

## Boat Scarf Jig

Up next is to add the stem to the front of the boat. This is where the sides will be attached. Also, we will add some ribbing that will stiffen the bottom.

**THE STEM.** The stem is made from four layers of pine glued together with epoxy. After the epoxy is cured, bevel the ends with a miter saw and then you can cut the stem to shape.

Cutting the profile of the stem is done at the band saw. You can see this in Figure 1 below. Tilt your band saw table, and make two cuts to form the shape.

Then, the stem can be attached to the bottom using epoxy and screws through the bottom (detail 'a'). A note about the screws. If you plan on leaving the screws in and epoxying over them, I would use stainless steel screws. If you're going to remove them like I did, use normal screws. The holes will get plugged by filling them with epoxy later.

**CURVED BOTTOM.** Even though this boat has a flat bottom (it's not a v-shaped profile), the bottom does have a shallow curve ("rocker") in it. This way, the front of the boat drafts less water than the middle and rear. This gives it a more stable ride and makes it easier to row. To keep the bottom in this shape, you're going to add a center rib and two outer ribs called chine logs.

A note before you start cutting the ribbing. From this point forward, a lot of parts will be "cut-to-fit." Meaning, that certain parts will dictate the size of other parts. So take careful measurements and cut the parts to fit your boat.

**SIZING CHINE LOGS.** The chine logs are first and you'll want a helper to get them fit (or a few dozen clamps to hold it as you fit it). Use a couple of blocks to raise the front and rear of the

