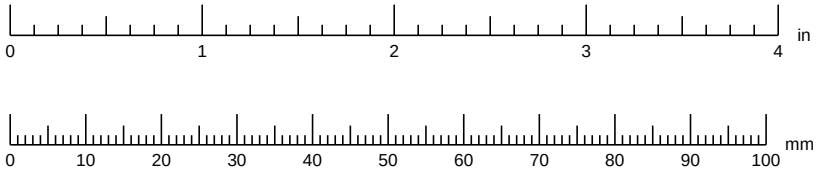
Wooden chip clips: actual-size templates

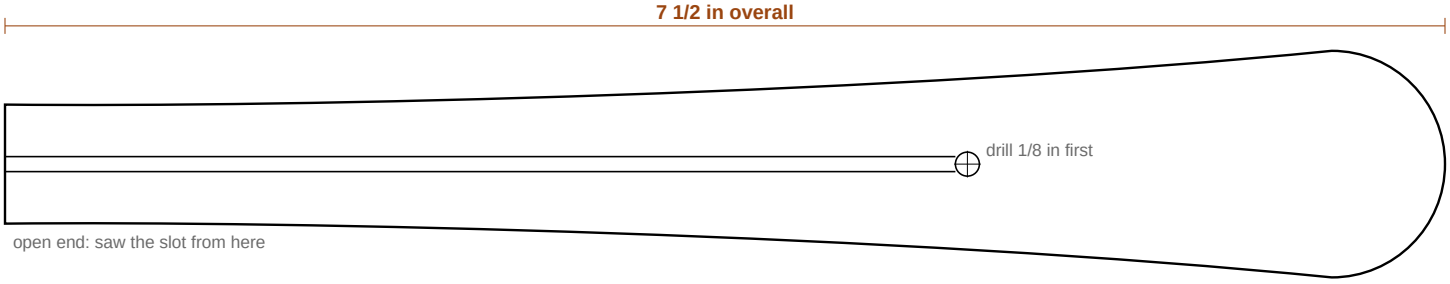
A good use for scrap wood and offcuts. Print at 100% / Actual size, with Fit, Shrink and Scale-to-page turned off, and measure the square and rulers. Solid outline = outside cut. Paired lines = 5/64 in slot. Circle = 1/8 in relief hole. Grain runs along the clip.

1 in square
measure me



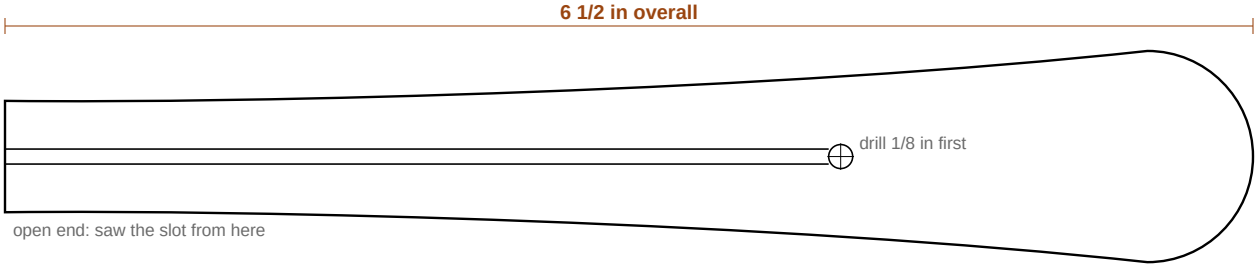
7 1/2 in clip

jaw end ≈ 5/8 in wide · head ≈ 1 3/16 in wide · slot ≈ 4 15/16 in long



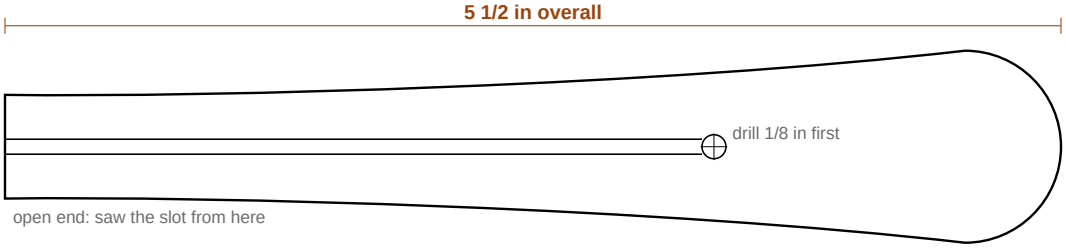
6 1/2 in clip

jaw end ≈ 19/32 in wide · head ≈ 1 3/32 in wide · slot ≈ 4 9/32 in long



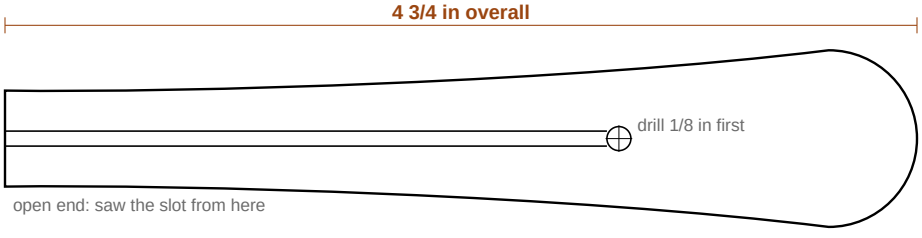
5 1/2 in clip

jaw end ≈ 17/32 in wide · head 1 in wide · slot ≈ 3 5/8 in long



4 3/4 in clip

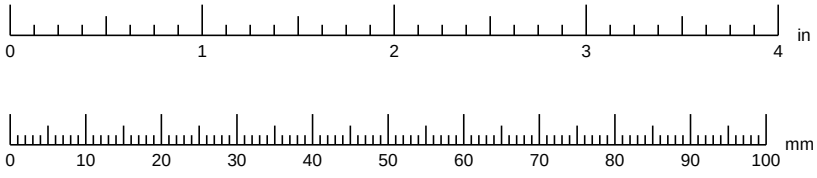
jaw end 1/2 in wide · head ≈ 29/32 in wide · slot ≈ 3 1/8 in long



Wooden chip clips: actual-size templates

A good use for scrap wood and offcuts. Print at 100% / Actual size, with Fit, Shrink and Scale-to-page turned off, and measure the square and rulers. Solid outline = outside cut. Paired lines = 5/64 in slot. Circle = 1/8 in relief hole. Grain runs along the clip.

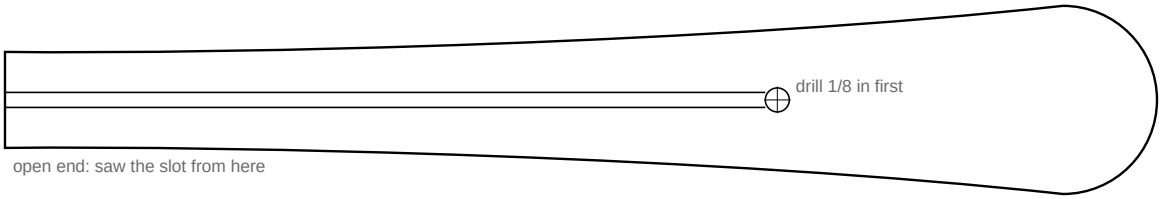
1 in square
measure me



6 in clip

jaw end 1/2 in wide · head ≈ 31/32 in wide · slot ≈ 3 31/32 in long

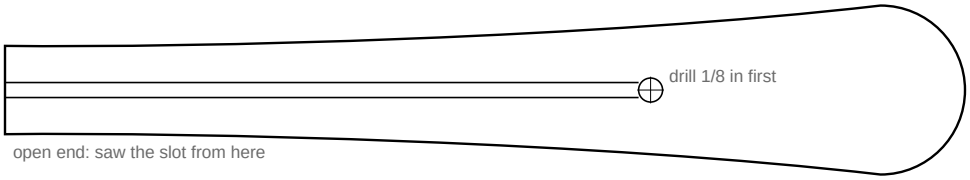
6 in overall



5 in clip

jaw end ≈ 15/32 in wide · head ≈ 7/8 in wide · slot ≈ 3 5/16 in long

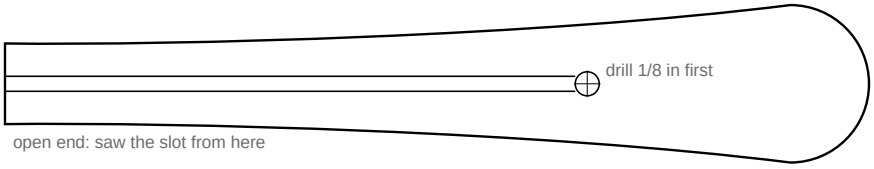
5 in overall



4 1/2 in clip

jaw end ≈ 13/32 in wide · head ≈ 13/16 in wide · slot ≈ 2 31/32 in long

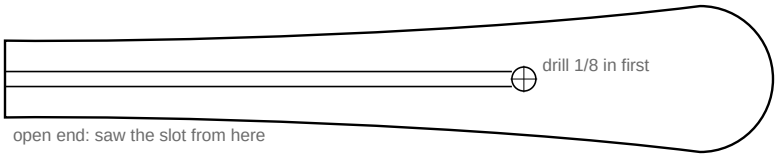
4 1/2 in overall



4 in clip

jaw end ≈ 13/32 in wide · head ≈ 3/4 in wide · slot ≈ 2 5/8 in long

4 in overall



Wooden chip clips: dimensions and method

This page is not to scale. Cut from the templates on pages 1 and 2.

Clip	Jaw end	Head	Slot length	Relief hole centre from open end
7 1/2 in	≈ 5/8 in	≈ 1 3/16 in	≈ 4 15/16 in	≈ 5 in
6 1/2 in	≈ 19/32 in	≈ 1 3/32 in	≈ 4 9/32 in	≈ 4 11/32 in
6 in	1/2 in	≈ 31/32 in	≈ 3 31/32 in	≈ 4 1/32 in
5 1/2 in	≈ 17/32 in	1 in	≈ 3 5/8 in	≈ 3 11/16 in
5 in	≈ 15/32 in	≈ 7/8 in	≈ 3 5/16 in	≈ 3 3/8 in
4 3/4 in	1/2 in	≈ 29/32 in	≈ 3 1/8 in	≈ 3 3/16 in
4 1/2 in	≈ 13/32 in	≈ 13/16 in	≈ 2 31/32 in	≈ 3 1/32 in
4 in	≈ 13/32 in	≈ 3/4 in	≈ 2 5/8 in	≈ 2 11/16 in

All clips: 5/64 in slot, 1/8 in relief hole, 3/4 in stock. ≈ = rounded to the nearest 1/32 in; the templates are exact.

Materials

- Scrap wood: a great use for offcuts. The smallest clip fits on a scrap about 4 × 7/8 in; the largest needs about 7 1/2 × 1 1/4 in.
- Straight-grained hardwood, 3/4 in thick. The test clips were walnut, cherry and maple. Grain must run the length of the clip.
- No knots, cracks or short grain near the head: that is where the clip flexes.
- Glue stick or spray adhesive for the template; sandpaper 120 and 180 grit; tung oil or another oil finish (the test clips used tung oil).

Tools

- Bandsaw with a 1/8 or 1/4 in blade.
- Drill press with a 1/8 in bit, and a clamp to hold the work.
- Push stick, safety glasses, hearing protection.

Safety

- Drill and saw the slot while the blank is still larger than the clip, and cut the outline last.
- Clamp the work to drill it. Never hold a small part by hand on a drill press.
- Keep fingers at least 2 in from the blade; use a push stick on small clips.
- Check each clip at the head for cracks before use, and throw away any clip that cracks.
- Clips are small parts. Keep them away from young children.

Method

1. Print pages 1 and 2 at 100% and check the 1 in square and both rulers.
2. Glue each template to a blank with the grain running along the slot and the open end on the edge of the blank. Leave spare wood around the outline.
3. Clamp the blank and drill the 1/8 in relief hole at the marked centre. It stops the slot from splitting the head.
4. Saw the slot from the open end straight to the hole. A single bandsaw cut is usually narrower than 5/64 in: make a second pass beside it to reach the lines, or leave it narrower for a tighter grip.
5. Bandsaw the outside outline, staying just outside the line, then sand to the line.
6. Flare the mouth of the slot a little so a bag slides in easily, round every edge and sand smooth. Finish with tung oil and let it cure fully.
7. To use: fold or roll the top of the bag two or three times, then push the clip on from the open end. Too tight? Sand the inside of the slot. Too loose? Make the next one with a narrower slot.
8. Best on chip and popcorn bags. Thin bread-bag plastic can tear, so they are not recommended for bread bags.