

PERFECT CIRCLE

During a voluntary job at St Bartholomew's Church in Leeds, Apprentice Builder's Tibby Singh tested out the Ellipse Jig and Circle Cutting Jig from Trend.

I recently did some voluntary work at St Bartholomew's Church in Leeds, where I made a font cover/lid. Since being completed in 1872, the church has never had a cover for the Baptismal Font, so I wanted to make something a little bit out of the ordinary and special. In keeping with the font itself, I decided to create a circular shaped cover. However, I'm sure that we can all agree that anything involving circles and curves is never a straightforward job.

For this project I had a few planks of Oak wood to make it from. I was going to glue these together, cut the circle out and then finish it with an oak lath around the edge. As a result, it was critical that I had a perfect circle without any defects. The solution to the problem was quite obvious – Trend Routing Technology and their Ellipse Jig and Circle Cutting Jig.

Done to a 'T'

My initial reaction was a surprised one, on the minimal number of parts required for the jig. This proved beneficial as it was quick and easy to set up and get spinning. The T-slotted main base plate is engineered to perfection, allowing the sliders to glide effortlessly through the slots. Once the metal trammel bar is screwed onto the connector plate, the other side is held in position with the sliders. The connector plate on the end of the bar then fits directly onto the fence rods of Trend's router.

Fear not, Trend have made this user friendly jig a universal one that can be used with almost all brands of routers. They have gone as far as to create additional adaptor base plate accessories which may be required by some router brands. They've even listed the models that would require this accessory. This allows customers to use their existing power tools, as opposed

to having to go out and purchase new ones.

Its great value for money doesn't stop there, as it kills two birds with one stone. This is because this one jig has the ability to cut circles, as well as ellipse shapes. When cutting circles you only need to fix one slider in the centre of the main plate. There are two sliders that are needed to form ellipse shapes, one for the major axis and the other one for the minor axis. The size of the two axes on the ellipse is set by simply sliding the two sliders in the main plate at 90° to each other, and then adjusting the trammel bar that is fitted to the router.

The next decision you'd have to make is how you want to fix the base plate to the work surface. This can be done in a variety of ways without damaging it. This includes using 'G' clamps, cam clamps, double sided tape, spot gluing with a hot melt gun or simply using screws or panel pins, providing they can be filled.

The solid T-slotted main base plate only measures 32cm



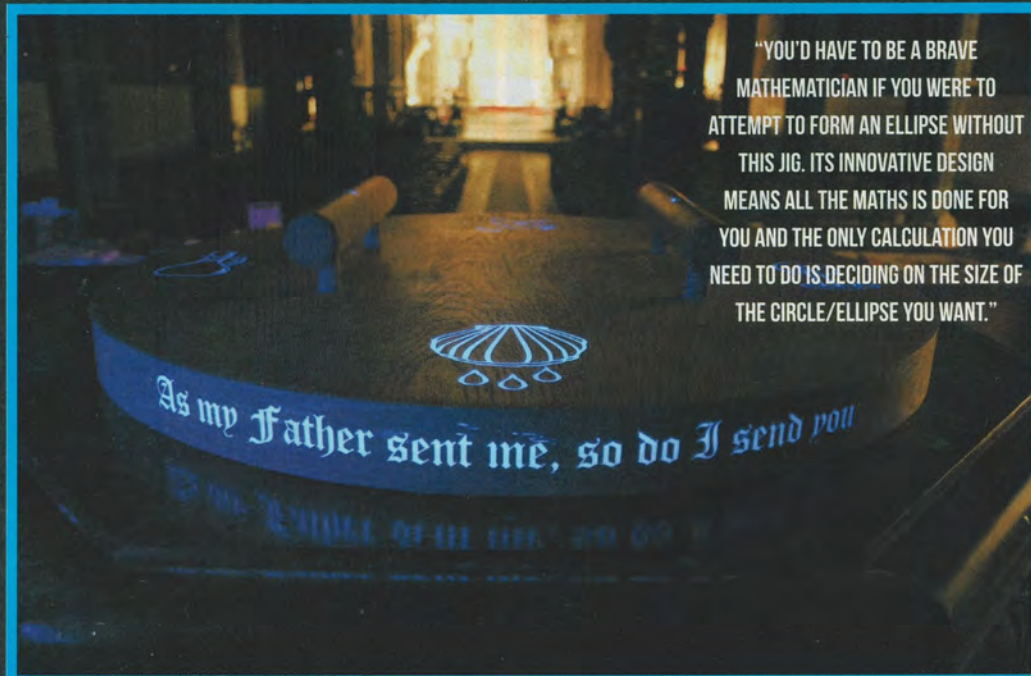
x 32cm, which is considerably small in relation to the sizes of the circles and ellipses that can be made. With the



standard bar you can make a circle with a diameter of 580mm or ellipses of various sizes ranging from 580mm x 700mm to larger 1800mm x 1650mm. These measurements can be significantly increased with the additional extension bars.

MORE DETAILS

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 For more information on Trend Tools visit www.trend-uk.com



"YOU'D HAVE TO BE A BRAVE MATHEMATICIAN IF YOU WERE TO ATTEMPT TO FORM AN ELLIPSE WITHOUT THIS JIG. ITS INNOVATIVE DESIGN MEANS ALL THE MATHS IS DONE FOR YOU AND THE ONLY CALCULATION YOU NEED TO DO IS DECIDING ON THE SIZE OF THE CIRCLE/ELLIPSE YOU WANT."

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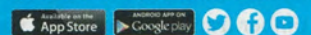
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