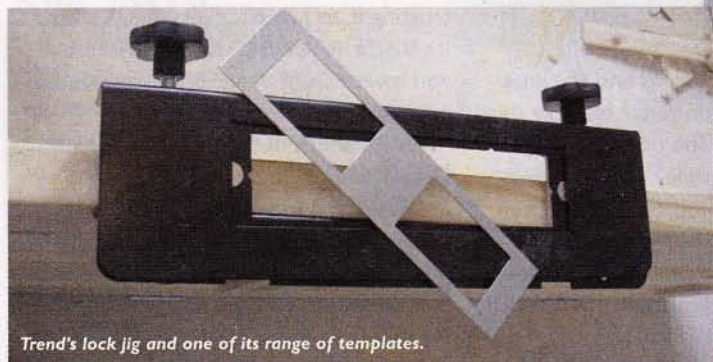
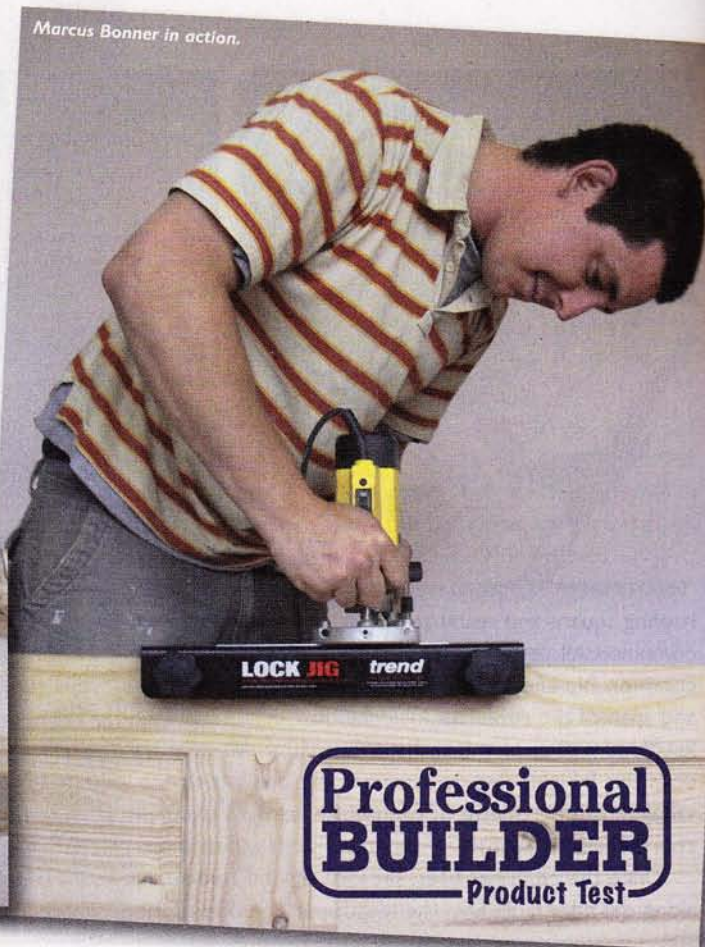


Getting jiggy with it

John Dyer goes on site to get the low-down on Trend's Lock Jig.



Trend's lock jig and one of its range of templates.



Marcus Bonner in action.

Marcus Bonner known to his friends as... Marcus Bonner started his carpentry career on leaving school and has ruthlessly pursued 'second fix perfection' (wasn't really man enough for the heavy stuff) ever since.

But don't let the lack of an intriguing nickname put you off; what this man doesn't know about swinging doors, mitres, and scribes isn't worth knowing. To see him operate a router, handle a chisel or wield a coping saw is to see man and tool in perfect Zen-like harmony. He is at his happiest handling wood (just ask his wife). The gaps around his doors have

MARCUS SAYS...

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reached such flawless uniformity that the royal mint checks their two-pence-pieces against them. Alright, that bit was made up but you get the picture, he is pretty damn good. Who better then to road test Trend's Lock Jig?

Trend setter

The more cynical amongst you may be asking yourselves: "If he's so good why hasn't he already got one?" The answer is, as so often is the case, habit. Marcus can tell what day of the week it is from the pants he's wearing. Most tradesman get a system in place and then stick to it, only reluctantly changing their ways as technology moves on. However, as he already has Trend's Hinge Jig in the back of his van we decided there could be no more excuses and if he wouldn't go to the jig, the jig would have to go to him.

Not an easy man to please, he was surprisingly impressed. "It's a very complicated process to try and speed up and do accurately," he said on first examining it. "They've obviously put some thought into it and what is actually required on site. The use of magnets for the mortise templates and the clamps make it quick to set up and move from

door to door. I've always made my own jig but that involves making it, screwing it on etc. It seems well engineered and is more accurate than anything I could make."

His only word of caution would be that to justify the outlay you would have to be house-bashing or regularly doing refurbishments where all the doors need to be changed.

So it's a thumbs up for the lock jig and it looks as though Marcus might change his rather set ways, at this rate he might decide to wear Friday's boxers on a Monday – what a crazy guy huh!

Using a set of interchangeable templates and a router, the jig will cut the mortise and face-plate recess for most door locks and common sash mortises and dead locks, with up to 3in. deep mortises and 7/8in. or 1in. face-plates. Deeper mortises can be achieved with a suitable size of auger bit. It can be used on doors 34mm to 58mm thick, including hardwood. It will require a plunge router with an 80mm plunge, fitted with a 30mm guide bush and 12mm diameter long-reach cutter.

MORE INFORMATION

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