

Ollie Clark takes a good look at some of the tools, gadgets and gizmos that are available to woodworkers everywhere

# Tools on trial

## Pro-Turbogold case system



### CONTACT DETAILS

If you would like to get in touch with Ollie to discuss the products reviewed, or to suggest items (with a value of approx. £60 or less) or suppliers, please write to: Ollie Clark c/o New Woodworking GMC Publications, 86 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1XN or alternatively e-mail [stuartl@thegmcgroup.com](mailto:stuartl@thegmcgroup.com)

## Router compass

### FINDINGS

Throughout my woodworking career I have spent many hours routing circles and arcs, mostly for table tops and reception desks. As a result I have also spent many hours making jigs for this one pursuit. Satisfying as jig-making can be, if I had known this tool was commercially available before now I would have bought one, with a view to adapting it in the following ways.

- 1) New drill holes to fit my router.
- 2) A new pivot pin, at least 4 x 12mm. (This is easier said than done but I didn't trust the 4 x 7mm pin supplied, as in my view this was way too short.)
- 3) Make a plywood extension enabling me to cut bigger curves.

### THE VERDICT

This is a reasonably priced, well-made jig. The calibration printed on the Perspex body is fine although it will never replace trial and error on a scrap test piece. The 610mm radius limitation is clearly designed to get a circle out of a standard 4ft board-type material.

My only complaint is the tiny pivot pin, which despite being well-made and easy to adjust is way too short for my liking. There is one vital rule in cutting circles with a router – there must be absolutely



no lateral movement at the pivot point whatsoever.

### TOP TIP

Trend also supply a second pivot point. This one has just one point and requires you to hold the pivot point and the router at the same time. I don't recommend this unless you are particularly keen on the freehand, random sculpted look that will inevitably follow.

- MANUFACTURER Trend
- COUNTRY OF ORIGIN Unknown
- SUPPLIER Trend
- STOCK CODE R/COMPASS/A
- PRICE (RRP) £29.95 (inc VAT)
- CONTACT NUMBER Trend 0800 487363
- WEBSITE [www.trendmachinery.co.uk](http://www.trendmachinery.co.uk)

## Anglefix

### FINDINGS

When mitring picture frames, skirting, architraves and other internal or external mitre joints, the anglefix mitre guide automatically divides the angle in half with its clever metal guide on top.

By setting your chopsaw or radial arm saw to the angle defined by this metal guide, you will get a perfect mitre of the chosen angle. You can, of course, use a handsaw by transferring the

angle with a bevel gauge.

### THE VERDICT

This is a very clever device, which significantly reduces the time it takes to work out and set the saw for a mitre. It is best-suited for a site chippy using a chopsaw, where the repeated process requires only a reasonable level of accuracy. If you fall into that category, then at £15 this really is a 'must have' tool. Get ordering now!



### TOP TIP

The old-fashioned way is to use a bevel angle, a protractor to read the angle, halve the angle, reset the bevel and then repeat the process.

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- COUNTRY OF ORIGIN Unknown
- SUPPLIER Trend
- STOCK CODE Anglefix
- PRICE (RRP) £14.95 (inc VAT)
- CONTACT NUMBER Trend 0800 487363
- WEBSITE [www.trendmachinery.co.uk/anglefix](http://www.trendmachinery.co.uk/anglefix)