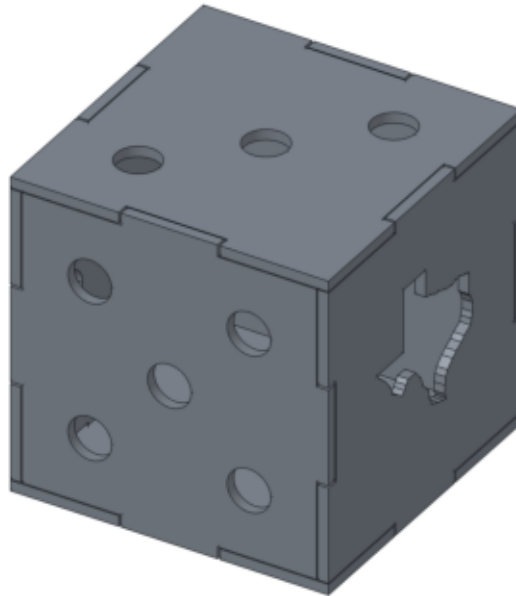


Texas Steel Die, 4 in

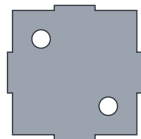


A 4-inch steel die you weld yourself. Six laser-cut 10 ga faces box-joint together on all twelve edges, the pips are cut clean through, and the one is a Texas outline. Opposite faces add up to 7, like a real die.

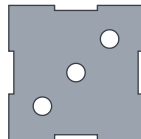
What's in the box



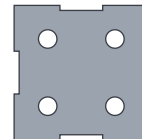
Die face 1 x1
Part DIE4T-01



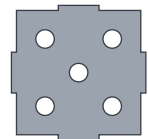
Die face 2 x1
Part DIE4T-02



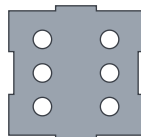
Die face 3 x1
Part DIE4T-03



Die face 4 x1
Part DIE4T-04



Die face 5 x1
Part DIE4T-05



Die face 6 x1
Part DIE4T-06

What you'll need

- MIG or flux-core welder (a 120 V machine is plenty for 10 ga)
- Angle grinder with a flap disc
- A small clamp or a heavy rubber band, and pliers for hot parts
- Welding helmet, gloves, long sleeves and safety glasses

Texas Steel Die, 4 in

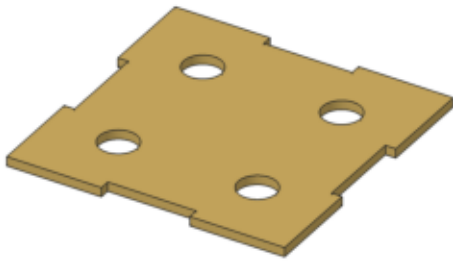
1

Lay face 4 flat

Lay face 4 (four pips) flat on the bench. It and face 3 are the two faces with the corner cubes, so they hold the box together.

TIP

Opposite faces add up to 7: 1 is across from 6, 2 from 5, and 3 from 4.



2

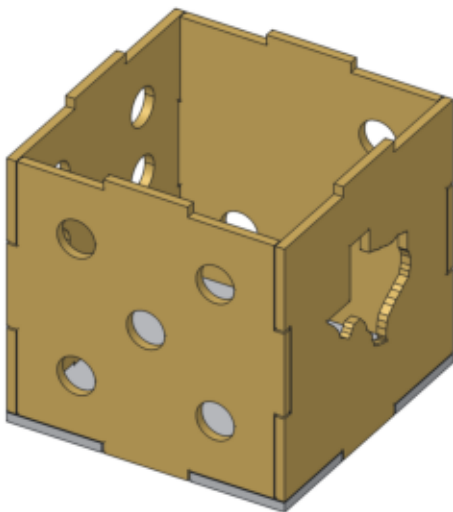
Stand up the four sides

Push faces 1, 2, 6 and 5 in around face 4, each one straight in square to its face, so the fingers mesh at every corner. Going around, 1 sits beside 2, then 6, then 5.

TIP

A rubber band or a small clamp around the four sides holds them while you add the top.

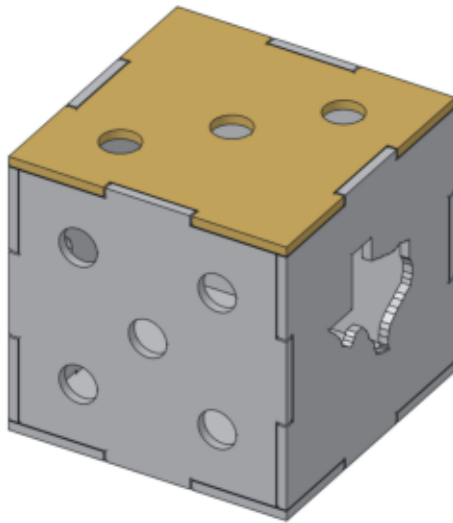
Turn the face with the Texas outline so it reads right from outside, Panhandle up and on the left, before you tack. The face fits either way round.



Texas Steel Die, 4 in

3

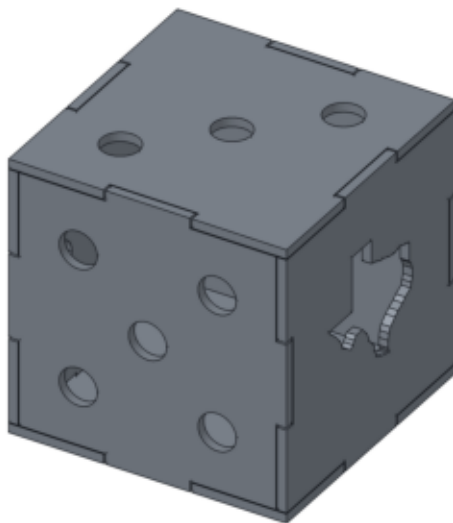
Cap it with face 3



Drop face 3 on top so its fingers mesh with all four sides. Check that 1, 2 and 3 run counterclockwise around their shared corner. Tack every corner.

4

Weld it out and finish it



Weld the twelve edges, moving around the die so it doesn't get too hot in one place. Grind the edges round with a flap disc so it looks cast, then sand the faces. Leave it raw, clear-coat it, or paint the pips.

TIP

A small steel cube holds heat for a long time. Handle it with pliers or let it cool.

Texas Steel Die, 4 in

Finishing

- The parts ship bare with a light oil film. Wipe them down with a degreaser before welding.
- Grind the edges round and sand the faces for a cast look.
- Clear-coat or wax it to keep it bright, paint the pips, or let it rust to a patina.

Safety

- Weld in a ventilated area cleared of anything that can burn.
- Wear a helmet, gloves and long sleeves; never look at the arc without protection.
- Welded parts stay hot for several minutes. Handle them with pliers or let them cool.
- The finished die is solid steel and weighs about 3 lb. It's decor, a paperweight or a doorstop, not a toy to throw.

This is a kit of raw steel parts. You build the finished product, and the quality of your welds and your judgment about where and how you use it are yours. Weld with proper ventilation and protective gear.