

# Router Decorative Edges

This playbook provides detailed steps on how to use a router to create professional-looking, decorative edges on woodworking projects. It is designed for crafters who wish to enhance the aesthetic of their work with intricate edge designs.

## Step 1: **Safety Check**

Ensure that your router is unplugged and the bit is tightly secure. Put on safety glasses and hearing protection.

## Step 2: **Bit Selection**

Choose a router bit that suits the type of decorative edge you desire. Factors include the profile shape, size of the bit, and whether it's a straight or tapered edge.

## Step 3: **Test Cuts**

Make test cuts on scrap pieces of wood to check the bit setup and adjust the router's depth of cut to achieve the desired edge effect.

## Step 4: **Secure Workpiece**

Clamp the workpiece firmly to your workbench to prevent it from moving while routing.

## Step 5: **Router Setup**

Set the router's speed based on the bit's size and the type of wood. Insert the bit and adjust the router's base plate to control the cutting depth.

## Step 6: **Routing Process**

Turn on the router and begin routing the edge of the wood, moving the router from left to right (counter-clockwise) along the edge. Maintain a steady feed rate and hold the router firmly to ensure an even cut.

## Step 7: **Final Touches**

After completing the routing, turn off the router and unplug it. Remove the workpiece from the clamps and lightly sand the edges to remove any rough spots.

# **General Notes**

## **Router Care**

Regularly clean and maintain your router to extend its life and ensure precise cuts. Check for dull bits and replace them as necessary.

## **Environment**

Ensure you work in a well-lit area with enough space to manage the wood and the router comfortably. Keep your workspace clean to avoid any accidents.