

## REBAR DOWELS

Last week we built a deck and had to attach several corbel style blocks to 4x6's and then attach 4x6 beams to the corbel blocks.

The main problem when doing this is keeping the corbels aligned with the post and keeping the beam from rocking and leaning when you get all of these parts together.

Here is an example of how we tied all of this together.

I am showing you this technique with some old 4x4 I had. The two black lines represent the 1/2" holes

I am going to drill a hole for the 1/2" rebar pieces you see laying on the 4x4. The 1/2" (#4) rebar is 9/16" o.d. on the ribs and rings it has molded onto it. When you drive this into a 1/2" hole it will hold twice as much as a 12" bridge spike. You can't hardly take a sledge hammer and knock this joint apart. And if you will look closely, I have angled the holes for the rebar at about 10°.



I drove the 1/2"x8" pieces of rebar in with a 4# sledge. You can hardly knock this apart with

a 12# sledge, and they will be no twist this #4 rebar. This 8" piece of rebar cost 20 cents. A 1/2"x8" lag is about \$1.

I mark the length I want on a stick and then use a sawsall and cut about half way through, then break them off. I have used some #5 and even some #6 for some big timbers. Clamp the joint tightly while drilling the holes.

<http://carpenterbooks.com>

Bob Johnston