

A router cutter with a replaceable tip can be a time-saver when you're making a lot of repeat cuts. This version from Trend is particularly useful for jig work

## Trend RT/11/PK1 replaceable-tip cutter

Being able to touch up and sharpen a TCT router cutter is handy, but when you're working to specific templates such as a worktop joint, taking a fraction off the diameter of a straight cutter can affect the fit of the joint. Trend's range of replaceable-tip cutters includes this particular one that's suitable for use with worktop or stair housing jigs using a 30mm guide bush.

### Design features

Although it has replaceable tips just 30mm deep, the shank has a tapered design to allow it to plunge and continue to cut beyond this depth. It will tackle a 40mm deep worktop with ease, and will cut to a maximum depth of 50mm. The tips have two cutting edges, so if you buy the version with three extra cutters (priced at £93.90) you get eight edges for less than £12 each. The carbide is designed for extended use in

both natural timber and abrasive stock such as chipboard or mdf.

### Using the cutter

Fitting and swapping tips is simple. A Torx wrench with a flag-style handle is supplied for loosening and tightening the two screws that hold the cutter to the shank.

When using this cutter, the feed rate needs to be considered as it only has one cutting edge. This does affect the cutting performance if you work at a similar feed rate to a two-tipped standard equivalent. There's a maximum speed marked on the shank of 28,000rpm.

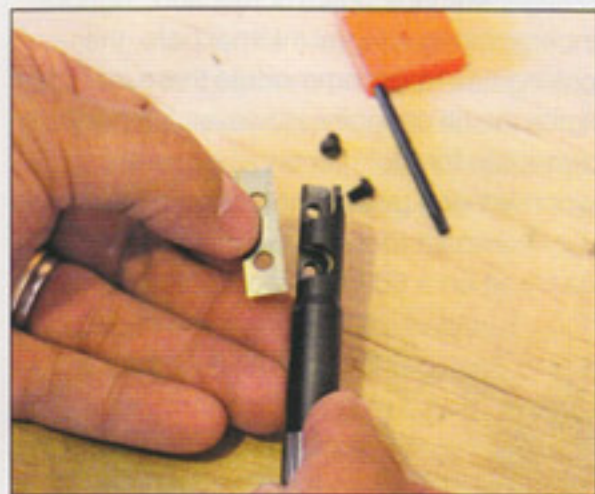
When testing the cutter by making a joint on a solid oak worktop, the end-grain cut certainly required more effort than with a standard two-tip cutter. The hardness and end-grain caused some chatter if the cutter was pushed through the work too quickly, or

£79.43  
(one cutter)



if too deep a cut per pass was attempted. A reduced feed speed combined with a couple more passes than usual ensured that the resulting joint was perfect.

Trying the same joint in a chipboard top was far easier, and the cutter progressed in much the same way as a standard type as there's less resistance than in a dense hardwood. **AK**



The twin-edged blade slides into a slot in the shank of the cutter...



...and is held securely in place by two small Torx-head screws



This oak top took a little longer than usual with a single cutting edge



Taking a few extra slower passes than usual gave excellent results

### SPECIFICATION

DIAMETER	12.7mm
SHANK	1/2in
LENGTH	100mm
MAX CUTTING DEPTH	50mm
ACCESSORIES	spare cutters

### VERDICT

If you constantly need a 1/2in cutter for jig work, this cutter comes up trumps, offering a sharp edge every time.

**PROS**

- Replaceable tips
- Easy fitting
- Self setting

**CONS**

- High initial cost
- Single cutter needs slower feed rate for good results

VALUE FOR MONEY

PERFORMANCE

### FURTHER INFORMATION

- Trend
- 01923 249911
- [www.trend-uk.com](http://www.trend-uk.com)