

ONTEST

Tools & accessories tested by our experts

RATING



PROS

- Excellent performance
- Solid build quality
- Good range of Trend accessories

CONS

- On the pricey side unless you can get discounted
- Charger is slow by today's standards
- Not recommended for use with flat bits over 20mm or with auger bits over 13mm

SPEC SHEET

Batteries (2)	2.0Ah Ni-MH
No-load speed	0-2300rpm
Impact rate	3000/min
Tool holder	1/4in
Weight complete	1.74kg

FURTHER INFO

Trend Machinery

0800 487363

www.trend-uk.com



The new limited edition T50 Snappy impact driver is an interesting development from Trend. Ben Plewes has tried it out

TREND T50 SNAPPY 12V impact driver

For those unfamiliar with Trend's Snappy range, it has until now consisted of quick-release accessories for both corded and cordless drills from other manufacturers. The T50 is a significant development from the company.

The T50 comes in an orange moulded plastic carrying box with a one-hour charger and two 2.0Ah Ni-MH batteries. It has forward and reverse gears and variable speed. Three screwdriving bits are included and there's plenty of storage space for additional accessories.

Build quality is impressive, as are the ergonomics. Trend has obviously spent a good deal of time and effort developing this machine. The orange plastic housing looks like GRP. The black rubberized area of the housing and the front of the trigger add to an already comfortable design. The front end, near the Snappy quick-release chuck, has a silver metal housing. The gearing inside the machine is also metal for prolonged life.

The T50 has a reassuringly weighty feel. Most of the weight is low down and, as a result, the machine has a pleasing centre of gravity. I tested the T50 with a piece of 50mm English oak and a 70mm Pozidriv screw. It drove the screw straight through with no pilot hole and without any complaint. In fact, the T50 simply kept on driving and showed no sign of giving up. When the screw was flush with the timber surface, the oak actually started to split. This was an impressive performance then, from a machine with seemingly good all-round specification.

For a video demonstration of the T50 in use, visit www.getwoodworking.com



WW VERDICT

I was surprised to learn that Trend have rated the T50 for 'light trade' use. With manufacturers like Bosch and Makita producing industrially-rated machines at similar prices, why would you buy Trend's model? Perhaps because of the Snappy quick-release system, or perhaps because street prices can be a lot lower than RRP's. A quick Google on the T50 reveals a price as low as £116.33 from www.alltools.co.uk, and at that price you'd be crazy not to!