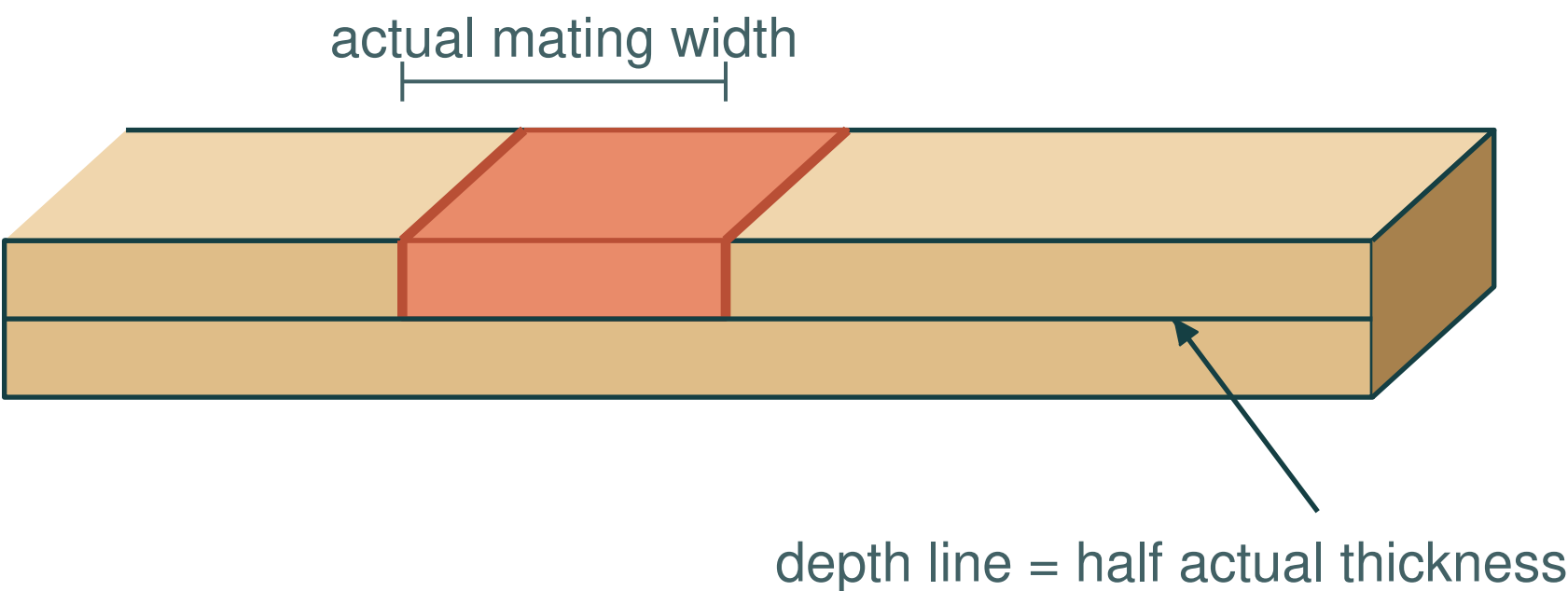


Cut one test joint before cutting all pieces

Use two offcuts from your actual timber. Check face labels every time you turn a board.

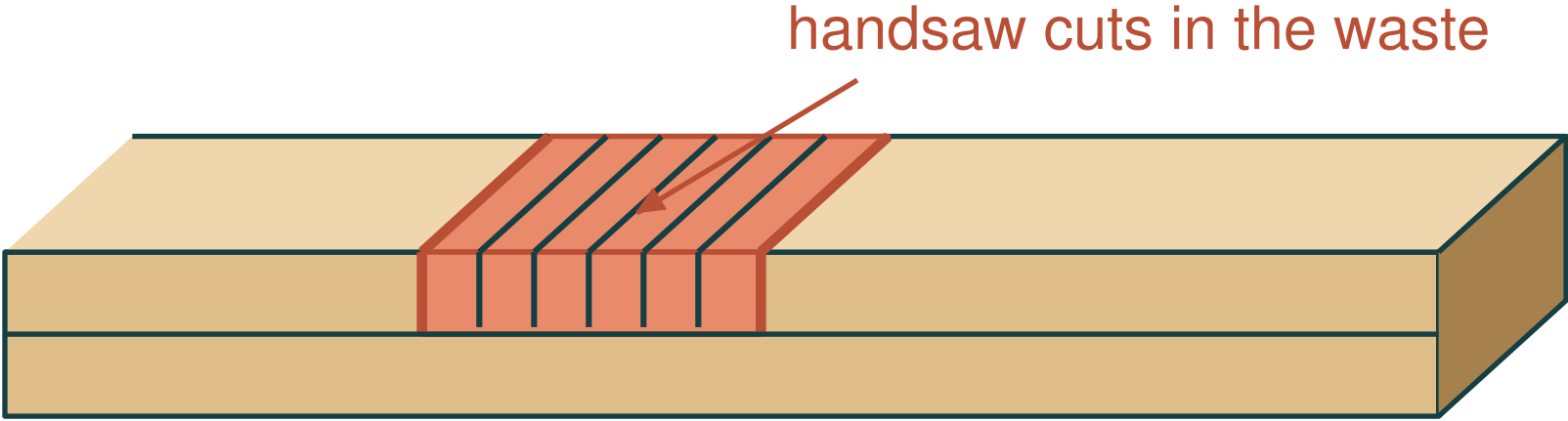
Clamp the board to a solid bench. Support the long length. Keep hands clear of the cutting path.

1 MARK THE SHOULDERS + HALF DEPTH



Square the blank to length; label OUTSIDE and INSIDE.
Use the mating board to mark the lap width. Knife the shoulders and mark half depth on both narrow edges.

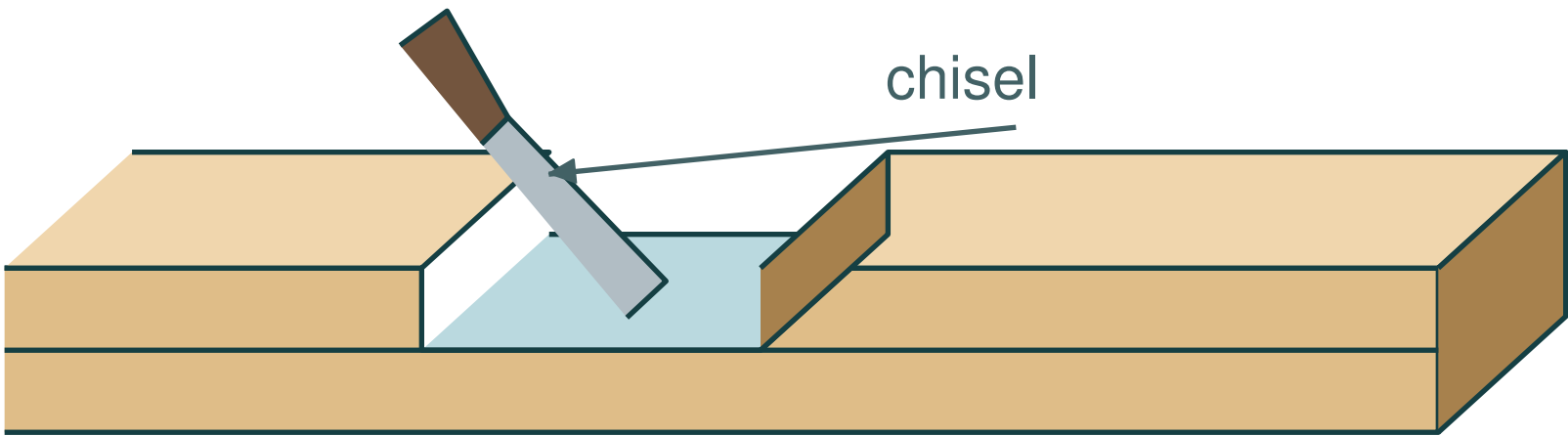
2 SAW THE SHOULDERS, THEN RELIEF CUTS



STOP short of the depth line; pare the last small amount.

Make a shallow starter on the waste side of the line.
Middle notch: two shoulders. End lap: one shoulder.
Add relief cuts; keep them above the depth line.

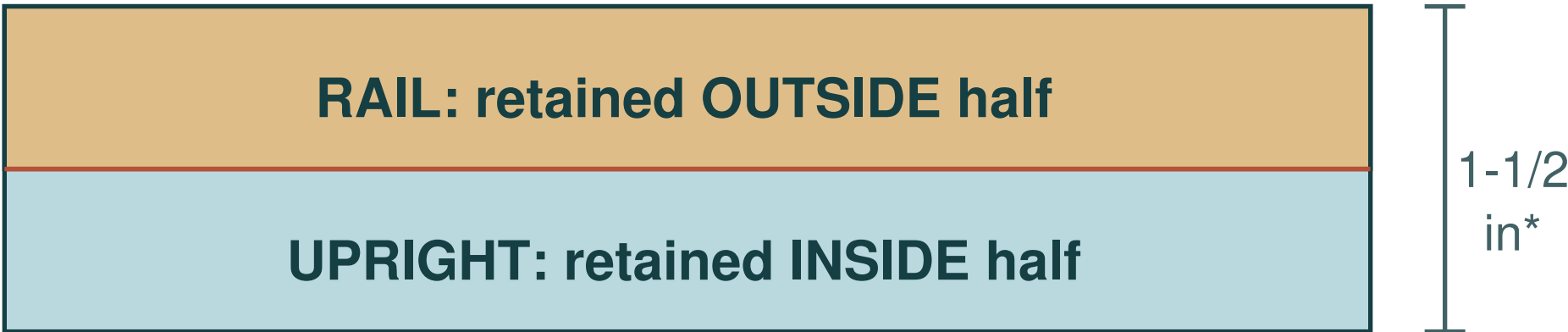
3 REMOVE WASTE; PARE THE FLOOR FLAT



Blue floor = the retained half. Finish exactly to the line.

Remove small chips between the relief cuts.
Work from each edge toward the middle; take thin cuts.
Keep both hands behind the sharp edge. Pare flat.

4 DRY-FIT THE OPPOSITE HALVES



Broad faces flush; shoulders touching; no rocking.
If tight, pare high spots; do not hammer the joint.
If loose or overcut, remake it; do not fill for fit.
Dry-fit the frame flat and check equal diagonals.

*For the nominal model. Match the real board thickness. Cutting diagrams do not specify structural joint fastening.

Method reference: Lee Valley Tools, “Mastering Handsaw Cuts” (Christopher Schwarz). Illustrations are original.

Cuts / marks: cm • Stock / equipment: imperial • Process diagrams are enlarged, not full-size templates