

Extend reach of jumbo jaw grippers

If you find that the standard half-inch-high rubber gripper pads on your jumbo jaws are too short to hold your work, here's a simple solution to make an adjustable set of grippers that reach out farther.

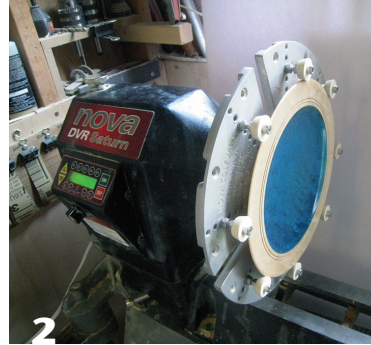
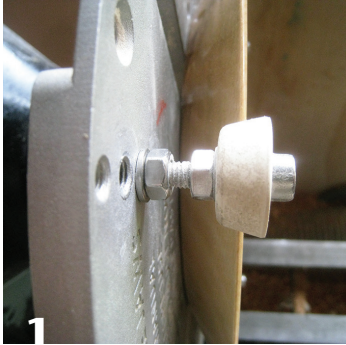
I purchased a set of socket head cap screws 1½" (38mm) long with threads

that match those in my Cole jaws. I also got two washers and two nuts to go with each cap screw. For the protective bumpers, I chose the tapered rubber feet commonly used on the bottom of wooden chair and stool legs. After drilling a hole in the rubber feet the same diameter as the cap screws, I

installed a foot on each cap screw, with the larger diameter of the foot against the screw head. Fit a washer and a nut to the cap screw and take them up for a snug fit against the foot to hold it in position. Now fit another nut and washer to the cap screw and install it in the jaws (*Photo 1*).

Wind the assembly in until the rubber foot is against the rim of the workpiece, then tighten the nut down against the jaw to secure it at that height. Once all the new screws have been installed and the chuck is tightened, the work should be both gripped and pulled against the jumbo jaw plates (*Photo 2*).

—Michael Hamilton-Clark, British Columbia, Canada



Note: Not visible is the platter's extended foot, which makes firm contact with the jumbo jaw plates when the chuck is tightened. Always ensure the workpiece makes firm contact against the jaw plates and are not just held by the bumpers alone.