

Trend Trade Range



Andy Standing tests the latest Trend packages for on-site routing

The new Trade range of router cutters from Trend aims to provide a selection of high quality cutters, suitable for everyday jobs, at a realistic price. All the cutters in the range are tipped with tungsten carbide, so may be used on all timbers and man-made boards. They are also coated in black Teflon to improve performance and avoid resin build up. Each cutter is supplied in a sturdy reusable plastic tube, and the larger ones in foam lined plastic boxes, which makes them easy to store and transport safely. The bearing-guided cutters are usually supplied with a choice of bearings and an Allen key. Separate bearing sets are also available. The shanks are extra long at 40mm and are also etched with the cutter dimensions for easy identification.

Biscuit jointing and rebating

These two sets are available on both 1/4in and 1/2in shanks. The cutters are brazed onto the shanks and the bearings are interchangeable so the rebater will cut a choice of rebates from 7.9mm to 12.7mm, and the biscuit jointer can be used with all standard biscuit sizes. List prices are £32.76 for the rebate set and £38.03 for the biscuit jointer.

Two flute straight cutters

These are general purpose cutters, suitable for everything from cutting

grooves and inlaying, to machining mortises and tenons. They are available in sizes from 3.2mm up to 19.1mm with prices starting at £14.63

Trimmers and profilers

These are used for trimming lippings and laminate edges. They are also useful for shaping and template work. Available in a range of sizes to match the tightest pattern. Prices start at £14.04

Bearing-guided

For rapid edge moulding, bearing-guided cutters are the best choice. Here are a pair of popular choices. The round over/ovolo cutter is supplied with a pair of bearings, one to produce each profile. The chamfer cutter needs only one. These cutters are only available with 1/4 in shanks. Prices £32.18 for the round over/ovolo and £25.74 for the chamfer cutter.

Cove and Vee groove

Here are two cutters with a multitude of uses. Decorative flutes and chamfers may be produced, and because there are no guide bearings, they may be used in the centre of boards as well. Because of their small size these two cutters are also only available with 1/4 inch shanks. Prices are £17.55 for the cove cutter and £15.80 for the Vee groover.

ON TEST



Biscuit jointer and rebater



Two-flute cutter sets



Bearing guide ovolo/round over chamfer

The Verdict...

This is a comprehensive range of cutters that are ideal for general work. The Teflon coating and carbide tips give them good performance, and the extra long shanks make them particularly suitable for jig and template work. They are also suited for use in table-mounted routers, where the extra length is a real asset.