice](#) on Sat, 05 Mar 2005 21:52:25 GMT

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You can use a jointer with plywood going with the grain of the outer plies but not against the grain without tearing it up.