

Trend cutters

Trend have been the leading force behind routing technology for many decades and offer a tremendous range of cutters, their own brand of routers and router table, a wide range of jigs, and enough accessories to keep the most dedicated enthusiast happy. Amongst the cutters recently introduced are template profilers, mini trimmers, guided V-groove panel cutters, and an extra long rebater.

V-groove cutters

Two guided V-groove panel cutters are available, one with a 60° point and a 1/4" shank, the other with a 1/2" shank and a 45° tip. Both sizes have bearings which correspond to the diameters of the cutting edges, i.e. 12.7mm and 19.1mm respectively, and both are TCT with two



Because of the bearings, their main purpose is to form veins and grooves by being guided along the shaped edge of a template, or indeed along the edge of a straight batten. If the router is fitted with the Trend Plungebar, then veins of varying depths are possible. With care and practice, the router with one of the cutters in the chuck can also be used freehand for decorative cuts.

Mini trimmers

Again two are offered, both with shank and cutter diameters of 6.35mm. The

twin TCT cutting edges have alternative cutting lengths of 12.7mm and 25.4mm, and are fitted with bearings. Their prize purpose is for profile cutting in conjunction with a template, and lend themselves to use with the router mounted in a table although this will depend on the size and nature of the shape being formed. Internal cut-outs, require a hole being made in the waste through which the cutter can be passed.

Template profilers

Both these new cutters have 1/2" shanks, and bearing guides which correspond to the diameters of 3-4". One has a cutter length of 3/4", the other 2". They're designed to follow a template secured to the workpiece, with this having been sawn 2 or 3mm oversize. The cutters then trim off the waste leaving the material the exact shape of the template.

They can also be used for trimming off excess facing such as ply or laminate when added to a frame or base. Here, though, the workpiece must be secured to the bench with the facing on the underside to enable the bearing to follow the edge of the base.

Extra long rebater

This has a diameter of 35mm, a cutter length of 12.7mm, with the extra long 1/2" diameter shank (60mm). The cutter is supplied as standard with four

bearings and an Allen key to allow rebates of different depths to be formed. The depths possible are 7.9, 9.5, 11.1, and 12.7mm, and are determined by the bearing fitted; the extent of the rebate can of course be varied. In addition, by adjusting the projection of the cutter from the base of the router and making more than one pass, it's possible to form rebates larger in extent than 12.7mm. The rebater features chip limiters to the two cutting edges.

It's also possible to use this rebater for some grooving. However, while the depth of the groove can be controlled according to which bearing is fitted in just the same way as for rebating, the minimum width of the groove is dictated by the extent of the cutting edges of 12.7mm. Adjusting the settings and making repeat passes allow for making wider grooves.



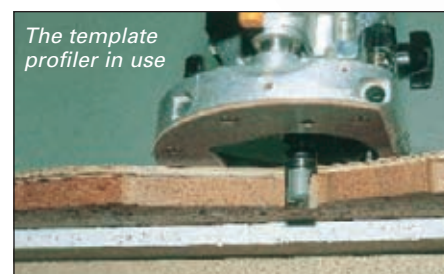
Tested by Gordon Warr

VERDICT

Precision engineering makes these cutters extremely accurate with the bearings fitting like the proverbial glove. Applications beyond the obvious will be found by the router enthusiast.

Prices (+ VAT): Guided V-groove cutters: £22.95 (1/4" 60°), £27.95 (1/2" 45°); Mini trimmers: £10.50 (12.7mm); £11.00 (25.4mm); Template profilers: £17.95 (3/4"), £29.95 (2"); Extra long rebater: £49.95

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The template profiler in use



The extra long rebater can be used for grooving