

### Holding logs steady with a glue gun

Following Luke Emmet's clever system for cutting awkward logs by pegging a flat board to the log with wooden dowels, in FoMRHIQ 146, Comm 2112 I was trying to think of a similar but totally non-destructive way of accurately cutting a valuable log of snakewood. I suddenly thought of one of those awful cheap electric hot glue guns that extrude thick sticky gunk.



Years ago I'd bought one for a fiver in Lidl and never used it in anger. I simply placed the log on a long piece of rigid insulation board and then extruded masses of glue into the lower corner along both sides of its length.



It held the very heavy 27.5Kg log steady in exactly the way Luke described and was firmly enough adhered to behave as one unit through the bandsaw. As it happened the insulation board was surprisingly stiff, it was some kind of high density Celotex style, and I've no idea where it appeared from in my garage. But if the log had been more irregular I would probably have needed a bit of ply or MDF as Luke had used. It took about four sticks of glue but these are very cheap and the result was no waste of the extremely valuable snakewood. Plus it was exceedingly easy to do, with no drilling or pegging.

The result was that I could cut a very straight line with no wind through its length, which made the next cuts much easier and less wastage all round.

