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Project: Sunshine Mirror

Overview: Bring a little sunlight into your day every time you look into the mirror. This project is cut from glued up materials or can be cut from plywood and painted to ones liking.

Materials: This example used 2" strips of red oak and walnut.

Minimum Cutting Area: 24" x 24"

Bit Size: 1/4"

Finishing: Minwax Wipe On Polyurethane was used for this example. If this project is going to be cut from plywood and painted a latex paint would be recommended.

Always read the entire project details before starting to cut the file yourself
Account for the thickness of the physical material on hand and the material thickness in the file
This file is zeroed to the tables surface, Zero your bit to the tables surface

Included with the cut file is a hold down toolpath that shows where it is safe to put screws. Run this file separately from the cut file so you can screw down the work piece, or if you have a different size board or different type of hold down disregard the file.

As the file starts cutting the profile of the parts make sure the cut is going all the way through the work piece and into the table surface. If you need to adjust any part of the file make sure you do not remove the hold down or you will loose position.

Before unscrewing the part from the table make sure the mirror drops into place. If this does not fit, simply go back to the file and increase the size of the cutout. If hold-down had been removed, one would not be able to line this back up perfectly.

Tabs are use to hold all the pieces to the scrap wood attached to them. Use a utility knife to score these edges. Never try to push a piece out without cutting the tab, it will tear the grain on your project. Sand remaining tab flat.

The entire outside of the project is routed with a 1/4" roundover bit. The only edge that is not rounded over is the rabbit on the backside that the mirror drops into.

Taking a little extra time with a spindle sander will help smooth the hard to reach places.

Sand all the edges and faces to ensure the grain is smooth. A random orbital sander works great because one does not have to follow the direction of the grain while sanding.

Minwax Wipe On Polyurethane is a great finish for this project. Easy to apply, cleanup and has a nice dry time.

Drop the mirror into place once the polyurethane has had time to dry. Run a small bead of silicone or caulk around the perimeter of the mirror.

Smooth the caulk into place and allow the caulk to dry with the mirror facing down until it has setup. Depending on the wall surface, select the proper mounting hardware from your local hardware store.

This project used a 10" round mirror from a local craft store. Mirror blanks can come in all different sizes or be custom cut at a glass company.