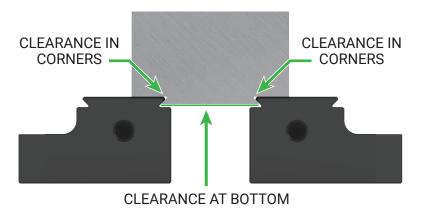




MATERIAL SHOULD REST ON TOP OF THE JAW / FIXTURE AND ON THE 45° FACE.



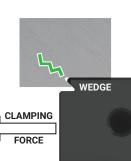
When a proper dovetail is used, jaw/dovetail fixture acts as a wedge attempting to split the material in the corner.

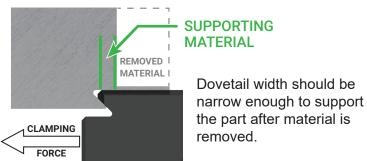
Material is clamped only once or twice and is therefore resistant to fracturing.

150mm

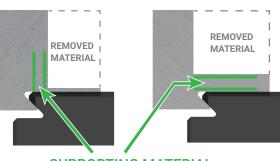


Dovetail width should not be less than 75% of the width of the stock.



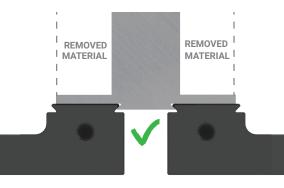


THERE IS NO SIMPLE ANSWER TO HOW MUCH SUPPORT IS NEEDED.



SUPPORTING MATERIAL

If more support is needed, decrease dovetail width or increase tab thickness.



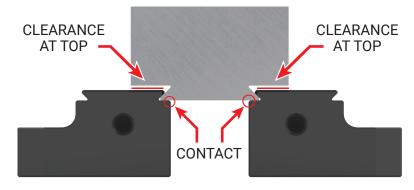
For narrow parts, position the dovetail as close as possible to the finished part's center of mass.

2

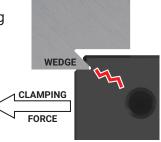


1. DOVETAIL TOO DEEP

Clamping with a dovetail should **never** cause the material to locate on the bottom step of the jaw.



Locating on bottom step causes material to become a wedge trying to split the jaw. This can break the jaw!



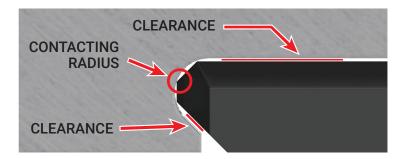
2. FINISHED PART UNSUPPORTED



A thin tab and/or insufficient material on the top locating surface will allow the part to move during machining.

3

3. OVERSIZED CORNER RADIUS



An overly wide inside corner radius allows material to contact the corner of the jaw, preventing it from locating correctly.

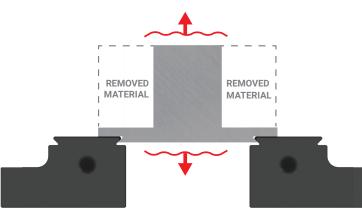
This will create excessive vibration during machining.



This issue is caused when dovetail cutter inserts/flutes are worn or broken.

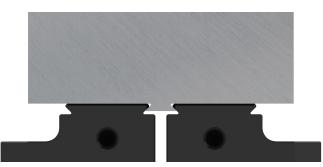
- WORN EDGE

4. EXCESSIVELY WIDE DOVETAIL



Even though this part has tabs thick enough to prevent breaking, the dovetail is not positioned correctly under the part. This may result in excessive vertical vibration.

5. EXCESSIVELY NARROW DOVETAIL



Excessively narrow dovetail will concentrate support at the center of the stock and potentially cause chatter.

Keep in mind how and where force is applied to stock during machining.





DOVETAIL TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE



The information in this document is applicable to **ALL** 5th Axis[™] products with a dovetail feature.