

Beginner's Tips for Using a Combination Square

A combination square has interchangeable attachments that slide into place along the rule. They'll help you check your accuracy on a number of tasks and projects. Here are a few tips for using one:

1. THE BASICS

- A combination square includes a ruler with interchangeable attachments.

2. 90° ANGLE EDGE

- The 90 ° angle edge:
 - Use it to mark right angles and check the accuracy of a saw cut.
 - Mark continuous lines around 4 sides of a board or post, or scribe a line parallel to the edge of a board.
 - Use it as a depth gauge for measuring the depth of a groove and setting the depth of a router bit. It's also great for recalibrating a table saw or miter saw blade.

3. 45° ANGLE EDGE

- The 45° angle edge: Flip the 90° angle edge around to set it for 45° angle markings.

4. THE PROTRACTOR

- The protractor: Use this for marking specific angles. After setting the angle, tighten the attachment down and you have a template for repeating the same cut on several pieces. This makes it good for decking or molding projects. This attachment is useful for finding the center of a dowel, rod, or other large circular objects.

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NOTE: Always follow manufacturer's recommended safety precautions and instructions for the products you use.