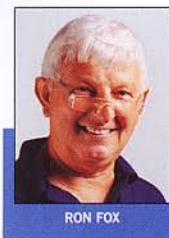


TEST

WORKTOP WONDER



Ron Fox gives his verdict on the Trend Combi 600 kitchen and bathroom worktop jig

New from Trend is a budget-priced kitchen and bathroom worktop jig, the Combi 600. Made from 10mm-thick phenolic board, the jig has a capacity of 225mm to 616mm wide, in material up to 45mm thick.

The jig works with a 30mm guidebush and a long, 1/2in-diameter cutter in a 1/2in router. Its budget origins are seen in its range of capabilities: straightforward right-angle mitred joints, left-hand, right-hand or peninsular. It doesn't do 45°, 22.5° or slightly off joints for out-of-kilter walls. Equally, the sockets for the panel bolts are cut individually since there is only one bolt recess template.

These limitations are unlikely to bother a large proportion of potential users, who require only the basic right- and left-hand 90° mitres. They might regard the ability to mitre worktops and shelves as narrow as 225mm more important than the ability to cope with a slightly out-of-square kitchen, or to sink a kitchen cabinet hinge.

As with most Trend equipment it comes with a good user manual. The simplicity of the jig makes setting up and using easier than with more complicated versions. I found it the easiest I have used and will be including it in an in-depth look at kitchen worktop mitring in a forthcoming issue.



1 The jig lying on a test joint with a 1/2in router, 30mm guidebush and long, 1/2in-diameter cutter



2 A completed female cut. The end location bush and clamp to position the jig for the cut are clearly visible

PHOTOGRAPHS BY THE AUTHOR

THE VERDICT

A stripped-down basic jig with a stripped-down price. This jig will do all that most users, apart from the professional kitchen fitter, require. In particular, it enables quite narrow worktops to be mitred. At a list price of £50 plus VAT, it provides an alternative to hiring, with the option of selling on after using it.

SPECIFICATIONS & CONTACTS

Jig thickness	10mm
Cutter diameter and cut length	12.7 x 50mm
Workpiece maximum thickness	45mm
Worktop width	225mm – 616mm
Guidebush diameter	30mm
RRP	£50 plus VAT
Website	www.trendmachinery.co.uk
e-mail:	enquiry@trendm.co.uk
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