

INSTALLING KNIFE HINGES

Knife hinges work well in cases where you want minimal intrusion from the hardware. Straight knife hinges, like those seen here, are used on cabinets where the top and bottom of the case overhangs

the door but the door overlays the case sides. The key to installing them without incident is to do all your mortising and test-fitting before gluing up the case. —MT



1 Positioning the hinge. Draw out the position of the door stock to help center the hinge. Then use a marking gauge to establish the front and rear edges of the hinge mortise.



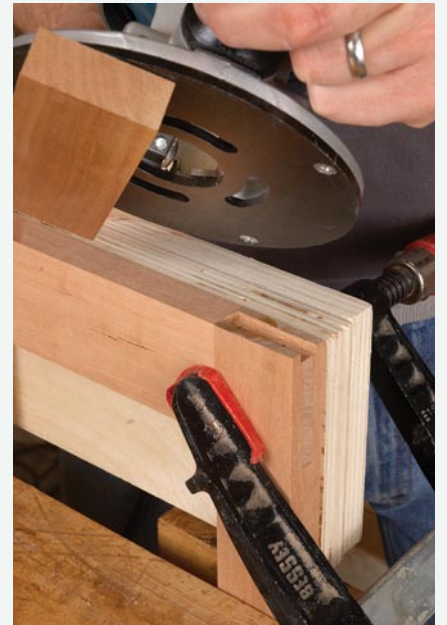
2 Score around the hinge. Use double-sided tape to hold the hinge in place and then scribe its location with a marking knife.



3 Rout it out. Hog out the waste in the mortise using a small straight bit. Position the edge guide so it makes a clean cut along the rear edge of the mortise.



4 Set the hinge in place. The hinge leaf should be flush to the surface of the workpiece. Drill pilot holes before attaching it with screws.



5 Rout the door mortise. Scrap stock clamped flush to the top of the door allows you to rout the door mortises in the same fashion as those on the case.



6 Hang the door. Attach the hinge leaves to the cabinet and one side of the door. Set the leaf attached to the door in place on the hinge. Set the other leaf in place on its hinge and slide the door into place. Double-check the position of the door on the case and then mark out the screw holes. Finish the doors and install the glass before you attach the doors permanently.