

# ROUTABOUT

## NOW

Alan Goodsell takes a look around the Routabout from Trend

Imagine the scenario, you can hear water dripping under the floor but can't get to see the problem, let alone repair it. Usually the solution would involve calling in a tradesperson, or cutting an unsightly hole in the floor with a jigsaw, then having to make good a patch in the floor. This is where the Routabout system from Trend will possibly save the day.

The Routabout kit consists of a template, a special router cutter with a stepped profile, three insert rings to get you going and a 30mm guidebush.

To get started, you first screw the template to the floor in the centre of the position where you want the subsequent access hole to be. Screw the template tightly enough to sit it down to the floor, but loose enough so that it will still rotate freely. Then fit the stepped router bit in your router, along with a 30mm guidebush to the baseplate. If your router does not accept guidebushes you can get the Trend Unibase to convert your router so it does.

### STARTING CUT

Place the guidebush in position on the template and plunge the router to make a starting cut in the floor. Continue by rotating the router with the template, cutting a circle in the floor. Take a series of increased depths of cut until the cutter completely cuts through the floor. Set the depth of cut so it only cuts just deep enough through the floor to release the cutout, ensuring that any critical pipes or wires that may be lurking directly under the cut will not be damaged. Once the cutout is released it can be unscrewed from the template; note that both the hole cut in the floor and the edge of the cutout have a rebate routed in them. This is the ingenious part of the Routabout system, the cutout is flipped over and one of the supplied plastic rings is fitted in between the floor and the cutout piece. The ring locates in the rebates, completing the job and creating a flush finish on the floor. You now have a 250mm-diameter access hole to allow you to get to under-floor problems.



Simply rout a circle to create an access hole

### THE VERDICT

The Trend Routabout is extremely simple to use for both the homeowner to make repairs, or the builder to make access holes required for under-floor access. It is an inexpensive solution that creates a strong access point in the floor that will definitely prove useful sooner or later, so keep a Routabout kit in the tool bag.

### SPECIFICATIONS

Routabout for 18mm floors, with option of 1/8in, 8mm and 1/4in shank cutters: £39.50 plus VAT

Routabout for 20mm floors, with option of 1/8in, 8mm and 1/4in shank cutters: £42 plus VAT

Pack of 10 rings for 18mm floor: £27 plus VAT

Pack of 10 rings for 20mm floor: £27 plus VAT

Unibase: £13 Plus VAT

Replacement template: £16 plus VAT

### CONTACT DETAILS

Website: [www.trendmachinery.co.uk](http://www.trendmachinery.co.uk)

Tel: 0800 487363



More rings and other accessories are available



All the parts you need to make access holes in floors