

**PRODUCT TESTING**  
WITH ROGER BISBY



**Roger Bisby gets his head around the Trend Door Hanging Quick Jig**

Door hanging – and I am thinking particularly of fire doors in offices, blocks of flats and hotel rooms – requires a degree of portability that other jobs don't. When you move from opening to opening you want to take your whole kit with you in one go. It is the kind of job where a well organised person can make money and a badly organised person won't last long.

If hanging doors is a regular part of your work then this Trend Door Hanging Quick Jig will make the job quicker and easier. You are assured of 100% accuracy which, in these days of pre-finished hardwood doors, is the only acceptable standard.

**DeWalt router**

You will need a ¼ inch plunge router to use this jig effectively and I favour the very versatile DeWalt router that can be used one handed. You will also need a long shanked 12mm cutter. The guide bush supplied with the jig must be fitted to the router. Trend makes a universal sub base to fit over your existing base, and it is drilled to fit the most popular makes of router, but I found it fitted straight onto the DeWalt base.

**Router depth**

The router depth is set by plunging down through the jig to touch the edge of the

door. Having set the depth at that height, place the hinge under the turret depth stop so you can plunge down to the exact depth of the hinge. If you like to recess the hinge slightly then use a shim on top of the hinge to set the extra 1mm. To avoid tear out always plunge cut rather than running in and out of the edge.

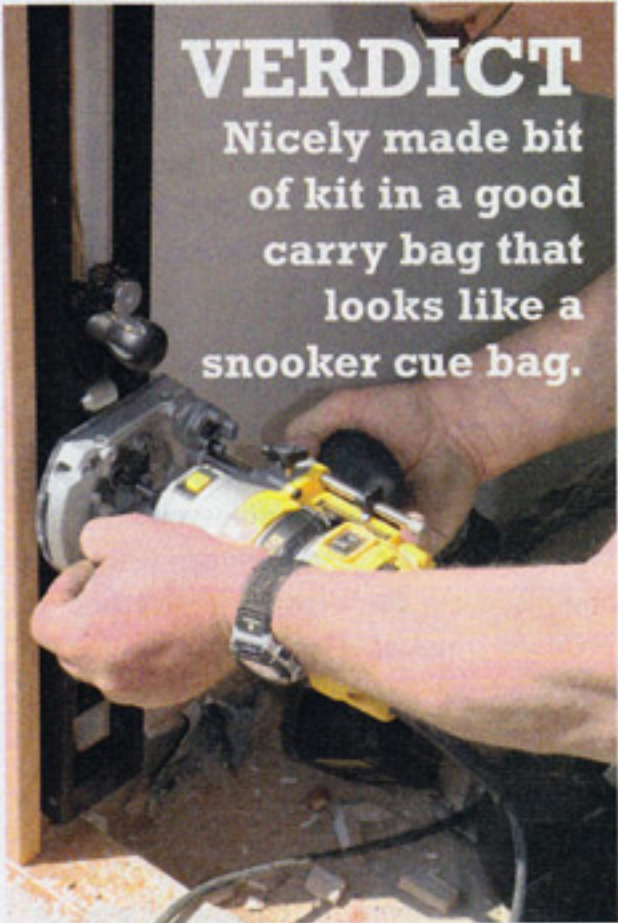
**Hinge length**

The hinge length is set by placing the hinge inside the jig and sliding the stops down to

the required position. The jig is marked up for standard hinge settings at the top and you simply measure the third fire door hinge from the top hinge. If you are fitting thick smoke seals on the linings you can pack the end stop to maintain the setting position.

Once you have routed out the door you simply transfer the jig to the frame without adjustment and repeat the process. In both cases the jig is held in place by a set of bradawls supplied. This rings alarm bells, especially in new hardwood doors, but the holes are on the closing side of the hinge, so you would have to be looking for them, but you will need a little bit of coloured stopping. Hopefully, anyone looking for defects will be so impressed by the accuracy of your hinge cutting that their eye will stray no further.

Having thought it was only worth getting this jig out for a run of doors I found it was easy enough to set up once you get your head around it. The instructions aren't great but there is a helpful video on the net and after a trial run on the old door it soon became second nature. If you are fitting a new door in an old frame or liner you can use the jig to transfer the hinge measurements from the frame to the new door.



**VERDICT**  
Nicely made bit of kit in a good carry bag that looks like a snooker cue bag.

**MORE INFORMATION**

For further information on Trend use the reader enquiry number 217