

IN A CLASS OF ITS OWN?

The Trend T2 Laminate Trimmer is, at first glance, a rather strange-looking machine. The drill-style trigger handle and the open throat C-shaped base put this trimmer in a class of its own.

DILIGENT DESIGN

Most laminate trimmers currently on the market resemble a bean can on a square base. Trend's design team must have been off sick the day that the rest of the industry came up with that arrangement.

This single-speed, 450W 'small router' does indeed make a super laminate trimmer, but in our world of pleasurable woodworking, the need to trim laminate alone would hardly justify the cost of a dedicated machine.

All kinds of routing operations are not only possible, but also effected in an easier manner with this little machine. The knob on the base makes the task of edge-profiling much more stable and the open throat not only allows for better vision but will also permit the trimming of overlaps and wooden plugs flush with the surface the base is running on.

SUPPLIED ACCESSORIES

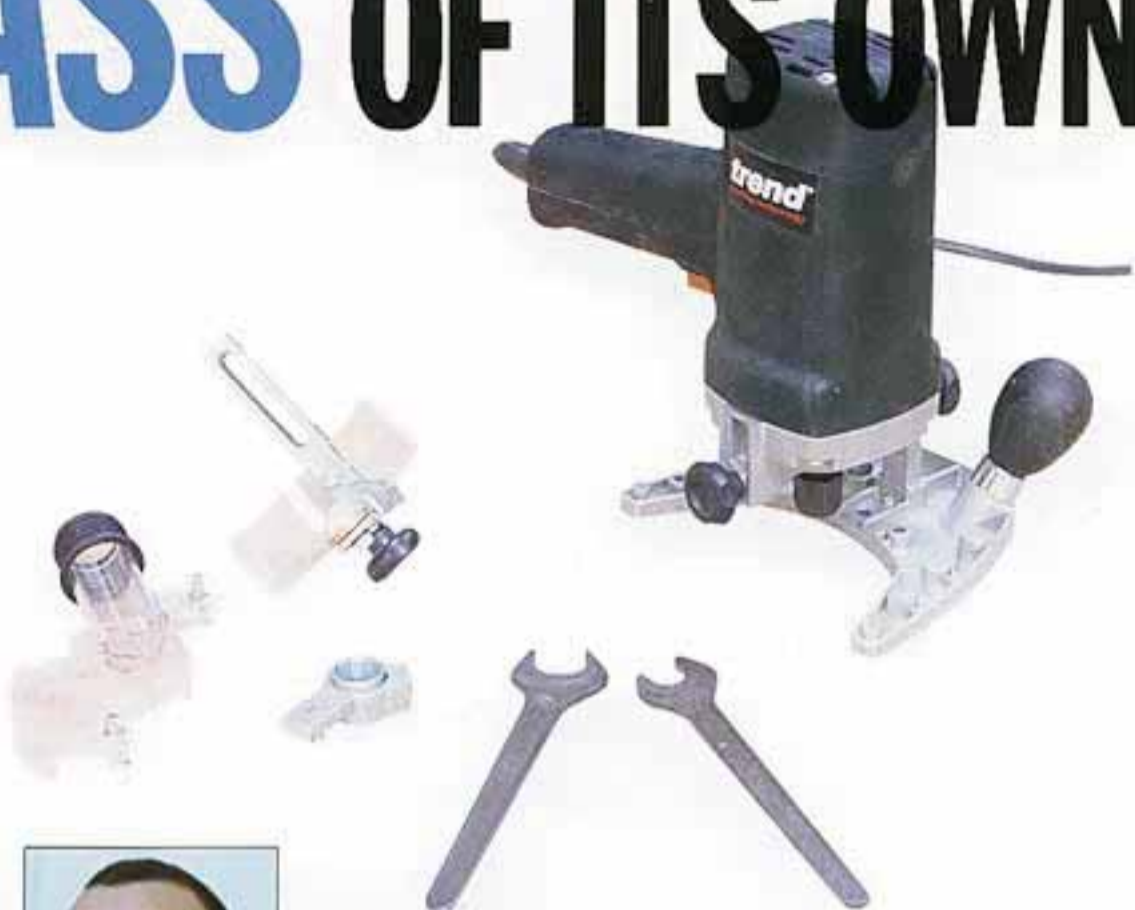
Supplied with the machine is a 20mm bearing-follower attachment. This can be used as a limiter for cutters that have no fitted bearing or if set back will allow an amount of rebating to be achieved.

An 18mm template guidebush is also supplied. Fitted with a 6mm straight cutter, this will give a 6mm offset making the mathematics nice and easy when designing jigs. The plunge depth of 40mm (1½in) is more than adequate for most small routing operations.

M6 threaded holes are provided for the fixing of jigs and accessories. These also conform to the Trend Base Configuration (TBC).

ON TEST

The T2 is a very nicely made precision power tool supplied in a plastic case with a profiled foam insert that holds the trimmer and all the accessories securely in place. Regular readers will have seen me using it from time to time to do all sorts of small routing jobs. There is not much I can find to fault it, although I didn't like the fact that the machine requires the use of two spanners for tightening and loosening the cutter collet.



RALPH LAUGHTON

Ralph Laughton assesses the value of the Trend T2 Laminate Trimmer



Two spanners are required to access the cutter collet

THE VERDICT

Apart from the two spanners needed for the cutter collet, there's little else I can fault in any way with the T2. Within its limitations this laminate trimmer will perform admirably. It will also make a good job of trimming plastic laminate too, always a bonus to the more imaginative woodworker.

CONTACT DETAILS

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