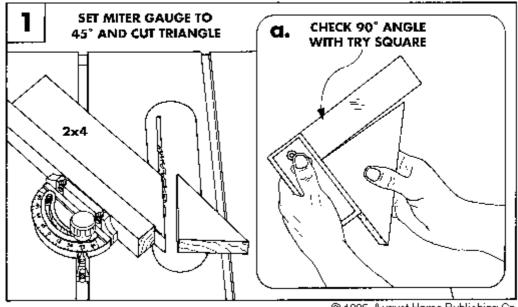
Checking A Mitre Gauge



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Getting the mitre gauge on my table saw adjusted so the saw cuts exactly 45° is tricky. But I've found an easy way to check it with a scrap piece of 2x4.

First, set the mitre gauge to 45°. Now cut off one end of the 2x4 and discard that piece. Next, flip the 2x4 over and make a second cut creating a triangular cut-off piece, see Fig. 1.

Then use this cut-off piece to see how accurately the mitre gauge is set. But don't check the 45° corners. Instead, use a try square to see if the 90° corner is accurate, see Fig. 1a.

If the angle is exactly 90°, then you can be sure the mitre gauge is set so the saw will cut a perfect 45° angle.

But if the angle is less than 90°, set your mitre gauge to slightly more than 45° and make another test cut. If the angle is greater than 90°, set your mitre gauge to slightly less than 45° and try again.