

WOODWORK | TURNING | TOOL TESTS | FEATURES

April 2022

The Woodworker

& Goodwoodworking

THE ORIGINAL & BEST SINCE 1901

LIVELY FINE
FURNITURE



Artistic, one-of-a-kind pieces that showcase the most intricate details



WIN

1 OF 2 **TREND** T81S 18V
184MM CORDLESS MITRE SAW
KITS – **WORTH £558 EACH!**

trend
tool technology



PLUS...

- BRIAN'S BARBER'S SPALTED BEECH CABINET
- LES THORNE SOLVES YOUR SPINDLE TURNING PROBLEMS
- JEREMY BROWN ON ROUTING: SMALL, BEAUTIFUL & CORDLESS

www.thewoodworkermag.com



£4.99

touchpoint®



Door Furniture • Cabinet Furniture & Hardware • Locks, Latches & Security • Shelving & Storage • Window & Joinery Hardware

Affordable door & cabinet furniture

Exclusive to **IronmongeryDirect**

Ideal for tradespeople working on low-budget projects, **Touchpoint** products come in a variety of finishes from polished chrome, to satin chrome and brass. Plus, all products are backed up by a 5-year guarantee. Simplistic in style, **Touchpoint** offers a wide range of products, from locks and latches to door and cabinet hardware and everything in-between, and with over 900 products to choose from, you will find exactly what you need.

Browse the entire collection

IronmongeryDirect.co.uk/brands/touchpoint



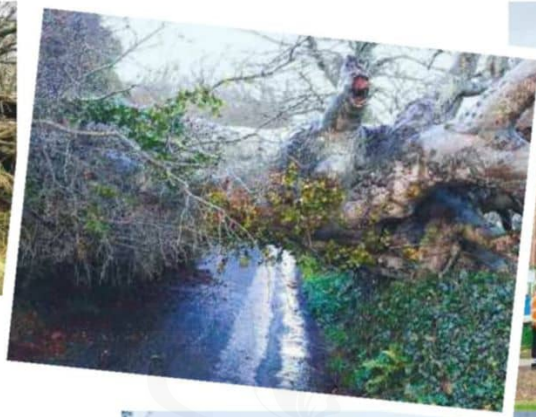
Call or go online

0300 303 88 21

IronmongeryDirect.co.uk



 **Ironmongery
Direct**
Trusted to deliver



Welcome

It seems that 2022 is shaping up to be an eventful year, and not necessarily for the right reasons. So far, the UK has been hit by no less than three storms – Dudley, Eunice and Franklin – in quick succession, but what's the reason for this? Well, according to the Met Office, it's an incredibly rare occurrence and attributed to a very active jet stream, which is causing these storms to track towards the UK. This core of strong winds, around 5–7 miles above the earth's surface, blowing from west to east, causes changes in the wind and pressure at that level, which in turn affects things nearer the surface of the earth – i.e. areas of high and low pressure. Sometimes the jet stream's movements can be very straight and smooth, but they can also buckle and loop, like a river's meander.

The loss of veteran trees

Sadly, a number of people lost their lives as a result of Storm Eunice, including a young woman in London who was crushed by a falling tree. Houses were also decimated, flooding ravaged many areas, people were left stranded and homeless, and many trees were toppled and uprooted by the gale force winds. In London's Royal Parks, 150 trees were lost including three veteran oaks in Richmond Park. In contrast to the 4,500 or so claimed by the Great Storm of 1987, this may seem a small amount but is nevertheless significant and undoubtedly a great shame.

'The Triangle Tree'

A particular incident close to my heart was the demise of 'The Triangle Tree' in Bude, Cornwall, which local residents described as marking the "end of an era." In an incredible piece of video footage, someone happened to be driving past at the exact moment the tree fell, capturing its roots being ripped from the ground as it blew over. As a result of this incident, individuals were reportedly turning up to the site with chainsaws in an effort to cut branches off the fallen tree to keep as souvenirs. While obviously dangerous and clearly



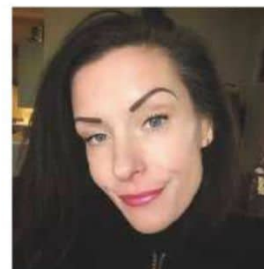
best left to the experts, mayor of Bude, Amanda Tame, was quick to put measures in place to protect the site, describing the behaviour of such persons as "selfish."

Once the site of the fallen tree had been cleared by professional arborists, I do wonder what happened to the timber and whether any pieces managed to find their way into the hands of local woodworkers and woodturners. It'd be nice to think that some commemorative pieces could be made from it. This is certainly a popular practice with more historical timber such as that salvaged from the headstocks of the Bells of St Paul's. As featured last year, Shane Skelton used the piece gifted to him to create the one-of-a-kind St Paul's Cathedral saw, with various professional turners also producing bell ornaments to be sold in the Cathedral gift shop. In the last issue, in fact, we also profiled David Burton, who used pieces of oak and copper from HMS *Victory* to create a number of bespoke pieces.

As I write this, Storm Franklin is due to hit, having already caused flooding and heavy snow showers in many areas. High winds are expected, which will no doubt lead to further disruption and damage. Battening down the hatches and staying inside is the best course of action, and hopefully calmer times are just around the corner.

Tegan

Email tegan.foley@mytimemedia.com



Tegan Foley

Group Editor



Rhona Bolger

Group Advertising Manager



Phil Davy

Technical & Consultant Editor

We endeavour to ensure all techniques shown in this issue are safe, but take no responsibility for readers' actions. Take care when woodworking and always use guards, goggles, masks, hold-down devices and ear protection, and above all, plenty of common sense. Do remember to enjoy yourself, though

76 LET THE TIMBER DECIDE

Seeking a home for his CD collection, Brian Barber allows some beautiful spalted beech to dictate the design of an elegant cabinet

AXMINSTER TOOLS
We share your passion

SEND IN YOUR TOP WORKSHOP HINT/TIP/POINTER OR PIECE OF ADVICE & YOU COULD BE IN WITH A CHANCE OF WINNING AN **AXMINSTER RIDER NO.5 1/2 IN JACK PLANE** – see page 65 for details

RIDER
HANDCRAFTED TOOLS



WIN!

1 of 2 Trend T81S 18V 184mm cordless mitre saw kits – worth £558 each!

We've teamed up with **Trend** once more to give two lucky readers the chance to win an **18V cordless mitre saw kit** (with 2 x 5Ah batteries & Fast Charger) from their new T81S range – see page 24 for full details – good luck!

trend
tool technology



WIN!

1 of 5 Geocel Joiners Mate bundles –

including Mitre Bond, Wood Adhesive & Liquid Adhesive – see page 51 for details

Geocel



PROJECTS & TURNING



52 Raise the red lantern

Peter Benson creates an Arts and Crafts-inspired square table lamp

56 A classic design reimaged

Glenn Perry makes use of a repurposed elm plank and comes up with a unique design for a three-legged stool's central stretchers, which are cleverly joined by a central sphere

60 Knife work

Dominic Collings hopes to improve his dovetailing skills, but first he needs a marking knife fit for the job

68 Branching out

Think twice before feeding the woodburner with offcuts, says Mark Griffiths – instead, you could spend half a day or so making one of his stools

83 Spindle turning problems sorted

Les Thorne looks at six common spindle turning problems and offers some helpful solutions

ON TEST

14 Trend T18S/MS184 cordless mitre saw

18 Sakazume sanding blocks & Rider awls

20 Robert Sorby Stebcentres range

TECHNICAL

26 Cutting doors to length professionally – a nine-step guide by Festool

When cutting doors to length, it's precision rather than guesswork that's needed. Here, Festool's training consultant Nadja Körbel shows how best to achieve this in nine steps

40 Routing – small, beautiful & cordless

Some of the greatest gifts do come in small packages, as Jeremy Broun finds when looking at various routers



48 Woodworker's encyclopaedia – part 38

In this section of the directory, Peter Bishop takes us through the Ts and lots of bits and bobs, ending up with the only renewable resource we know

71 Safe as houses

Joint master Andy Standing introduces us to the dovetail housing joint, which is ideal for use when constructing shelving units or cabinets. You also only need a few pieces of kit in order to make it

REGULARS

3 Welcome

8 News

9 Timber directory

30 D&M editorial

32 Archive

64 Letters & readers' tips

92 Next month

97 Marketplace

FEATURES

32 The box that keeps on growing

Looking to bring the garden closer, Robin Gates turns to *The Woodworker* of April 1956 for a window box

ON THE COVER 34 A breath of fresh heirloom

Les Lively's work is a fusion of different styles, which emphasise elegant lines and intricate details such as inlay, double dovetail corners and mortise & tenon joints

46 The Alan Peters Furniture Award 2022

For the second year running, this is your opportunity to be part of a prestigious annual award, which champions UK furniture design and making talent while celebrating the life and work of the late Alan Peters OBE



88 The games people play

Despite games today becoming increasingly electronic, there's still a strong case for the old favourites, many of which are played using handmade boards and pieces, as Paul Greer shows here

98 Take 5

From classic Italian design to pieces that open up new horizons for contemporary cabinetmaking, this month's selection celebrates a variety of techniques, processes and materials

FOLLOW US!



www.facebook.com/thewoodworkermag



www.instagram.com/woodworker_mag



www.twitter.com/VWandGWMag

www.thewoodworkermag.com

Published by MyTimeMedia Ltd,
Suite 6G, Eden House, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge,
Kent, TN8 6HF
UK and Overseas Tel: +44 (0) 203 855 6105

SUBSCRIPTIONS

UK – New, Renewals & Enquiries
Tel: 0344 243 9023
Email: mytimemedia@subscription.co.uk
USA & Canada – New, Renewals & Enquiries
Tel: (001) 866 647 9191
Rest of World – New, Renewals & Enquiries
Tel: +44 (0) 1604 828 748
Email: help@tww.secureorder.co.uk

BACK ISSUES & BINDERS

Contact: 01795 662 976
Website: www.mags-uk.com

EDITORIAL

Group Editor: Tegan Foley
Technical & Consultant Editor: Phil Davy

CONTRIBUTORS

Phil Davy, Bob Chapman, Nadja Körbel, Robin Gates,
Jeremy Broun, Peter Bishop, Peter Benson, Glenn Perry,
Dominic Collings, Mark Griffiths, Andy Standing, Brian Barber,
Les Thorne, Paul Greer

PRODUCTION

Designer: Nik Harber
Retouching Manager: Brian Vickers

ADVERTISING

Group Advertising Manager: Rhona Bolger
Email: rhona.bolger@mytimemedia.com
Tel: 0204 522 8221

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions Manager: Beth Ashby

MANAGEMENT

Group Advertising Manager: Rhona Bolger
Email: rhona.bolger@mytimemedia.com
Chief Executive: Owen Davies

mytime media
print & digital media publishers



Paper supplied from wood grown in forests managed in a sustainable way

© MyTimeMedia Ltd. 2022 All rights reserved ISSN 2632-3370

The Publisher's written consent must be obtained before any part of this publication may be reproduced in any form whatsoever, including photocopies, and information retrieval systems. All reasonable care is taken in the preparation of the magazine contents, but the publishers cannot be held legally responsible for errors in the contents of this magazine or for any loss however arising from such errors, including loss resulting from negligence of our staff. Reliance placed upon the contents of this magazine is at reader's own risk. *The Woodworker & Good Woodworking* ISSN 2632-3370, is published 13 times a year by MYTIMEMEDIA Ltd, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF, UK. The US annual subscription price is £2GBP (equivalent to approximately \$8USD). Airfreight and mailing in the USA by agent named Worldnet Shipping Inc., 156-15, 146th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Jamaica, NY 11434, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Jamaica NY 11431. US Postmaster: Send address changes to *The Woodworker*, Worldnet Shipping Inc., 156-15, 146th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Jamaica, NY 11434, USA. Subscription records are maintained at dsb.net 3 Queensbridge, The Lakes, Northampton, NN4 7BF



THE TOOLS SUPERSTORE
HAND, POWER TOOLS & MACHINERY SPECIALIST
DM-TOOLS.CO.UK



Quality Tools, Trusted Service & Expert Advice

D&M Tools has been family owned and managed since 1978. During that time we have earned a reputation with our customers as a trusted partner. Whether you are a trade professional or a DIY enthusiast, our mission is a simple one - to supply top quality tools at the best value for money, backed up by a service you can trust.

LOW TRADE PRICES!

Whether you're buying online, by phone, email, post or visiting us in-store, D&M provides you with the widest range of quality hand, power tools and woodworking machinery all at the keenest prices.

OVER 10,000 LINES IN STOCK!

We hold massive stocks, meaning that most items are available for despatch the day you order it. Our website shows up to date stock availability, so you can order with confidence.

SHOP ON-LINE 24HRS A DAY

Visit our easy-to-use website to see what we mean about range and value. Browse and buy with confidence 24hrs a day from the biggest brands in the business, all at prices you'll find hard to beat, you will also find all our **latest offers and deals**.

Subscribe to our regular emails to keep up with our latest deals and offers or join our **D&M Loyalty Scheme** and earn valuable loyalty points every time you shop on-line.

More details on our website

DM-TOOLS.CO.UK

Scan this QR code



73-81 HEATH ROAD • TWICKENHAM • TW1 4AW
020 8892 3813 • SALES@DM-TOOLS.CO.UK

FREE DELIVERY

Delivery to UK mainland addresses is **FREE** for most orders over £99, and for orders under £99 is only £5.95. See the carriage rates on our website for full details.



020 8892 3813
MON-SAT 8.30am-5.30pm
(CLOSED BANK HOLIDAYS)



**VISIT OUR
EXTENSIVE
TWICKENHAM
SUPERSTORE**



WE'RE BACK FOR 2022!

THE UK's No.1 BRANDED HAND,
POWER TOOLS & MACHINERY EVENT
- Put the date in your diary NOW!
Visit THETOOLSHOW.COM for more details



**'THE' TOOL
SHOW**
THETOOLSHOW.COM

20TH
ANNIVERSARY

KEMPTON PARK RACECOURSE
7th-9th OCTOBER 2022

OUR CUSTOMERS LOVE US!

We are regularly receiving 5 star reviews on the independent review site Trustpilot, as well as testimonials direct from our customers, here are just a few:

★★★★★

"You can choose to buy products anywhere. What you can't buy is service. On the odd occasion tools fail. D&M Tools Staff have a great knowledge of the products they sell. offer unbiased advice and above all else exemplary service, especially when there is an issue. A well run business which will keep me coming back for all my tool needs."

★★★★★

"Super helpful team, phoned in late in the afternoon and said he'd get my order dispatched the same afternoon and like a flash my product turned up super fast! Will be using again very soon!"

★★★★★

"Brilliant service friendly staff lots of knowledge of the tool trade. Like the loyalty points. My number 1 tool supplier."

★★★★★

"D&M tools have gone the extra mile with there outstanding support, Nothing is to small for there team, sorted out my order, Really quick, will happily buy more gear from them."

★★★★★

"Service support was excellent with a prompt and helpful response to my query. Item was as described and keenly priced."

★★★★★

"Quality products, great price and quick delivery well done again."

★★★★★

"Excellent deal best price around. Dispatch and delivery quicker than expected and exactly as promised. Will absolutely use again."



SOME OF OUR LEADING BRANDS



@DM_Tools



DandMTools



dm_tools



DMTools1

The Chippendale International
School of Furniture

FROM STUDENT TO TEACHER: A woodworker's story

Back in 1985, Alan McGovern was apprenticed to The Chippendale School of Furniture's founder Anselm Fraser. Here he developed and refined the skills that would enable him to become an accomplished cabinetmaker and well-respected tutor.

37 years on, he takes great pleasure in passing on his wealth of knowledge to a wide range of aspiring woodworkers and furniture makers. We spoke to Alan about his experience at the school and the value of apprenticeship schemes for prospective woodworkers

Q: How did you get a position as an apprentice?

A: Back then, secondary schools would set up placements with local businesses. It was either that or go and get a job, so I just went for it. I hadn't particularly thought about going into woodworking, but I saw it as a good opportunity to get into the world of work.

Q: How did you find your placement?

A: It was very challenging. The founder of the school, Anselm Fraser, had me doing everything from sweeping floors to cleaning tables – you name it.

During the three-year placement, I also learnt key woodworking skills and gained essential experience in cabinetry and furniture design. So while it was hard, it was 100% worth it.

Q: What did you do after completing the apprenticeship placement?

A: There were two options for me: I could

either leave and look for another woodworking job, or, if I was good enough, I'd be kept on by Anselm. Luckily, Anselm decided on the latter, and I've been fortunate enough to have worked with him, and helped him build up the School, ever since.

Q: Did you ever consider going into mainstream education?

A: No, not at all. I actually think completing the apprenticeship was the best thing for me. Back then, the Furniture School was in its early stages, and it was a good time to join. I watched the School evolve and grow into what it is today, and that's been pretty incredible.

Q: Would you say there's a stigma around not following the 'traditional route' into education?

A: Not a stigma no, but there are different pros and cons to both. You can go to university, rack up a lot of debt, and ultimately not get a job. With an apprenticeship, however, you may earn a low rate of pay to begin with, but you're not accumulating debt, and you're still working. Once completed, you have the experience under your belt, and the option to either get another job in the industry or even set up your own business.

Q: What's your advice to someone considering undertaking an apprenticeship?

A: I completely recommend it. Apprenticeships offer you the time to learn a trade and gain

industry knowledge while earning an income. Without this background and training in a career, it can feel like you're being thrown in at the deep end. Mainstream education doesn't give you the skills or knowledge to work in a profession like woodworking; you need hands-on experience and the necessary time to hone your craft.

Alan's parting words say it all: "I never left the school after my apprenticeship, and now I run the Intermediate Course. Not many people can say that they've stayed in their place of employment for 37 years and are still enjoying it! Alan McGovern is the tutor on The Chippendale International School of Furniture's Intermediate Course – for further information, see www.chippendaleschool.com.

Alan
McGovern



Timber Suppliers Directory – April 2022

Adhectic Ltd (Berkshire)
Tel: 01235 5
Web: www.adhectic.co.uk

A Harrison (Northants)
Tel: 01536 725 192
Web: www.aharrisonwoodturning.co.uk

Bennetts Timber (Lincolnshire)
Tel: 01472 350 151
Web: www.bennettsttimber.co.uk

Black Isle Woodturning (Scotland)
Tel: 07842 189 743
Web: www.blackislewoodturning.com

Brodies Timber (Perthshire)
Tel: 01350 727 723
Web: www.brodiestimber.co.uk

Brooks Brothers Timber (Essex)
Tel: 01621 877 400
Web: www.brookstimber.co.uk

C&G Barrett Ltd, Cilfiegan Sawmill (South Wales)
Tel: 01291 672 805
Web: www.cilfieigansawmill.com

Clive Walker Timber Ltd (West Yorkshire)
Tel: 01132 704 928
Web: www.clivewalkertimber.co.uk

D Emmerson Timber (Lincolnshire)
Tel: 01507 524 728
Web: www.emmersonstimber.co.uk

Earlwood Interiors (West Midlands)
Tel: 01564 703 706
Web: www.earlwoodinteriors.co.uk

English Woodlands Timber (West Sussex)
Tel: 01730 816 941
Web: www.englishwoodlandstimber.co.uk

Exotic Hardwoods (Kent)
Tel: 01732 355 626
Web: www.exotichardwoods.co.uk

EO Burton, Thorndon Sawmills (Essex)
Tel: 01277 260 810
Web: www.eoburton.com

Eynsham Park Sawmill (Oxfordshire)
Tel: 01993 881 391
Web: www.eynshamparksawmill.co.uk

FH Ives (Essex)
Tel: 01268 732 373
Web: www.fhives.com

Fulham Timber (London)
Tel: 0208 685 5340
Web: www.fulhamtimber.co.uk

G&S Specialist Timber (Cumbria)
Tel: 01768 891 445
Web: www.toolsandtimber.co.uk

Good Timber (Northamptonshire)
Tel: 01327 344 550
Web: www.goodtimber.com

The Hardwood off cut shop (Essex)
The Wood Yard, Canterbury Tye Farm,
Doddinghurst road, Brentwood, Essex,
CM15 0SD
Tel: 01277 205990
Web: www.hardwoodoffcuts.co.uk
sales@hardwoodoffcuts.co.uk

Horndon Timber Products
Unit 8-9 Orsett Industrial Park
Stanford Road, Orsett, Grays
Essex. RM16 3BX
Tel: 01375 679 999
Web: sales@horndontimber.co.uk

Interesting Timbers (Somerset)
Tel: 01761 241 333
Web: www.interestingtimbers.co.uk

ISCA Woodcrafts (South Wales)
Tel: 01633 810 148/07854 349 045
Web: www.iscawoodcrafts.co.uk

Joyce Timber (London)
Tel: 0208 883 1610
Web: www.joycetimber.co.uk

Lincolnshire Woodcraft (Lincolnshire)
Tel: 01780 757 825
Web: www.lincolnshirewoodcraft.co.uk

Nottage Timber (South Wales)
Tel: 01656 745 959
Web: www.nottagetimber.co.uk

Ockenden Timber (Powys)
Tel: 01588 620 884
Web: www.ockenden-timber.co.uk

Olivers Woodturning (Kent)
Tel: 01622 370 280
Web: www.oliverswoodturning.co.uk

Oxford Wood Recycling (Oxfordshire)
Tel: 01235 861 228
Web: www.owr.org.uk

Stiles & Bates (Kent)
Tel: 01304 366 360
Web: www.stilesandbates.co.uk

Scadding Timber (Avon)
Tel: 01179 556 032
Web: www.scadding-son-ltd.co.uk

Scawton Sawmill (North Yorkshire)
Tel: 01845 597 733
Web: www.scawtonsawmill.co.uk

S.L. Hardwoods (Croydon)
Tel: 020 3051 4794
Web: www.slhardwoods.co.uk

St. Andrews Timber (Scotland)
Tel: 01316 611 333
Web: www.standrewstimbersupplies.co.uk

Surrey Timbers Ltd (Guildford)
Tel: 01483 457 826
Web: www.surreytimbers.co.uk

Sykes Timber (Warwickshire)
Tel: 01827 718 951
Web: www.sykestimber.co.uk

The Timber Mill (Cornwall)
Tel: 07966 396 419
Web: www.thetimbermill.com

The Wood Recycling Store (East Sussex)
Tel: 01273 570 500
Web: www.woodrecycling.org.uk

Thorogood Timber Ltd (Essex)
Tel: 01206 233 100
Web: www.thorogood.co.uk

Timberman (Carmarthenshire)
Tel: 01267 232 621
Web: www.timberman.co.uk

Tree Station (Lancashire)
Tel: 01612 313 333
Web: www.treestation.co.uk

UK Timber Ltd (Northamptonshire)
Tel: 01536 267 107
Web: www.uk-timber.co.uk

Waterloo Timber Ltd (Lancashire)
Tel: 01200 423 263
Web: No website

Wenban Smith (West Sussex)
Tel: 01903 230 311
Web: www.wenbans.com

Wentwood Timber Centre (South Wales)
Tel: 01633 400 720
Web: www.wentwoodtimbercentre.co.uk

W L West & Sons Ltd (Surrey)
Tel: 01798 861 611
Web: www.wlwest.co.uk

Yandle & Sons Ltd (Somerset)
Tel: 01935 822 207
Web: www.yandles.co.uk



**New
Catalogue
Out Now!**

Featuring best-selling products
from the **UK's Biggest Range**
of over 18,000 products

Request your FREE copy
IronmongeryDirect.co.uk/free-catalogue



From left to right: Lincolnshire Woodcraft Supplies founder, Robin Storey, with owner of JC+CO, Jonny Colbeck

JC+CO & LINCOLNSHIRE WOODCRAFT SUPPLIES

JC+CO was founded in 2008 while owner Jonny Colbeck was using other joinery workshops to supply his residential customers with bespoke options. Realising that quality and pricing didn't quite marry up, he decided to do something about it.

The company strives to be the antithesis of our throw-away society, making high quality furniture and joinery that stands the test of time. Working closely with architects, designers and clients on the start of a project and pinning down all the details is very important to them. Operating from modern premises ensures they can deliver projects on time and on budget, while bringing the skills, knowledge and passion required to produce fine handmade furniture.

The latest news is that JC+CO will be taking over Lincolnshire Woodcraft Supplies with the support of founder and current owner, Robin Storey.

Robin set up Lincolnshire Woodcraft 30 years ago, but he's now ready to enjoy well deserved retirement. Utilising his established contacts, JC+CO will use locally sourced timber within furniture projects in order to reduce their carbon footprint while supporting the British timber industry.

All woodcraft and timber supplies can now be purchased from JC+CO's Stamford workshop, which is located at The Cider Shed, West Street, Stamford PE9 2PN – next door to Westside Gym. JC+CO are very excited to have Lincolnshire Woodcraft within their Stamford workshop, and loyal customers – as well as new – are urged to book an appointment and come in and meet the team.

For Lincolnshire Woodcraft supplies, call **07514 574 779**, and for JC+CO, call **07856 880 933**. Alternatively, visit the following websites – www.jcand.co.uk and www.lincolnshirewoodcraft.co.uk – or follow via social media: [@jcand_insta](https://www.instagram.com/jcand_insta) and [@lincolnshirewoodcraft](https://www.instagram.com/lincolnshirewoodcraft).

MAKITA UK adds two new plunge routers to its range



Leading power tool manufacturer Makita UK has added two new plunge routers to its range. Engineered for finish woodworking, the RP1111C $\frac{1}{2}$ in and RP1803 $\frac{1}{2}$ in models deliver superior performance with smooth plunge action and powerful precision.

Driven by a powerful 1,100W motor, the RP1111C with $\frac{1}{2}$ in collet delivers 8,000–27,500rpm for the most demanding applications. The compact design facilitates precise routing work, with a plunge depth capacity of up to 57mm for easy penetration into the workpiece, and a soft start feature for smooth start-ups and increased user safety.

The RP1803 provides a deep 0–70mm plunge depth capacity, a quick release plunge depth adjustment feature and three pre-set depth stops for added precision. Driven by a powerful 1,650W motor that offers 22,000rpm for clean, consistent results, this new offering with $\frac{1}{2}$ in collet also boasts electric brake and soft start.

The RP1111C and RP1803 are both equipped with an anti-restart function to minimise accidental start-up even if the tool is plugged into the power source with the switch engaged. Furthermore, both offer variable speed control to adjust the output to the application, as well as constant speed control to maintain speed under load.

Designed with superior finishing in mind, these impressive new tools also feature fine bit depth adjustment to achieve exceptional accuracy, and both units can be connected to a dust extractor plus a range of accessories, such as nozzles and straight guides, which can be purchased separately.

Kevin Brannigan, Marketing Manager at Makita UK, said: "We're delighted to add these new routers to our line-up, which offers users even more choice for all applications and needs – from fixed base, or

plunge models, with either $\frac{1}{2}$ in or $\frac{1}{4}$ in collets, all designed and underpinned by Makita's exceptional power tool technology and engineering."

To find out more about Makita and its range of corded and cordless power tools, visit www.makitauk.com.



TREND T18S/BJK 18V cordless biscuit jointer – body only

The new T18S/BJK 18V biscuit jointer – part of Trend's new cordless range – features a high performance motor, which is built for power and endurance. Benefitting from six cutting depths for No.0, 10 and 20 biscuits, there's also additional 'Maximum' Duplex and Simplex settings. 0–90° cutting angles cover multiple jointing applications and 35mm fence adjustment allows cutting up to 35mm from an edge for setting biscuits into thicker stock. There's tilting fence indents at 0, 45 and 90°

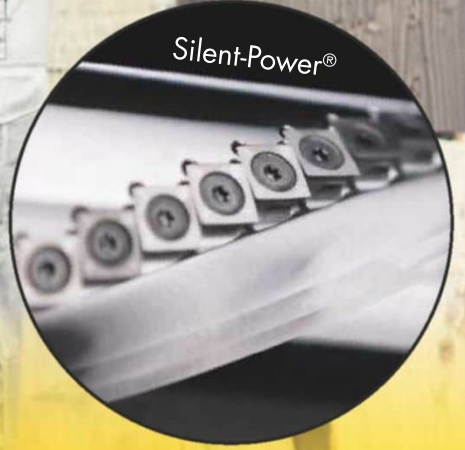
settings, which allow for fast positioning on common angles. Milled reference faces ensure accurate positioning on all jointing styles and an anti-slip rubber cutter aperture prevents slippage as the cutter engages the workpiece. The top-mounted sliding switch is easily accessible for left- or right-handed operation and it's supplied with CR/BJB100T biscuit jointer blade, attachment plate, dust bag and adaptor, plus vacuum adaptor, which fits T35 and T32 dust extractors.

In terms of runtime claim, the T18S/BJK

can machine up to 731 No.20 biscuits, 121 fitted worktops or make 10 cupboards – based on a 4Ah battery in chipboard. To find out more, see www.trend-uk.com.



Hammer®



SENSATIONAL RESULTS FOR AN UNBEATABLE PRICE

Solid, cast iron planing tables, Hammer's original and patented Spiral Cutterblock plus many other exceptional details on the A3 combine to achieve the striking surface planing and thickening results. The innovative machine technology of your A3 also offers sensational value for money – see for yourself!

For mortising you can, as an option, equip your Hammer with the horizontal mortiser.



A3 31

A3 41



A3 26



**CALL NOW
01908 635000
FOR YOUR
PERSONAL
OFFER!**

FELDER GROUP UK Ltd.

Unit 2 Sovereign Business Park, Joplin Court, Crownhill, Milton Keynes,
MK8 0JP | **Tel. 01908 635000** | **uk.felder-group.com**



FIND A MAKER celebrates one-year anniversary

On 22 March 2022, Find a Maker celebrated its one-year anniversary. A successful spin-off from internationally renowned and multi award-winning Craft Festival, Find a Maker launched during lockdown last year with the support of Arts Council's England's Cultural Recovery Fund.

Since launching, Find a Maker's online directory and business school has grown to over 300 established makers, galleries and craft organisations. The Find a Maker Family is carefully curated and represent some of the most innovative makers across the UK and internationally.

All selected members have access to the Find a Maker Business School with live tutorials, talks and advice on running their business. Sarah James, Craft Festival and Find a Maker Director, says: "We wanted

to create something positive out of lockdown; something useful and meaningful for our makers and audience. We're very excited that so many amazing makers and galleries have joined the Find a Maker Family."

For further information, see www.findamaker.co.uk.



WEST DEAN COLLEGE announces courses for June through to September 2022



West Dean College of Arts and Conservation recently launched its new programme of arts and crafts short courses for June through to September 2022. There's over 300 short courses to choose from including almost 60 brand-new ones, which can be viewed on the website. Courses span from one to five days, are suitable for all abilities, and range in price from £128 upwards. Set in the heart of the South Downs National Park, the College's rural setting makes it an ideal place to escape, recharge, and immerse yourself in a new skill this summer.

For fans of *Handmade: Britain's Best Woodworker* and those keen to fine-tune their furniture skills, new furniture and woodworking courses include two with new tutor Jason Breach. 'Woodturning Basics – Spindles, Boxes and Bowls' teaches the basics of using a woodturning lathe (7–10 July; 30 August–2 September – £425) and 'Turned Wooden Boxes' demonstrates the basics of making wooden boxes on a lathe, from timber selection, tools, and sharpening, to design ideas and different shapes (2–4 September – beginners and intermediates – £297). Lastly, 'Furniture Making Skills – A Simple Cricket Table' with Derek Jones explains the key principles of building this very piece (2–5 June – suitable for all – £452).

For further information and to book your space, see www.westdean.ac.uk.



New CLARKE electric log saws

Machine Mart has recently added two new Clarke electric circular log saws to its extensive range of tools and machinery.

The Clarke CLS405 and Clarke CLS505 both utilise a swivel cradle operation for safe log cutting and benefit from a sturdy steel construction with tough powder-coated finish. Both models are ideal for use at home or DIY usage, and are designed for safe two-handed operation, with a spring loaded anti-kickback safety saw guard.

For added stability and safety, both log saws can be bolted to the floor using the 8mm holes provided – bolts are sold separately.

The CLS405 benefits from a powerful 2.2kW motor and has a 405mm diameter blade, resulting in the ability to cut a maximum log diameter of 140mm with the cutting length ranging from 250–1,000mm.

For bigger, tougher logs, the CLS505 features a 3kW motor and 505mm

diameter blade. The cutting length ranges from 250–1,000mm and it's capable of cutting logs with a diameter of up to 170mm.

Machine Mart's full range of Clarke Woodworker and log cutting products are supplied with a one-year manufacturer's warranty; see www.machinemart.co.uk/c/log-saws to find out more.





Unique **FOREST EYE** living tree feature focuses attention on **forests fighting climate change**

Children recently planted the first trees forming a giant forest eye in Dalby Forest, North Yorkshire, joining representatives from Forestry England, arts organisation Sand In Your Eye and the Environment Agency on a unique project set to create the largest living forest feature in England.

The 300m-wide eye will be planted with 5,000 beech, alder and maple trees in the shape of a child's eye marked out on an existing clearing in the forest. The Forest Eye is being created to focus attention on climate change and show the important role of resilient forests in tackling it, as well as highlighting children's ideas for a flourishing future natural environment.

Working with Sand In Your Eye in a forest for the first time, the feature will be visible from the air in six years' time as the trees mature and will be carefully managed as an integral part of Dalby Forest. The forest covers more than 3,500 hectares in the North York Moors National Park and welcomes 450,000 day visits each year. The forest eye will engage visitors and spark conversation as it changes and grows, at a time when people are feeling the urgent crises of climate change and biodiversity loss.

The broadleaf tree species of beech, alder and maple, which will create the eye shape, have been carefully selected to grow well in soils on the site and are expected to thrive as the climate changes. Once established, the forest eye will grow alongside the mixed broadleaf and conifer trees of the Dalby Forest landscape, providing habitat for wildlife including bats, birds and small mammals, as well as capturing carbon, improving air quality and offering a beautiful place for people to explore and connect with the natural world.

Josephine Lavelle, Forestry England Director, said: "Hearing some of the children's lively conversations as they planted the very first trees to create this forest eye has reminded me of their deep understanding of the need to act now for nature's recovery and their immense enthusiasm to be co-creators of a better future. Having the gaze of a child growing in the heart of this beautiful and ever-changing forest is a powerful symbol of how we need to listen and respond to the needs and vision of future generations.

"As the country's largest land manager, we plan, plant and care for the nation's forests and woodlands, thinking way beyond our own lifetimes to ensure forest landscapes flourish a hundred years ahead for people, wildlife and a sustainable economy. This wonderful living artwork embodies this important idea of today's actions being guided by future needs." For further information, see www.forestryengland.uk.

Quality Tools to match our Service

The Ultimate Woodturning Lathe
hapfo
Made in Germany

Mouldings

Certified Hardwoods

Top quality Hand Tools

Drilling Tools made to the highest standard
COLT

G&S Specialist Timber
TOOLS AND MACHINERY
www.toolsandtimber.co.uk
you can order online now

STAINLESS BOTTLE STOPPERS
Bottle Stoppers made from food safe stainless steel, **FREE** Blank included

pfeil

Flexcut

WE ARE EASY TO FIND:
1 1/2 miles from the M6, J40.
Take the A66 towards Keswick,
turn left at first roundabout,
follow the Brown Signs to
The Alpaca Centre.

Open 8am to 5pm daily.
10am to 5pm Saturday.
Closed Sunday.

TREND T18S/ MS184 CORDLESS MITRE SAW

If you're looking for a compact sliding mitre saw, aren't fussed about double-tilt bevel cuts or rarely work with large timber sizes, Trend's MS184 could be just the ticket, says **Phil Davy**



Sanders, drills, biscuit jointer and router in the T81S range all share the same 18V platform, with batteries rated at 2Ah, 4Ah and 5Ah



The MS184 is a single bevel saw, with the saw head tilting to the left



For transport or storage, the head is locked down with a pin



Most readers will be aware of Trend's recently-launched T18S cordless power tool range. Including sanders, drills, biscuit jointer and router, they all share the same 18V platform, with batteries rated at 2Ah, 4Ah and 5Ah. Some products include battery and charger; others are supplied bare such as the saw tested here. You can also buy a kit with two 5Ah batteries

and charger for around £550.

I'd guess the MS184 sliding mitre saw is aimed at second-fix carpenters, kitchen fitters and serious woodworkers who don't necessarily need the cutting capacities offered by larger machines. As it's cordless you can use the machine virtually anywhere, while the small footprint makes it particularly easy to transport and store. Weighing just over 10kg with 5Ah battery on board, it's not exactly a back breaker, though there's no grab handle as such.

In a workshop environment there's no real advantage in having a cordless saw if fixed permanently to a bench or stand; you still need to hook up an extraction system, which will invariably be 230V. However, if you sometimes need to use the same saw outdoors or around the house, battery power can make a lot more sense. It's certainly safer, with no extension cable to worry about.



The head slides on twin steel rails, with up to 137mm of travel

Single bevel cuts

This is a single bevel saw, with the saw head tilting to the left. Unless you frequently cut



The substantial cast alloy base features a fixed rear fence, with screw holes for attaching a sacrificial fence if desired



Using the comfortable horizontal handle, plunge action feels positive



A small rocker switch located on top of the handle is shrouded against dust



The laser line extends over the front edge of the timber, which helps in lining up the blade with your pencil mark



The protractor scale is bold and easy to read, though the sticky label was wrinkled in places...

complex compound mitres, however, this is no real disadvantage. The head slides on twin steel rails, with up to 137mm of travel. You can lock this slide action with a thumbscrew, making cutting narrow stock even easier. For transport or storage, the head is locked down with a pin. Folded down, the MS184 has a footprint of around 450 x 450mm – fairly small for a mitre saw. Alloy guarding shrouds the upper blade, with a retractable polycarbonate shield beneath.

The substantial cast alloy base features a fixed rear fence, with screw holes for attaching a sacrificial fence if desired. Four holes are provided, which allow the saw to be bolted to a bench top or stand.

Using the comfortable horizontal handle, plunge action feels positive. This features a double-action power switch for safety: to activate the motor you first nudge a small spring-loaded lever before squeezing the full-width trigger. With a modest blade speed of 3,600rpm, this comes to a standstill just two seconds after switching off.

The MS184 has a laser cutting guide attached, which can be useful in low-light conditions. Its small rocker switch on top of the handle is shrouded against dust. Although no calibration is evident, the laser on the test model was spot-on for accuracy. The laser line extends over the front edge of the timber, which helps in lining up the blade with your pencil mark.

Protractor scale

The protractor scale is bold and easy to read, though the sticky label was wrinkled in places. This didn't pose a problem, however, and angle



... but this didn't pose a problem, and angle selection is effortless using the spring-loaded lower lever



A pointer at the front of the pivot mechanism is easy to read and can be calibrated to zero



For making bevel cuts, you tilt the blade by slackening off a hefty triangular knob located at the rear



The arm of the hold-down slides on a steel pillar and is locked with a thumbscrew, while the workpiece is held tight with a steel clamp

selection is effortless using the spring-loaded lower lever. With very positive indexing at 0, 15, 22.5, 31.6 and 45° both left and right, there's no uncertainty when rotating the saw head to these common settings. For less common

angles, lining up the pointer is easy enough, requiring you to twist the knob clockwise to lock. It's possible to cut up to 47° either side, too.

For making bevel cuts, the blade is tilted by slackening off a hefty triangular knob located



Support arms, provided at each end of the table, are extended outwards by slackening off thumbscrews at the back



With the saw head raised, you depress a spindle lock button on the motor casing...



... before slackening off the blade retaining bolt and arbor using the hex key provided



Raise the guard, remove the blade, reverse the process and you're ready for action



A fabric dust bag is provided, which clips over the port on the saw head



As with most mitre saws, this only collects some of the waste when cutting – it's much more efficient to hook up a vacuum extractor

at the rear of the saw. A pointer at the front of the pivot mechanism is easy to read and can be calibrated to zero.

A hold-down is standard and can be positioned on either side of the table, though you're more limited to the right when making bevel cuts. Its arm slides on a steel pillar and is locked with a thumbscrew, while the workpiece is held tight with a steel clamp. Support arms, provided at each end of the table, are extended outwards by slackening off thumbscrews at the back.

Blade change

With a blade diameter of 184mm, maximum depth of cut is 51mm at 90°, which is sufficient for CLS studwork and most constructional timbers. A 48-tooth TCT Trend CraftPro blade is fitted with 16mm bore – changing this is straightforward, but you must ensure to first remove the battery. With the saw head raised,

you depress a spindle lock button on the motor casing, then slacken off the blade retaining bolt and arbor using the hex key provided. Raise the guard, remove the blade, reverse the process and you're ready for action. A fabric dust bag is provided, which clips over the port on the saw head. As with most mitre saws, this only collects some of the waste produced during cutting – it's much more efficient to hook up a vacuum extractor.

In use

This must be one of the quietest mitre saws I've ever used. It effortlessly sliced through 45mm softwood, engineered oak flooring and various hardwood boards. As you'd expect from a 48-tooth blade, finished cuts were first class, and unlike some bigger 230V saws, the MS184 isn't fierce when powered up.

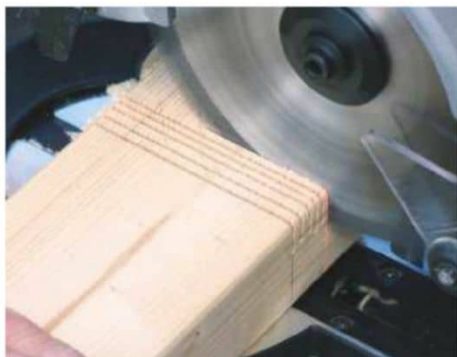
For a few cuts, you can get away with using



The MS184 effortlessly sliced through 45mm softwood...



... as well as engineered oak flooring and various hardwood boards



One of the benefits of a sliding mitre saw is its ability to produce trenching cuts – housings, or shoulders on tenons and similar joints



Unfortunately, the depth stop wasn't quite long enough to work properly, though I'm guessing this was a glitch on the test model

a 2Ah battery, though obviously a 4 or 5Ah pack is preferable. Incidentally, charge time for a 4Ah battery is around 48 minutes.

One of the benefits of a sliding mitre saw is its ability to produce trenching cuts – housings, or shoulders on tenons and similar joints. Unfortunately, the depth stop wasn't quite long enough to work properly, though I'm guessing this was a glitch on the test model.

Conclusion

If you're looking for a compact sliding mitre saw, aren't fussed about double-tilt bevel cuts or rarely work with large timber sizes, Trend's new offering could be just the ticket. Not intimidating, it feels particularly safe in use, which is a consideration when cutting mouldings or other smaller timber sizes. It's ideal for house renovation projects where you can easily move the saw around and don't have to worry about a cable. It may be small but should cope with most studwork, flooring, skirting, architrave, etc. It's also ideal for sawing decking and general exterior timbers. A three-year warranty is offered as standard – shop around and you can find the MS184 bare for as little as £300. ✕

SPECIFICATION

No load speed: 3,600rpm

Mitre angles: - 47° to + 47°

Bevel angles: -1° to + 46°

Blade: 184mm, 1.6mm, 16mm, 48T

Runtime claim: Up to 190 cuts – 2 × 4in pine on an 5Ah battery; up to 250 cuts – 45° mitre cut in 18 × 119mm MDF skirting on an 5Ah battery

Typical prices: £344.93 – bare; £558.30 – kit version with 2 × 5Ah batteries and fast charger
Web: www.trend-uk.com

THE VERDICT

PROS

- Compact, quiet and ergonomically friendly; laser blade guide

CONS

- Smaller capacities; awkward trenching cuts

RATING: **PERFORMANCE** – 4 out of 5

RATING: **VALUE** – 4 out of 5

trend[®]
tool technology

THE BEST...



80mm Plunge Depth

Precision Centring System

Top-Mount Cyclone Extraction

AUTO Auto-Locking Plunge Lever

...JUST GOT BETTER

T12
2300W 1/2"
PLUNGE
ROUTER

T14
2300W 1/2"
WORKSHOP
ROUTER



WITH ROUTER TABLE SAFETY SWITCH

www.trend-uk.com

SAKAZUME SANDING BLOCKS

You may rely on power tools

to speed up finishing when possible,

but sometimes sanding narrow or confined areas demands hand tools, especially when it's important to follow the grain. Abrasive paper wrapped around a timber offcut will often do the trick, but manoeuvring them in tight spaces can be awkward. These compact blocks from Japanese manufacturer Sakazume could be the answer. Each consists of a rectangular aluminium baseplate with a hook-and-loop strip glued to one side.

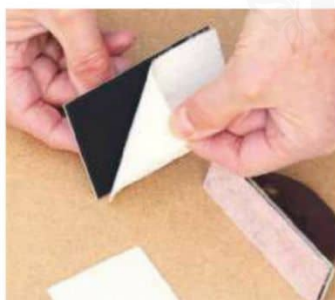
A slim, resin-coated semicircular hardwood grip is fixed to the reverse. With an abrasive sheet attached to the plate, you're ready to sand. The smaller block measures 100 x 30mm, the larger size 100 x 60mm. Three meaty stearated sanding sheets – 80, 120 and 240 grit – are supplied with each block. For cleaning up handle cut-outs and similar tasks, however, the Sakazume sanding file is perhaps a better choice. With a steel plate measuring 100 x 20mm, twin hook-and-loop faces make it easier to swap between sanding grades. A sturdy, laminated hardwood handle is fixed with rivets, giving an overall length of 200mm.

Conclusion

These are clever little abrasive gadgets, which don't cost a fortune. For sanding in tight spaces, they're dead easy to use and give a pretty good finish without rounding over edges. A set of five replacement sheets costs £3.30, again in a choice of 80, 120 or 240 grits. With a sheet size of 60 x 100mm, these can easily be cut to suit individual tools. Alternatively, Sakazume tools will accept other hook-and-loop abrasives, so you could even cut up used random orbit sander sheets or similar.



You may rely on power tools to speed up finishing when possible, but sometimes sanding narrow or confined areas demands hand tools



Each block consists of a rectangular aluminium baseplate with a hook-and-loop strip glued to one side

SPECIFICATION

Typical prices: £8.50 each; file – £8.50
Web: www.workshopheaven.com

THE VERDICT

PROS

- Great for sanding in confined and hard-to-reach areas

CONS

- Limited abrasive grades

RATING: VALUE – 5 out of 5
OVERALL – 4.5 out of 5



For cleaning up handle cut-outs and similar tasks, the Sakazume sanding file is perhaps a better choice

RIDER AWLS

Phil Davy looks at two handy workshop additions from Workshop Heaven and Axminster Tools



Perhaps the simplest hand tool ever invented, a decent awl is almost essential when you need to mark a centre accurately or start a hole before drilling or inserting a small screw. The blade is usually pointed and compresses the fibres when this point is inserted into the wood. Slightly differently, a bradawl has a tiny chisel tip and will sever wood fibres apart when the tool is twisted.

These two awls from Rider are certainly sturdier than some I've used, which often have slimmer blades. There's a choice of blade patterns – square or conical in cross-section – which both taper to a fine point. Made from hardened steel, these are around 100mm long and driven tightly into holes in their handles.

Each handle is made from oiled hornbeam with a flat cut on one side. Not only does this prevent the tool from rolling about on a surface, but can also make it easier to grip during use. A steel ferrule finishes off each tool neatly.

Conclusion

Both awls are delightful, the conical blade perhaps the better option for pin-pointing centres or hole punching. The square blade is better for making pilot holes for screws or nails without the need to drill first. Either tool can also be used for scribing very fine lines. Keep one in the workshop drawer or toolbox, but mind the tip! ✂



There's a choice of blade patterns – square or conical in cross-section – which both taper to a fine point



Each oiled hornbeam handle has a flat cut on one side...

SPECIFICATION

Typical price: £10.78 each
Web: www.axminstertools.com

THE VERDICT

PROS

- Sturdy, well-made marking tools

CONS

- You may want to buy a pair...

RATING: VALUE – 4 out of 5
OVERALL – 5 out of 5



... which prevents the tool from rolling about on a surface and also makes it easier to grip during use

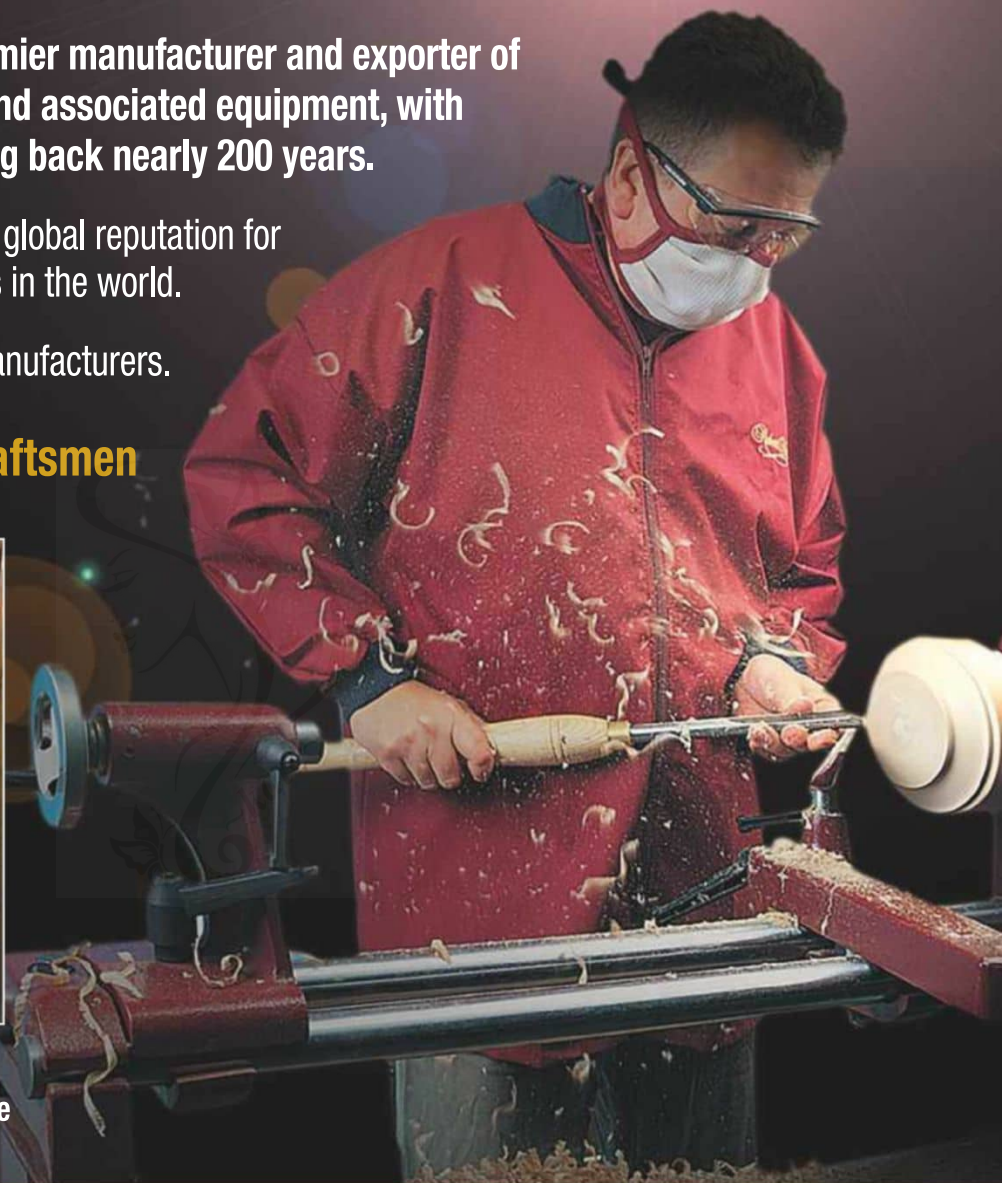
THE No.1 CHOICE *For Woodturners!*

Robert Sorby is the World's premier manufacturer and exporter of specialist woodworking tools and associated equipment, with a proud Sheffield heritage dating back nearly 200 years.

Robert Sorby has developed a truly global reputation for manufacturing the finest edge tools in the world.

It is one of the Sheffield's oldest manufacturers.

Made by Craftsmen for Craftsmen



Find your nearest stockist on our website

Robert Sorby
PROUDLY MADE IN SHEFFIELD, ENGLAND 

www.robert-sorby.co.uk

Robert Sorby, Sheffield ENGLAND

Tel: +44 (0) 114 225 0700 E-mail: sales@robert-sorby.co.uk

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL [@ROBERTSORBY](#)



ROBERT SORBY STEBCENTRES RANGE



Stebdrive, Stebcentre and Revolving Stebcentre

Bob Chapman looks at these useful woodturning accessories from **Robert Sorby**, which are ideal for beginners and experienced turners alike

The Stebcentre is a drive centre for spindle work, which has a serrated ring of small teeth instead of the more usual two or four 'prongs', together with a spring-loaded centre point to locate the work.

Stebdrive

The Stebdrive is a truncated version of the Stebcentre designed to be held in a four-jaw scroll chuck, which ensures that the chuck can be left in place when the Stebdrive is used. Robert Sorby say this has been 'adapted

to fit most popular four-jaw lathe chucks'. On my Vicmarc chuck, the bottom of the Stebdrive is held in the chuck jaws. When I did this, however, there was a distinct 'wobble' to the Stebdrive, but after re-seating it once or twice, I eventually realised that if the jaws close on the flats of the boss the drive will sit neatly in the chuck and turn true, but if the jaws close on the rounded corners, it doesn't. Simply put, there's a right and a wrong way of holding it in the chuck. Problem solved, but it would've been quicker if some information had been provided with the drive.



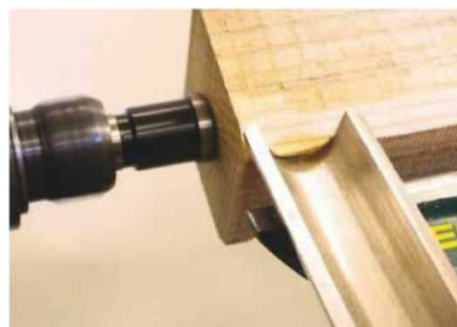
The jaws must close on the flats as opposed to the rounded corners



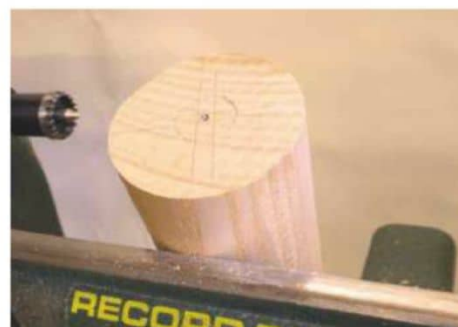
Timber in place. Pressure from the tailstock engages the teeth



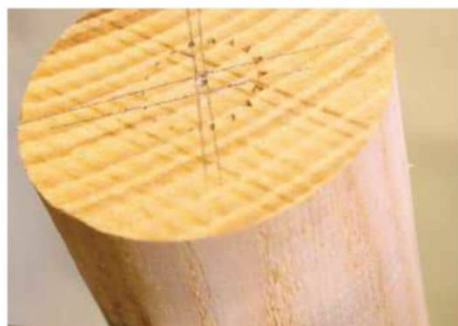
Releasing tailstock pressure allows the teeth to disengage with the lathe running



A serious dig-in. The lathe continues to run but the workpiece stops



The ring carved by the Stebcentre points during the dig-in



The sharp imprint of the Revolving Stebcentre's points in the workpiece



The Stebcentre provides plenty of grip to drive this piece of 100 x 100mm ash



Using a skew chisel to form a dovetail spigot. The drive is very secure

THE MAN BEHIND THE STEBCENTRE

Gerry Stebbings, inventor of the Stebcentre, once came to me for a woodturning lesson. I'd never met him before and expressed surprise that he felt he needed lessons from me. "Ah..." he said, "everyone thinks I'm some sort of wizard woodturner..."

It turned out that Gerry was a technician in the craft department of a secondary school and one evening when everyone had gone home, he decided to have a go on a lathe. With his lack of experience, he mounted a piece of wood onto a ring centre as a drive. Now, if you've tried this you'll know that it requires a very, very light touch – and Gerry didn't have one. Every time he put the tool to it, the work stopped rotating. Eventually, in his frustration, he took a file and filed some teeth into the ring centre, and so the Stebcentre was born!

Stebcentre

I've been using a Stebcentre for years. Whatever the woodturning equivalent of sliced bread is, the Stebcentre is the best thing since. Robert Sorby don't pay me for saying this – although I'd accept if they offered – but I have to say that the Stebcentre is a most wonderful safety device.

Safety first

If you're using a four-prong drive and happen to experience a serious dig-in, the workpiece is likely to be violently dislodged from the lathe – I have a scar on my upper lip to prove this. However, when using a Stebcentre at demos, I'd regularly stab a spindle roughing gouge into the spinning workpiece, producing a horrendous dig-in, simply to show that the

work stays in place and just stops rotating, while the lathe continues to turn and the teeth on the Stebcentre grind a shallow groove in the end of the workpiece. No harm to the turner and minimal damage to the work: simply tighten the tailstock and carry on.

In my view, safety is the real reason you must have one. The sales blurb tells how the circle of teeth spread the load, and how, by reducing tailstock pressure, you can take work off/put it on without stopping the lathe. Yes, these things are true and may possibly be useful to someone, but they pale into insignificance when compared with the safety aspect. All of these features also apply to the Stebdrive, which is identical in use.

Revolving Stebcentre

The Revolving Stebcentre is a tailstock support and again has the advantage of spreading the load over the circle of teeth. There are many occasions when this won't be a particular advantage, but if you've glued pieces together it's less likely to split them apart than a conical centre point. The penetration of the point is also less and this may be relevant when cleaning up end-grain. A useful and well-made device, but not one I'd consider essential for my work.

Conclusion

I found the various Stebcentres to be well made, quality tools. For spindle work, I'd buy a Stebcentre without a moment's hesitation. Whether or not



Using a parting tool poses no problem



The Revolving Stebcentre provides excellent tailstock support

you need a Stebdrive or Revolving Stebcentre depends on the type of work you do, but I don't think you'd be disappointed with any of them. ✂

SPECIFICATION

Stebcentres are available in three different sizes, with 1¼in, ¾in and ½in teeth ring diameters, and in 1 or 2MT to suit different lathe spindles

Typical prices: Stebcentres – from £57.25; Stebdrives – from £57.25; Revolving Stebcentres – from £66.81

Web: www.robert-sorby.co.uk – see stockist list

THE VERDICT

PROS

Stebcentre

- Ideal for beginners and experienced turners alike; wonderful safety device

Stebdrive

- Same as above

Revolving Stebcentre

- No danger of splitting the wood

CONS

Stebcentre

- None

Stebdrive

- Lack of clear instruction for use

Revolving Stebcentre

- None

RATINGS:

Stebcentre 5 out of 5

Stebdrive 4 out of 5

Revolving Stebcentre 5 out of 5

Classic Hand Tools[®]



The finest
hand tools
for your
finest
woodwork

Order online at: www.classichandtools.com

Hill Farm Business Park, Witnesham, Suffolk, IP6 9EW Tel 01473 784983



Clarke

10" TABLE SAW WITH EXTENDING TABLE

£185.00
£222.00 inc.VAT

CTS17

- 2000W • Max cut depth of 45° / 90° (50mm/72mm)



Machine Mart

65 SUPERSTORES NATIONWIDE

Britain's Tools & Machinery Specialist!

Clarke

4" BELT/ 6" DISC SANDER

- Dust extraction facility
- 4" x 36" belt bits & locks 0-90°
- 225mm x 160mm table, tilts 0-90°
- 370W, 230V motor

£114.99
£137.99 inc.VAT

CS4-6E

BEST SELLER



"Excellent machine, very solid and exactly as described. Very happy with the purchase!"
See www.machine-mart.co.uk

Clarke 10" TABLE SAW WITH EXTENSION TABLES (250mm)

CTS14

- Ideal for cross cutting, ripping, angle and mitre cutting • Easy release/locking mechanism for table extensions • 0-45° tilting blade • Cutting depth: 72mm at 90° / 65mm at 45°

£149.98
£179.98 inc.VAT

SHOWN WITH OPTIONAL LEG KIT
CLKS £21.99
EXC.VAT
£26.39 inc.VAT



Clarke HIGH VELOCITY FANS

GIANT SIZES UP TO 36"



Model	Size	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CBF20	20"	£43.99	£52.79
CFF18B100	18"	£43.99	£52.79
CFF18C100	18"	£49.98	£59.98
CFF18B100	18"	£59.98	£71.98
CAMAX24	24"	£198.00	£238.80
CAMAX30	30"	£268.00	£322.80
CAMAX36	36"	£349.00	£418.80



NEW

- 500W motor
- 200mm Blade Dia.

£84.99
£101.99 inc.VAT

Clarke ELECTRIC POWER FILE

CPF13

- Variable belt speed
- Tilting head
- Black & Decker



Model	Motor	Flow Rate	Bag Cap.	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CWVE1	1100W	183 M3/h	50Ltrs	£119.00	£142.80
CDE35B	750W	450 M3/h	56Ltrs	£179.98	£215.98
CDE7B	750W	850 M3/h	114Ltrs	£189.98	£227.98

Clarke DUST EXTRACTOR/CHIP COLLECTORS

CWVE1



FROM ONLY £119.00
£142.80 inc.VAT

- Powerful 1100W motor
- 50 litre bag capacity
- Flow rate of 450M3/h

Clarke 18V CORDLESS LI-ION STAPLE / NAIL GUN

CONSN18LIC

- Includes 300 nails and 400 staples
- 1x 2Ah 18V Li-ion battery



£124.99
£149.99 inc.VAT

ELECTRIC AND CORDLESS MODELS IN STOCK

1x2Ah

powered by Li-ion

SPARE NAILS / STAPLES IN STOCK

CONSN18LIC

£124.99

£149.99 inc.VAT

ELECTRIC AND CORDLESS MODELS IN STOCK

CONSN18LIC

£124.99

£149.99 inc.VAT

ELECTRIC AND CORDLESS MODELS IN STOCK

CONSN18LIC

£124.99

£149.99 inc.VAT

ELECTRIC AND CORDLESS MODELS IN STOCK

CONSN18LIC

£124.99

£149.99 inc.VAT

ELECTRIC AND CORDLESS MODELS IN STOCK

CONSN18LIC

£124.99

£149.99 inc.VAT

ELECTRIC AND CORDLESS MODELS IN STOCK

CONSN18LIC

£124.99

£149.99 inc.VAT

ELECTRIC AND CORDLESS MODELS IN STOCK

CONSN18LIC

£124.99

£149.99 inc.VAT

ELECTRIC AND CORDLESS MODELS IN STOCK

CONSN18LIC

Clarke 18V BRUSHLESS COMBI DRILLS

CON180LI

- 2 forward and reverse gears



FROM ONLY £99.98
£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

Clarke VENTILATORS

CAM400



Model	Size	Air Flow	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CON305 (110V)	12"	3900m ³ /hr	£169.98	£203.98
CON350 (110V)	12"	3900m ³ /hr	£169.98	£203.98
CAM400 (230V)	16"	7200m ³ /hr	£339.98	£406.80
CON400 (110V)	16"	7200m ³ /hr	£339.98	£406.80
CAM500 (230V)	20"	9900m ³ /hr	£415.00	£498.00
CON500 (110V)	20"	9900m ³ /hr	£379.00	£454.80

Clarke PLUNGE SAWS

CPS160



FROM ONLY £69.98
£83.98 inc.VAT

INC. 2X 700mm GUIDE RAILS

Model Motor exc.VAT inc.VAT

CPS85 550W £69.98 £83.98

CPS160 1200W £119.00 £142.80

CIRCULAR SAWS

- Great range of DIY and professional saws • Ideal for bevel cutting (0-45°)



Model	Motor	Max Cut	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CON185B	1200W	65/44	£44.99	£53.99
CON185B	1600W	63/43	£59.98	£71.98

*Includes laser guide

CON185B

£44.99

£53.99 inc.VAT

CON185B

£59.98

£71.98 inc.VAT

CON185B

£59.98

£71.98 inc.VAT

CON185B

£59.98

£71.98 inc.VAT

CON185B

£59.98

£71.98 inc.VAT

CON185B

£59.98

£71.98 inc.VAT

CON185B

£59.98

£71.98 inc.VAT

CON185B

£59.98

£71.98 inc.VAT

CON185B

£59.98

£71.98 inc.VAT

CON185B

£59.98

£71.98 inc.VAT

CON185B

£59.98

Clarke SHEET SANDERS

CON320



FROM ONLY £24.99
£29.99 inc.VAT

VARIABLE SPEED

Model Sheet Size Motor exc.VAT inc.VAT

COS210 190x90mm 200W £24.99 £29.99

CON320 230x115mm 320W £35.99 £43.19

POWER PLANERS

CON950



Model	Width of Cut	Motor	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CEP450	60mm	450W	£36.99	£44.39
CEP720B	82mm	720W	£44.99	£53.99
CON950	110mm	950W	£69.98	£83.98

Clarke PLANERS & THICKENERS

- Ideal for DIY & Hobby use
- Dual purpose, for both finishing & striding of timber

FROM ONLY £229.00
£274.80 inc.VAT

Model Planing Width Max Thick Capacity exc.VAT inc.VAT

CP1500 6" (152mm) 120mm £229.00 £274.80

CP1800 8" (204mm) 120mm £279.00 £334.80

CP11000 10" (254mm) 120mm £375.00 £450.00

Clarke DETAIL SANDERS

- Perfect for smooth and fine finishing along with hard to reach areas or curved surfaces

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

CON180LI

£99.98

£119.98 inc.VAT

Clarke GARAGES/WORKSHOPS

FROM ONLY £259.00
£310.80 inc.VAT



BRIGHT WHITE INTERIOR

• Ideal for use as a garage/workshop • Extra tough triple layer cover • Heavy duty powder coated steel tubing

• Ratotight tensioning

ZIP CLOSE DOOR

LENGTH UP TO 40'

Model size (LxWxH) exc.VAT inc.VAT

CIG81212 3.6 x 3.6 x 2.5m £259.00 £310.80

CIG81015 4.5 x 3 x 2.4m £289.00 £346.80

CIG81216 4.9 x 3.7 x 2.5m £329.00 £394.80

CIG81020 6.1 x 3 x 2.4m £359.00 £430.80

CIG81220 6.1 x 3.7 x 2.5m £399.00 £478.80

CIG81224 7.3 x 3.7 x 2.5m £499.00 £598.80

CIG1432 9.7 x 4.3 x 3.65m £1159.00 £1390.80

CIG1640 12 x 4.9 x 4.3m £1325.00 £1600.00

Clarke BELT SANDERS

CBS2

- Ideal for surface removal, sanding and finishing

FROM ONLY £39.98
£47.98 inc.VAT

Model Motor M/Min exc.VAT inc.VAT

Clarke BS1 900W 380 £39.98 £47.98

PAY Monthly

or

BUY NOW PAY LATER

SEE ONLINE, ASK IN STORE

EASY TO USE WEBSITE

NOW OVER 21,000 PRODUCTS ONLINE!

For hard-to-find,
specialist items
visit the

Xtra

section on
machinemart.co.uk

GET YOUR NEW COPY NOW!

- IN-STORE
- ONLINE
- PHONE

0844 880 1265

Clarke 40" WOODTURNING LATHE

• Distance between centres allows for turning longer spindles
• Inc. tool rest, tail stock, drive centre & face plate • Large turning capacity of 350mm • 4 turning speeds

BENCH MOUNTED

CWL1000B

£159.98
£191.98 inc.VAT

BEST SELLER

LOCKABLE TAILSTOCK

Clarke 40" WOODTURNING LATHE WITH COPY FOLLOWER

Ideal for DIY furniture or joinery workshops where repeat quantities are required
• Large 980mm distance between centres
• Variable speeds 600-2200rpm • Inc. copy follower assembly, tool rest, drive centre tail stock assembly, face plate, eye shield & stand

CWL1000CF

£439.00
£526.80 inc.VAT

INCLUDES COPY FUNCTION

INCLUDES STAND

TURBO AIR COMPRESSORS

• Superb range ideal for hobby & semi-professional use

airmaster

FROM ONLY **£119.98**
£143.98 inc.VAT

TIGER 16/550

Model	Motor	CFM	Tank	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
Tiger 8/250	2HP	24ltr	119.98	£143.98	
Tiger 11/550	2.5HP	9.3	50ltr	£189.98	£227.98
Tiger 16/550	3HP	14.5	50ltr	£249.00	£298.80
Tiger 16/1050	3HP	14.5	100ltr	£319.00	£382.80

Clarke 13" MINI WOOD LATHE

• Ideal for enthusiasts/hobbyists with small workshops
• 325mm distance between centres • 200mm max. turning capacity (dia) • 0.2HP motor

CWL325V

£179.00
£214.80 inc.VAT

Clarke WOODWORKING VICES

Record

FROM ONLY **£14.99**
£17.99 inc.VAT

VW7

Model	Mounting	Jaw (Width/Opening Depth) mm	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
Clarke CHT152	Bolted	150/152/61	£14.99	£17.99
Record Clamped		75/50/32	£24.99	£24.99
Clarke TV75B	Bolted	180/205/78	£36.99	£36.99
Clarke VW7				

Clarke JIGSAWS

CON750

BEST SELLER

FROM ONLY **£15.99**
£19.99 inc.VAT

Model	Power (W)	Depth of Cut (Wood/Steel)	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CJS400	400W	55/- mm	£15.99	£19.99
CON750	750W	80/10mm	£29.98	£35.98
Bosch PS1700E	500W	70/4mm	£48.99	£58.79

Clarke BENCH BANDSAWS

• Produces fast, precise mitre & longitudinal cuts
• 250W motor
• 8" throat size
• Cuts in all types of woods

CBS205

£119.98
£143.98 inc.VAT

Clarke STATIC PHASE CONVERTERS

• Run big 3 phase woodworking machines from 1 phase supply
• Variable output power to match HP of motor to be run

PC60

FROM ONLY **£269.00**
£322.80 inc.VAT

CONVERT 230V 1PH TO 400V 3PH

Model	Max. Motor HP	Fuse	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
PC20	2HP	10Amps	£269.00	£269.00
PC40	3.5HP	20Amps	£329.00	£329.00
PC60	5.5HP	32Amps	£389.00	£389.00

Clarke SCROLL SAWS

• 50mm max cut thickness
• Air-blower removes dust from cutting area
• Table tilts 0-45°

CSS400C

FROM ONLY **£99.98**
£119.98 inc.VAT

Model	Motor	Speed RPM	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CSS400D	120W	400-1600	£99.98	£119.98
CSS16VB	90W	550-1600	£114.98	£137.98
CSS400C	90W	550-1600	£144.98	£173.98

Clarke MULTI FUNCTION TOOL WITH ACCESSORY KIT

• Great for sawing, cutting, sanding, polishing, chiselling & much more
• Variable speed

CMT250

£37.99
£45.59 inc.VAT

Clarke PROFESSIONAL BANDSAWS

Top Quality Bandsaws - ideal for professional workshop use. Strong steel body with solid cast iron table
• Table tilts 45° • Adjustable blade guide
• Supplied with stand, 4TPI wood cutting blade, rip fence, mitre guide, mitre gauge and push stick • Induction motors

MODELS ALSO FEATURE:

- MULTI-STEP DUST EXTRACTION OUTLET
- FLEXIBLE LED WORKLIGHT
- REMOVABLE DUST TRAY
- BLADE TENSIONING CONTROL

QUICK RELEASE FENCE

DRIVE-BELT TENSIONING

CBS300

FROM ONLY **£229.00**
£274.80 inc.VAT

Model	Throat Depth	Max Cut 90°	Max Cut 45°	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CBS250C	245mm/10"	115mm	85mm	£229.00	£274.80
CBS300	305mm/12"	185mm	115mm	£498.00	£597.60
CBS350	340mm/14"	225mm	160mm	£639.00	£766.80

Clarke ROUTERS

• Powerful heavy duty machines ideal for trade and DIY use

CR4

FROM ONLY **£47.99**
£57.59 inc.VAT

Model	Motor (W)	Plunge (mm)	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CR1200	1200	0-55	£47.99	£57.59
CR4	2000	0-65	£99.98	£119.98

Clarke RECIPROCATING SAWS

• 850W motor
• Includes 3 wood & 3 metal blades

CON850B

FROM ONLY **£37.99**
£45.59 inc.VAT

NEW

110 VOLT

Model	Motor	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CRS710V	710W	£37.99	£45.59
CON850B	850W	£49.98	£59.98

Clarke 10" SLIDING MITRE SAW

• For fast, accurate cross, bevel & mitre cutting in most hard & soft woods
• 2000W motor

CMS10S2B

£159.00
£190.80 inc.VAT

NEW

LASER GUIDE

Model	Blade Dia/Bore (mm)	Max Cut Depth/Cross	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CMS10S2B	255/3	90/340	£159.00	£190.80

Clarke GRINDERS & STANDS

• Stands come complete with bolt mountings and feet anchor holes
• 6" & 8" AVAILABLE WITH LIGHT

FROM ONLY **£42.99**
£51.59 inc.VAT

STANDS FROM ONLY £71.98 inc.VAT

Model	Duty	Wheel Dia.	exc.VAT	inc.VAT
CBG6HP	DIY	150mm	£42.99	£51.59
CBG6RZ	PRO	150mm	£59.98	£71.98
CBG6250LW	PRO	150mm	£59.98	£71.98
CBG6250L	PRO	150mm	£68.99	£82.79
CBG6SB	PRO	150mm	£74.98	£88.98
CBG6370LW	PRO	200mm	£94.99	£113.99

1000's Xtra SPECIALIST WOODWORKING TOOLS ONLINE - MACHINEMART.CO.UK

VISIT YOUR LOCAL SUPERSTORE OPEN MON-FRI 8.30-6.00, SAT 8.30-5.30, SUN 10.00-4.00

BARNLEY Pontefract Rd, Barnsley, S71 1EZ
B'HAM GREAT BARR 4 Birmingham Rd.
B'HAM HAY MILLS 1152 Coventry Rd, Hay Mills
BOLTON 1 Thynne St. BL3 6BD
BRADFORD 105-107 Manningham Lane, BD1 3BN
BRIGHTON 123 Leves Rd, BN2 3QB
BRISTOL 1-3 Church Rd, Lawrence Hill, BS5 9JJ
BURTON UPON TRENT 12a Uchfield St, DE14 3QZ
CAMBRIDGE 181-183 Histon Road, Cambridge, CB4 3HL
CARDIFF 44-46 City Rd, CF24 3DN
CARLISLE 85 London Rd, CA1 2LG
CHELTENHAM 84 Fairview Road, GL52 2EH
CHESTER 43-45 St. James Street, CH1 3CY
COLCHESTER 4 North Station Rd, CO1 1RE
COVENTRY Bishop St, CV1 1HT
CROYDON 423-427 Brighton Rd, Sth Croydon
DARLINGTON 214 Northgate, DL1 1RB
DEAL (KENT) 182-186 High St, CT14 6BQ
DERBY Dervent St, DE1 2ED
DONCASTER Wheatley Hall Road
DUNDEE 24-26 Trades Lane, DD1 3ET
EDINBURGH 163-171 Pierfield Terrace

01226 732297
0121 358 7977
0121 7713433
01204 365799
01274 390962
01273 915999
0117 935 1060
01283 564 708
01223 326775
029 2046 5424
01226 591666
01242 514 402
01244 311258
01206 762831
024 7622 4227
020 8763 0640
01325 380 841
01304 373 434
01332 290 931
01302 245 999
01382 225 140
0131 659 5919

EXETER 16 Trusham Rd, EX2 8QG
GATESHEAD 50 Lobley Hill Rd, NE8 4YJ
GLASGOW 280 Gt Western Rd, G4 9EJ
GLOUCESTER 221A Barton St, GL1 4HY
GRIMSBY ELLIS WAY, DN32 9BD
HULL 8-10 Holderness Rd, HU9 1EG
ILFORD 746-748 Eastern Ave, IG2 7HU
IPSWICH Unit 1 Ipswich Trade Centre, Commercial Road
LEEDS 227-229 Kirkstall Rd, LS4 2AS
LEICESTER 69 Melton Rd, LE4 6PN
LINCOLN Unit 5, The Pelham Centre, LN5 8HG
LIVERPOOL 30-38 London Rd, L3 5NF
LONDON CATFORD 289/291 Southend Lane SE6 3RS
LONDON 6 Kendal Parade, Edmonton N18
LONDON 503-507 Lea Bridge Rd, Leyton, E10
LYTON Unit 1, 326 Dunstable Rd, Lynton, L4 8JS
MAIDSTONE 57 Upper Stone St, ME15 6HE
MANCHESTER ALTRINCHAM 71 Manchester Rd, Altrincham
MANCHESTER CENTRAL 209 Bury New Road, M8 8DU
MANCHESTER O'BISHAW Unit 5, Tower Mill, Ashton Old Rd
MANFIELD 169 Chesterfield Rd, South
MIDDLESBROUGH Mandale Triangle, Thombay

01392 256 744
0191 493 2520
0141 332 9231
01452 417 948
01472 354335
01482 223161
0208 518 4286
01473 221253
0113 231 0400
0116 261 0688
01522 543 036
0151 709 4484
0208 695 5884
020 8803 0861
020 8558 8284
01582 728 063
01622 769 572
0161 241 1851
0161 223 8376
01623 622160
01642 677881

01603 766402
01604 267840
0115 956 1811
01733 311770
01202 717913
0123 9265 6771
01772 703263
0114 258 0831
0208 3042069
023 8055 2088
01702 483 742
01782 287321
0191 510 7973
01792 926699
01793 491717
020 8892 9117
01925 630 937
01942 323 985
01902 494186
01906 723461

31871RH Calls to the catalogue request number above (0844 880 1265) cost 7p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. For security reasons, calls may be monitored. All prices correct at time of going to press. We reserve the right to change products and prices at any time. All offers subject to availability, E&OE. *Terms & conditions apply see machinemart.co.uk/finance for more details

WIN!

1 of 2 Trend T81S 18V 184mm cordless mitre saw kits – worth £558 each!

We've teamed up with Trend once more to give two lucky readers the chance to win an **18V cordless mitre saw kit (with 2 × 5Ah batteries & Fast Charger)** from their new T81S range



Thin kerf CSB/CC18448T 48-tooth TCT blade for fine finish and maximum cuts per charge

Compact and portable, Trend's T18S 18V 184mm cordless mitre saw is ideal for precision trim work and first- and second-fix carpentry for high quality professional finishes.

FEATURES

- **TREND HIGH PERFORMANCE BRUSHLESS MOTOR** – built for power and endurance
- **COMPACT LIGHTWEIGHT DESIGN** – just 9.65kg, so easily transportable from job to job
- **IMPRESSIVE CAPACITIES** – cuts stock up to 210mm wide × 51mm deep
- **IDEAL FOR CARCASSING & SECOND-FIX WORK** – perfect for cutting studwork, floor joists, skirting and architrave
- **FRONT-MOUNTED LASER** – facilitates accurate, quick alignment for faster cutting



Easy set mitre table with pre-sets for common mitre angles up to 47° left and right

- **-47 to +47° MITRE CUT CAPACITY** – allows overcutting of mitres for out of square corners
- **INDENTED MITRE POSITIONS** – pre-sets at 0, 15, 22.5 and 45° for fast, accurate mitring
- **TRENCHING FUNCTION** – quick-set trench stop for grooves and slots
- **CSB/CC18448T 48-TOOTH TCT BLADE** – excellent finish on crosscut and laminate, kitchen cornices, lighting rails and plinths
- **0 to +45° TILT RANGE** – for compound mitre cuts
- **DEEP FENCE** – offers maximum workpiece support for increased safety
- **WORK SUPPORT EXTENSIONS** – slot in extension bars support longer work on the infeed and outfeed
- **WORK CLAMP** – for securing material during cutting
- **CROWN MOULD INDENT** – 31.6° indent for crown/cornice mould cuts
- **THIN KERF BLADE** – more cuts per charge for increased performance and minimal downtime
- **HORIZONTAL TUBULAR CROSSCUT BARS** – twin bars with ball-bearings for smooth, controlled transition through the cut
- **HORIZONTAL HANDLE** – allows easier cutting with less wrist strain as the saw plunges
- **MILLED TABLE** – precision milled to support



Lightweight, compact and portable – weighs just 9.65kg and ideal for multiple woodworking trade applications in the workshop and on the jobsite

- the workpiece in order to keep it flat and stable
- **SMALL FOOTPRINT** – will sit on 600mm wide work surfaces; ideal when fitting kitchens or for workshop use with benches against a wall
- **TREND TOOL CONNECTION** – designed to accept all Trend 18V Li-ion batteries

For further information on Trend's new T81S cordless range, see www.trend-uk.com.

HOW TO ENTER

To be in with a chance of winning 1 of 2 **Trend T81S 18V cordless 184mm mitre saw kits (with 2 × 5Ah batteries & Fast Charger)**, visit www.thewoodworkermag.com/category/win and follow the instructions given. This competition involves two-part entry, requiring you to sign up as a member of our website and forum as well as answering the multiple choice question below

QUESTION: What's the saw's mitre cut capacity?

A: 48 to -2° B: -2 to 47° C: -47 to +47°

Once you have the answer, visit www.thewoodworkermag.com/category/win. Select the correct multiple choice answer, then follow instructions for the second part of entry – visit our forum thread and tell us why you'd like to win this particular prize

The winners will be randomly drawn from all correct entries. The closing date for the competition is **22 April 2022**. Only one entry per person; multiple entries will be discarded. Employees of MyTimeMedia Ltd and Trend are not eligible to enter this competition



Visit **www.toolnut.co.uk** for the finest carving & hand tools..



Our customers rate us 5 star

"Absolutely fantastic company to deal with. Quality products and first class service. 100% recommend" ★★★★★

"Excellent, Prompt service. Product was well packaged in fully recyclable materials." ★★★★★

See all our 5 star reviews on [Trust pilot](#)



Ashley Isles
(Edge & Tool) Ltd.



narex

veritas

A&E
SQUIRES

ECLIPSE

Flexcut

IRWIN
Reed

STANLEY

Robert
Porty



SAVE
47%
ON SHOP PRICE

only
£7.89
per
quarter



DON'T FORGET...
Single digital issues
are available from
pocketmags.com

For further details please visit
<https://tww.secureorder.co.uk/TWW/BAR/#digital>
Print and bundle subscriptions are also available

Please visit www.mytimemedia.co.uk/terms for full terms & conditions

CUTTING DOORS TO LENGTH TO LENGTH PROFESSIONALLY

A NINE-STEP GUIDE BY FESTOOL

When cutting doors to length, it's precision rather than guesswork that's needed. Here, Festool's training consultant **Nadja Körbel** shows how best to achieve this in nine steps

During renovations/restorations of old buildings, it's not uncommon for the floor to have been laid perfectly, but the doors don't subsequently fit in the frames. What happens then? At this point, it's more a question of precision than guesswork.

While it's not usually a surprise during renovations/restorations, it's still a pain – you're celebrating the fact the parquet flooring is finally laid, but then discover the doors no longer fit in the frames! Obviously this needs to be fixed.

As an experienced floor installer and Festool's training consultant, this is a topic I'm well-versed in. Here, I'll explain the best way to cut doors to length professionally and what you need to watch out for.

Precision not guesswork

If you establish that your door won't fit in the frame, proceed as follows: to protect your body, you should ideally remove the door so that your back is supporting it and your knees are bearing the weight (**photo 1**).

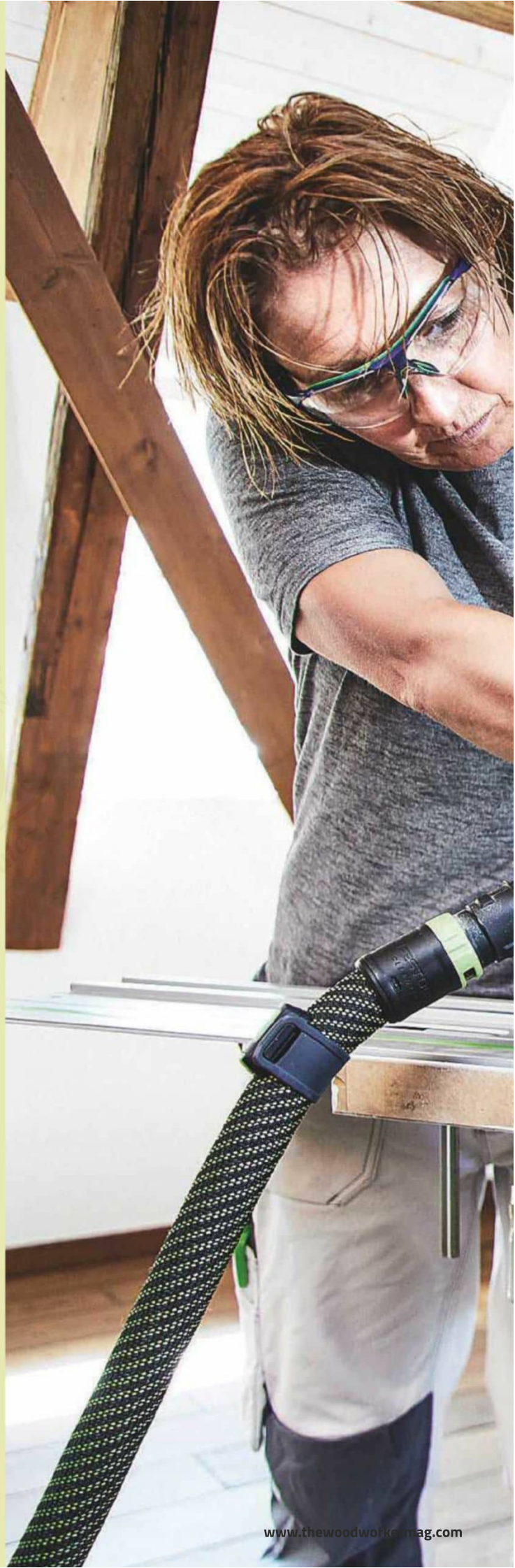
Measure the required length directly onto the frame. In doing so, take the measurement precisely and measure the distance along the frame from the top edge of the door hinge to the floor – on both sides (**photo 2**).

To work on the door in a comfortable position, lay it on two stands, or, if available, Festool's STM 1800 mobile saw table and workbench is ideal (**photo 3**).

When the door is securely positioned on the work surface, transfer the measurements you've taken. I recommend using a guide rail to precisely cut the door to length. Using a fastening clamp, this can be easily positioned in the lower groove (**photo 4**).

Next, make any fine adjustments to the guide rail by aligning it so that the splinter guard is positioned exactly on the mark (**photo 5**). Now comes the crucial part: for a precise cut, I prefer to use the Festool TSC 55 K plunge-cut saw with KickbackStop together with the CT MIDI extractor (**photo 6**). This ensures a perfectly precise cut, which can be achieved free of cables and dust.

Next, blunt the edges by lightly grinding cutting edges using a hand-sanding block or abrasive sponge (**photo 7**). And last but not least, hang the door, making any fine adjustments via the hinges (**photo 8**). Ensure to leave the work area clean, free of any dust and debris (**photo 9**) – Festool's CT MIDI extractor comes into its own here. ▶







1 Unhinge the door without injuring yourself. Protect your body when doing this. Position the door so that your back is supporting it and rise from your knees

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, feedback, guides, practical examples and details of products mentioned here, visit www.festool.co.uk



2 Measure the distance along the frame from the top edge of the door hinge to the floor



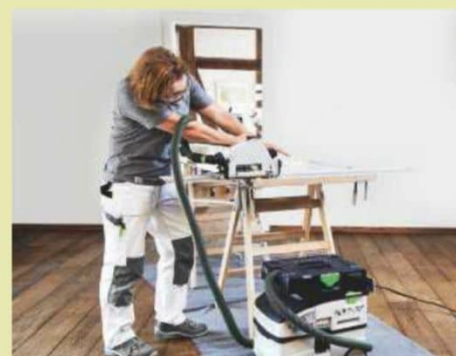
3 Lay the door on two stands, which will ensure you're able to work in a comfortable position. Transfer the measurement you've just taken



4 Take the guide rail and position using one fastening clamp in the lower groove



5 Make fine adjustments to the guide rail. Align it so that the splinter guard is positioned exactly on the mark



6 Cut the door to length. One precise cut will yield the desired result, cable-free and dust-free, using the Festool TSC 55 K and CT MIDI, for example



7 The cutting edges should be ground if required, ideally using a hand-sanding block or abrasive sponge



8 You won't know if you've been successful until the door is hung. Any fine adjustments can be made via the hinges



9 Clean up the work area and ensure it's dust-free, which can be guaranteed using Festool's CT MIDI cordless extractor – this cleaning whizz is certainly a hard worker ✂

18V cordless drills. Pure power.



FESTOOL



Warranty all-inclusive

At Festool you'll find a wide selection of cordless drills and screwdrivers, with models for industrial and construction environments, along with smaller devices that are ideal for professional home use. The appealing combination of lithium ion batteries together with the brushless EC-TEC motor combines all the advantages you need from a high-performing cordless tool.

Discover more

www.festool.co.uk/products/cordless-products/cordless-drills



SCAN ME

What's new from

'THE' TOOL SPECIALISTS • WWW.DM-TOOLS.CO.UK • 0208 892 3813



TREND T12 & T14 ROUTERS – THE BEST JUST GOT BETTER!

MANUFACTURER: Trend
D&M GUIDE PRICE: See website

Trend's market leading router range has just got even better, with the launch of their NEW flagship T12 and T14 ½in routers.

Both are variable speed, plunge models, perfect for heavy-duty and trade work, and additionally, the T14 is designed to work as a table router.

These new high-performance, trade-focused routers have been built with advanced safety features and are engineered to deliver reliable, fast, accurate cuts.

The newly-released **Trend T12 plunge router – top** – is perfect for kitchen fitting applications, heavy-duty trenching work, hand-held routing and edge moulding.

Trend's brand-new T14 workshop router – bottom – has been developed for hand-held and router table use. Perfect for routing narrow materials where use of a side fence isn't practical and ideal for fast, accurate heavy-duty trenching work. It also comes complete with router table safety switch.

Not only do both models have all the class-leading features that you've come to expect from Trend, they're also packed with innovation, to ensure they deliver speed, accuracy and precision.



PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE – WWW.DM-TOOLS.CO.UK – FOR THE LATEST PRICES AND DEALS



THE **TOOLS** SUPERSTORE

HAND, POWER TOOLS & MACHINERY SPECIALIST

DM-TOOLS.CO.UK

Have you visited us at our Twickenham Superstore?

With over 600 power tools on display from all the leading manufacturers, as well as an extensive range of hand tools and accessories our Superstore is well worth a visit!

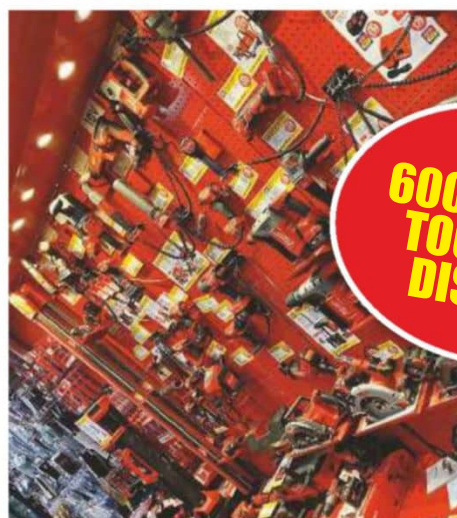
We also have an area dedicated to a wide selection of woodworking machinery by leading manufacturers including Record Power and Scheppach, which is available to view on request.

Our fully trained and experienced staff are always on hand to help or advise you on your purchase.

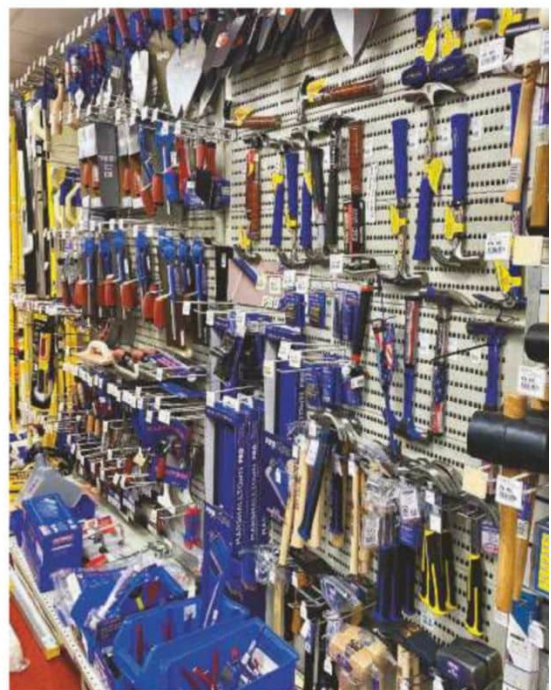
So whether you are shopping with us on-line or in-store you can be assured of the highest level of service and care.



**EXTENSIVE
RANGE OF
HAND TOOLS**



**OVER
600 POWER
TOOLS ON
DISPLAY**



73-81 HEATH ROAD • TWICKENHAM • TW1 4AW
020 8892 3813 • SALES@DM-TOOLS.CO.UK

MON-SAT 8.30am-5.30pm
(CLOSED BANK HOLIDAYS)

The box that keeps on growing

Looking to bring the garden closer, Robin Gates turns to *The Woodworker* of April 1956 for a window box

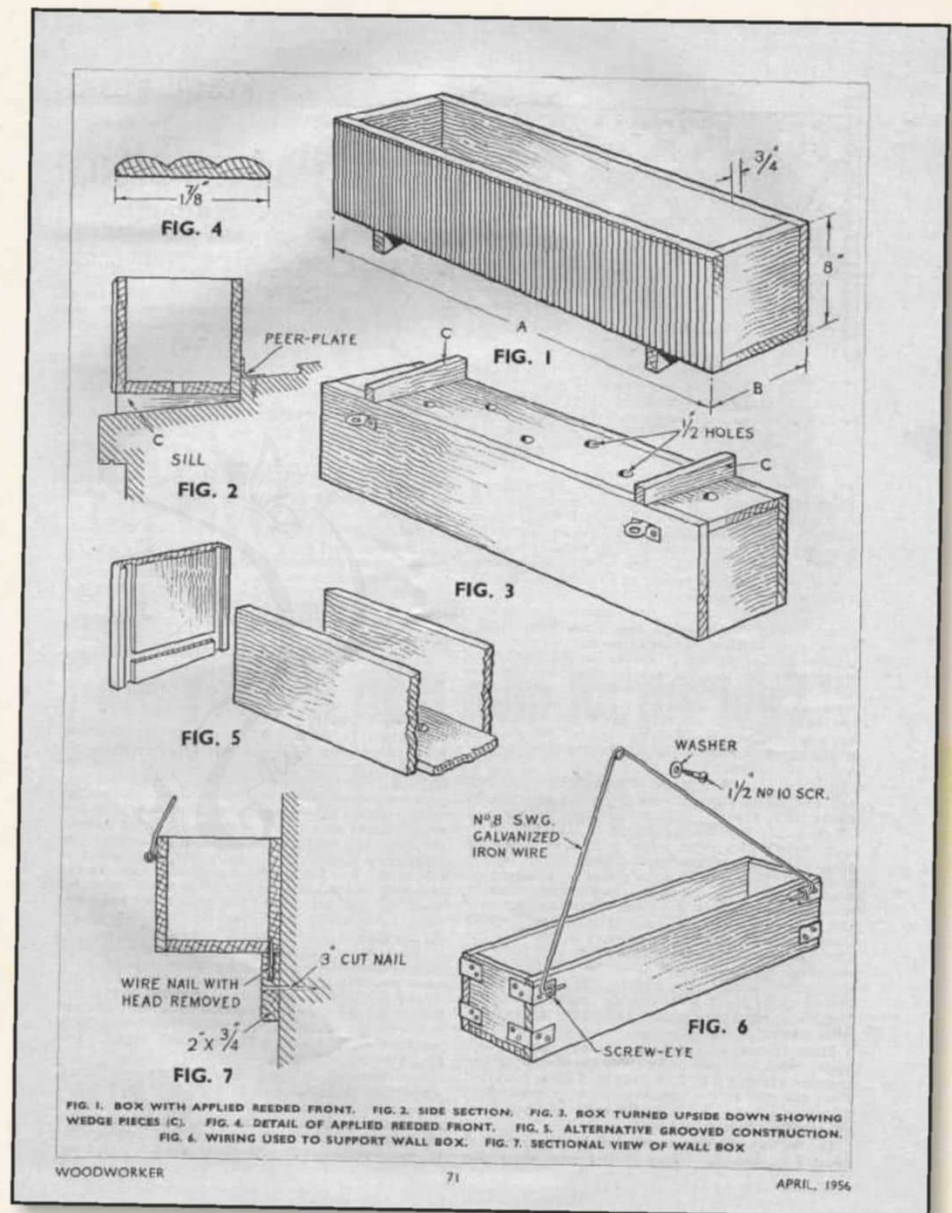
It's wonderful how woodwork overlaps and supports so many other interests. If food is a passion, what better than to design and build for the kitchen, be it a spice rack or Welsh dresser. If sailing is your thing then surely there's no greater satisfaction than building your own wooden boat – ambitious certainly, but within the bounds of possibility. Artists require wooden easels and picture frames, while all manner of craftspeople benefit from a dedicated wooden workbench, from dressmaker to silversmith. What with pandemic lock-downs and this last winter having been so dreary, I found myself cocooned indoors, reading and writing, with thoughts turning to improved bookshelves, and more fantastically, to a good reading chair – of the Windsor variety, but with a modicum of cushioning for my bony undercarriage. Even a desk.

But as spring unfolded – earlier than ever, it seemed – with longer days and excitable twittering in the trees, my focus shifted to objectives more urgent and realistically achievable, not to mention a classic overlap between woodwork and another interest: watching wildlife. Is there a better return on time invested with saw, plane and chisel than the pleasure obtained in seeing a new generation of fellow creatures emerge from beneath your own roof, so to speak? All woodworkers love building boxes, and surely we owe it to the birds and bats, especially, denied their natural homes by urban sprawl, to compensate where possible with replacement shelters. Now, while waiting anxiously for the first brood to show their fluffy heads from the nest box, I'm sorting through timber for yet another British passion and another sort of box – a window box. You've heard of the 'gift that keeps on giving,' well this must be 'the box that keeps on growing!'

Precious space

So many old front gardens have been bricked over for parking cars, meanwhile new homes are built on ever-smaller plots, and ever-larger apartment blocks deny town dwellers the opportunity to get stuck into bare soil with fork and spade. There seems barely space for growing moss these days let alone a towering hollyhock or mighty sword of gladiolus. So if, like me, you find yourself gardening where three daffodils constitute a crowd, there couldn't be a better time to construct a window box than now, when the plant world and ourselves are coming out of hibernation.

What shall we plant – mysterious ferns, purple heathers, fiery tulips, or perhaps a



mini-kitchen garden of herbs to attract the bees and butterflies? There'll be some fun in the planning, taking into account the soil type, sun, shade and prevailing wind, but first we must build the box for this little paradise, and for that I'm turning to *The Woodworker* of 66 years ago – April 1956.

Simply illustrated

The illustration is fairly self-explanatory, but we may note our author's recommendation of teak for standing up to the constant wetting, and if the box be large and heavy, then the space could be divided as smaller units more manageable for lifting. Join sides and ends by dovetails if you're

feeling fancy, but oval nails – with heads punched in – may be considered more in keeping, possibly with applied reeded decoration. Housing the parts will resist the outward thrust of soil, otherwise steel angle plates will reinforce the corners, and wedges are used for levelling.

Recalling my first student room where the one above kept a tank of pond snails and water draining from it dripped constantly down my window, give a thought to socially-acceptable drainage. Water might be collected in a tray with a corner plug for controlled emptying, perhaps. It's also vital that the box is securely anchored to the windowsill, or to the wall if opting for the hanging type where windows open outwards. ✕

GIVE YOURSELF A LIFT IN 2022

Discover our router lifts.

Precision German engineering and high grade aluminium combine to create lifts of unmatched quality and the highest precision.

Included is our unique OFL3.0, the only pivoting lift, it allows infinite routing possibilities without the need to have hundreds of different router bits.

Look at these and 1000's of other high quality woodworking tools today at

www.sautershop.com



Router Lift OFL3.0

Pivots from -5° to 50°
For router motors with a 43mm neck
Special magnetic reduction plates
Accurate to 1/10mm



Router Lift OFL 1.0

Three reduction rings
Pre-drilled to fit most routers
Accurate to 1/10mm



Router Lift OFL 2.0

3 models pre-drilled
to fit most routers and motors
Magnetic reduction rings
available from 10mm - 98mm.
Accurate to 1/10mm





A BREATH OF FRESH HEIRLOOM

Les Lively's work is a fusion of different styles, which emphasise elegant lines and intricate details such as inlay, double dovetail corners and mortise & tenon joints



Describing himself as a 'veteran woodworking artist', furniture maker Les Lively's passion for handcrafting custom furniture and accessories is clear to see. Not content with producing many of the same item, but rather choosing to keep his pieces unique and 'one-of-a-kind', he best enjoys selling his work to individuals who truly appreciate artistic furniture.

Les explains that he's disheartened by the sheer amount of inexpensive, dispensable furniture that's available nowadays, which has little regard for quality or craftsmanship. Rather, he strives to make individual, heirloom pieces, which can be proudly passed down and used for generations to come.

Having discovered that this maker is entirely self-taught, Les goes on to tell me about his first woodworking encounter, which was back in the 1960s, during his high school years: "It immediately became my favourite class," he says. "I was drawn to its challenges, the rewards of working with my hands, and the entire creative process. I soon discovered that not only did I love working with wood, but I also seemed to have a natural talent and an eye for design."

Creative process

Once he'd left school, Les only discovered furniture making again out of necessity. After graduating, he moved into a shared house with a group of fellow young men, none of whom had







'Craftsman Style Side Table' – the inspiration for this piece came from the wheat fields of eastern Washington where Les grew up. The top inlay is fashioned in the Arts & Crafts style and is representative of a sheaf of wheat. Made using maple, Peruvian walnut, purpleheart, yellowheart, Osage orange, wenge, zebrawood and lacewood – 470 x 734 x 660mm

it's only been recently, as retirement looms, that he's found the time to concentrate solely on making furniture and other artistic pieces.

In addition to a natural aptitude and creative talent as far as woodworking goes, Les is also musically gifted and plays various instruments, including the guitar, drums and a little bit of keyboard over the years: "I've played the guitar almost as long as I've been working with wood – it's what I do with my hands when I need a break from the workshop." Although Les doesn't read music, this hasn't held him back and instead, he's learned to play by ear. Kicking back and immersing himself in music is just another one of Les' creative outlets.

When asked how being a self-taught furniture maker shapes his designs, Les explains that his creative eye holds the secret: all he has to do is look at a piece of wood and sometimes he can automatically envision what it'll become. This can be any number of things, from a particular wood grain to deciding if the timber's unique characteristics can be complemented if used correctly. "Being self-taught has involved a lot of practice, many years of experience, and learning creative ways to turn inevitable mistakes into a new discovery."

An inspirational melting pot

Looking at Les' pieces, his love of Art Deco, Art Nouveau, Arts & Crafts, and even modern design, is immediately apparent. He cleverly combines these styles, creating a harmonious fusion, and in doing so produces work that's truly unique: "The designs of the Art Deco craftsmen have intrigued and inspired me for as long as I can remember. I've always admired Gustav Stickley – furniture designer, architect and leader of the US Arts & Crafts Movement." Stickley's furniture reflected his ideals of simplicity, honesty in construction, and truth to materials. Unadorned, plain surfaces were enlivened by the careful application of colours so as not to obscure wood grain and mortise & tenon joinery was exposed to emphasise a piece's structural qualities. The international Arts & Crafts movement in the decorative and fine arts stood for traditional craftsmanship using simple forms, often calling upon folk styles of decoration.

This style emerged from the attempt to reform design and decoration and the reaction against contemporary styles that the reformers associated with machine-production, which were ornate, artificial and ignored the qualities of materials used. Popular in the late 19th century, Art Nouveau furniture designs were usually very complex, with curving shapes that were expensive to make and inspired



any furniture; this was before the likes of IKEA and competitively priced flat-pack items even existed. So, Les started making his own tables and beds from 2x4 scrap pieces of timber: "I always enjoyed the creative process, and this gave me the outlet to do that," he comments. Since then, he's designed and built a variety of utilitarian items, including bread boards, rolling pins, game boards, boxes, dressers, beds and tables. "My work has evolved from basic, functional pieces to those that are much more elaborate and artistic, yet still have a use. When I build furniture, I know that it'll be of the highest quality and proudly displayed in someone's home."

Before becoming a furniture maker, Les was employed as a residential construction contractor, so he's always worked with his hands. Occasionally he still finds himself remodelling a home, as the same creative process applies, and in doing so he calls upon his ability to envision the possibilities. During these years, Les always practised furniture making in his spare time, but

'Side Table With Drawer' – this distinctive side table with front drawer features double dovetail joints and beautifully curved legs. Geometric inlay is present on the table top's four corners. Made in maple, cherry and exotic hardwoods – 279 × 635 × 101mm

by natural forms and structures, not only in flowers and plants, but also in its curved lines. Les says he finds it hard to pin-point an exact style as his work is born out of a free-form design, influenced by Art Deco and the Arts & Crafts traditions, but with a modern twist thrown in. "I strive to combine both the quality of Stickley along with some Art Deco flourishes, as seen in my inlay work and curving lines." In short, Les takes what he needs from various styles and eras.

Natural surroundings

Les lives in the Hood River region of Oregon, a scenic and historical area known for its beautifully detailed Craftsman-style homes, many of which date back to the 1920s. He says that living in such a visually stunning area provides plenty of inspiration, some of which is reflected in the inlay designs he creates: "One of my tables has inlay that's representative of a sheaf of wheat, a homage to the wheat fields of eastern Oregon and Washington where I grew up. Many of my inlay designs look geometric, but represent abstract impressions of the beauty that surrounds me."

Design process

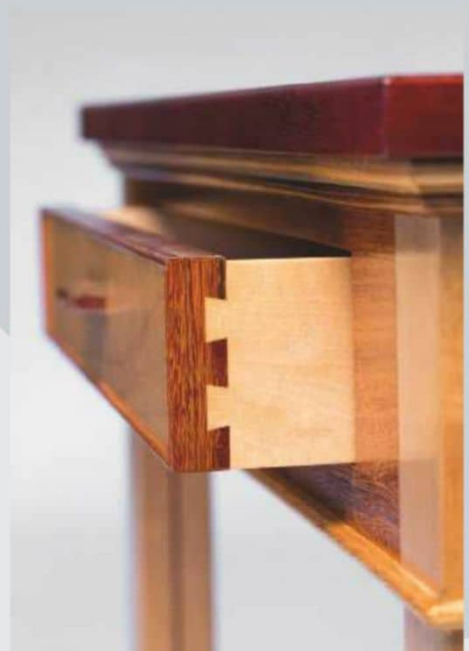
When it comes to design planning and execution, Les usually starts by drawing something before experimenting with different ideas, then finally searching for the appropriate piece of wood: "I'll spend a lot of time drawing, but it's not unusual for me to change the design slightly once I start cutting into the timber and revealing its character. If I see a particular piece of wood with distinctive characteristics, or unusual markings, I'll be



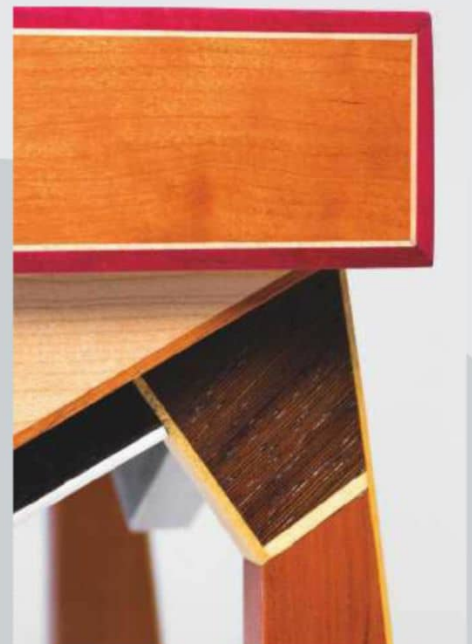
inspired to create a piece that showcases its particular beauty."

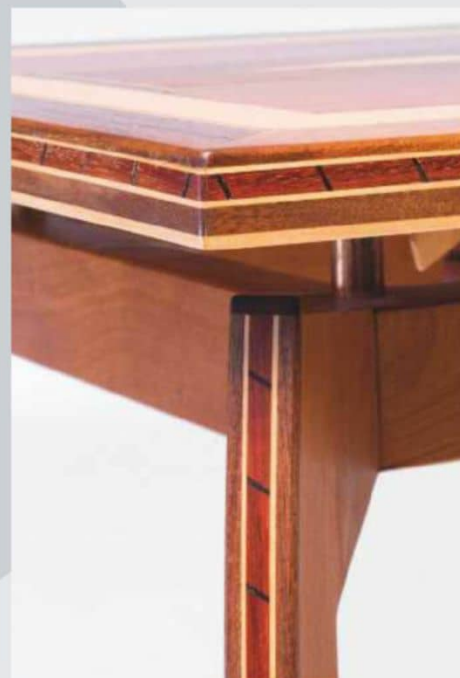
As explained previously, when looking for potential timber for his projects, Les finds himself drawn to that with the most beautiful grain, along with prominent colouring and patterning: "Occasionally I'll find discarded wood, or pieces with defects. It's very satisfying when I can discover beauty in those flaws and transform them into a work of art."

In terms of the design phase, Les prefers to trust his creative flair and trained eye, but will happily work closely with clients to create



'Granite Topped Plant Stand' – featuring a geometric design, aluminium accents to add a modern flare and a granite top, which is perfect for plants. Made in cherry, maple and wenge – 330 × 330 × 673mm





'Floating Top Side Table' – the floating illusion is created using copper pieces set under the top. Delicate inlay surrounds the edges and follows the legs' graceful curves. The table top has been book-ended to create a stunning image. Made using cherry, walnut, maple and exotic hardwoods – 457 × 457 × 635mm



'Sushi Serving Board' – all the wood for this coffee table was taken from a 100-year-old fir beam. What makes this timber unique is its tight grain, free of knots and defects, which was revealed after many hours of sanding – made using poplar and jatoba – 305 × 610 × 100mm high

a special piece for their home, which is reflective of personal style and budget: "Many of them have been inspired by a particular piece of furniture I've already made, so this is a good starting point."

Les tells me about a particular piece he made a few years ago – a very unique side table for a show entitled 'The Best of The Gorge', which is held at the Columbia Center for the Arts Gallery in Hood River, Oregon. He's now getting ready for another show at the same gallery, which will focus on smaller utilitarian items, such as bread boards, cutting boards, rolling pins and other functional but beautifully crafted wares: "I just acquired a beautiful piece of bubinga that'll soon become a side table. Bubinga – sometimes known as African rosewood – varies in colour from pinkish-mauve to golden blonde and over time, beautifully oxidises to reveal rich, darker tones. It also features a host of stunning grain figuring, such as flamed, pommele and waterfall, which helps to make it truly unique."

When it comes to creating an heirloom piece, it's extremely important for Les to preserve the integrity of the raw material. As such, he uses only the highest quality products and pays great attention to every detail. He prefers not to use stains, instead relying on the timber's natural colour variations and distinctive grain patterns to contribute to the design. "Wood has such a natural beauty, which should be highlighted in every piece you make," he comments.

A workshop close to home

Les' workshop takes up the entire basement of his home and is kitted out with all the necessary equipment, plus a large selection of timber. He keeps any offcuts that remain

once a project had been completed, and always endeavours to use these to create inlays, in an effort to utilise as much of the natural resource as possible.

When asked to pick a favourite tool from his collection, Les struggles to choose as according to him, "all are so important in helping to create the finished product." Doing so can take him anywhere from 2-4 weeks in total, obviously depending on the size of the piece. Since Les' workshop is situated so close to home, he finds himself spending many hours, days and weeks working on various pieces. "The process can be exhaustive," he admits, "requiring a steady hand and lots of patience, but I find it so rewarding and love doing it!"

When it comes to producing his signature inlays, everything is cut using a router and scrollsaw, but all the sanding and finishing is completed by hand: "The hand work definitely takes a lot of time, since everything has to be sanded and hand rubbed multiple times to achieve the glass-smooth finish I'm looking for," Les explains.

Award-winning work

Unsurprisingly, Les' stunning pieces have received much recognition over the years, the most notable of which is his 'Zenith' side table, which won Honourable Mention in 'The Best of the Gorge' at the Columbia Center for the Arts. This annual event celebrates the best artwork produced by mid-Columbia River Gorge residents, and brings visitors from around the world to experience some of the finest art in the region. The extraordinary side table – made using cherry, maple, wenge, walnut, yellowheart and purpleheart – was chosen for its uniqueness, quality of woodwork, and graceful lines.

In terms of the piece he's most proud of, however, that would be a large dresser, made entirely of solid wood, and one of Les' most challenging pieces to date: "All of the runners are wood, and it required precision and exact cuts to make everything fit perfectly. I love a challenge and the sense of accomplishment I experience when a piece is finished."

So what does the future hold for Lively Furniture? With retirement on the horizon, Les wants to use this extra time to continue perfecting his craft and learning new skills, in a bid to increase his client base so that even more people can enjoy the work he produces.

And as far as workshop tips are concerned, Les says that in his opinion, there aren't any secrets or short cuts – to put it bluntly, producing fine furniture takes a lot of patience, practice, precision, and most importantly, years of experience. All of this effort isn't in vain, however, as the sheer joy Les derives from producing such pieces is obvious, and surely that's the greatest and most profound message that anyone reading this can take away. ✂

FURTHER INFORMATION

To see more examples of Les' wonderful work, visit his website: www.livelyfinefurniture.com



'Treasure Box' – a whimsical box designed to hold jewellery, trinkets and treasures, made using curly maple and cherry – 125 x 241 x 165mm high



'Zenith' side table, made using cherry, maple, wenge, walnut, yellowheart and purpleheart. Given Honourable Mention at the '2015 Best of the Gorge' competition, held through the Columbia Center for the Arts. Truly a stunning piece of work!

ROUTING

SMALL, BEAUTIFUL & CORDLESS



Some of the greatest gifts do come in small packages, as **Jeremy Broun** finds when looking at various routers



1 Stilt poles extended by routing in steel locating pins and brackets

How many times have you trapped a router cable in between the straight fence and workpiece, or found that the cable has got caught up somewhere on the bench, thus preventing full router travel?

For many years, I've been asking router manufacturers when a cordless version is likely to appear when everything else has gone this way. I recall writing my first article on cordless tools back in 1992. The router seems to be the one that really warrants cable-less operation; freedom and ease of use is surely a priority in both the workshop and on site (**photos 1 & 2**).

Phil Davy's review of Trend's T18S cordless router in the February 2022 issue will whet the appetite of many woodworkers. Actually, I tried to get my hands on this model as it looks very promising and thankfully, it's called a router rather than a trimmer. So, I'm assuming it's only slightly bigger than the Makita DRT50 cordless trimmer, which I got my hands on last year (**photos 3 & 4**). Both take 18V Lithium-ion batteries and accept ¼in and 8mm collets.



2 An improvised jig for cutting grooves, using a Ryobi cordless router

Routing outside the box

The thing about the router is to think outside the box that it comes in (**photo 5**). That is, if you want a tool that does more than only cut grooves, rebates and profile edges. But even if you just use a router for those tasks, why is it such a latecomer or indeed the last comer to the world of cordless woodworking?

I can only guess that the router has been considered too power hungry to be cordless and that the establishment of brushless motors in other tools has at last prompted manufacturers to take the plunge with routers. Also, a battery will make it top heavy and unsafe. The new Trend T18S router (**photo 6**) looks tall with its 60mm plunge stroke, which could potentially make it top heavy, but presumably not.

Big is beastly

I dislike using the word 'myth', which is currently so over-used, but thinking you need a big router for proper work or that a small router is somehow a toy, is a fundamental misunderstanding. Yes, of course some people like big beasts. As with a powerful car, they don't struggle uphill and there's the case in routing that the added weight makes the tool more stable and less likely to wander. I have several big beasts in my router collection – around 2Hp and 3Hp – and for cutting deep mortises at speed, I have for decades used a Hitachi MV18 with hefty ½in shank cutter. Speaking of which, last year, HiKOKI – formerly Hitachi – launched the world's first ½in 18V cordless router, which, interestingly, has a shorter plunge stroke than Trend's 18V version.

Ergonomics & safety

So, where do you put the battery on a cordless router? It has to be on top although who knows in future. Just as the frames of some electric bikes hold batteries, the plunge columns and base itself could be used for storage. Electric cars have batteries built in as part of the chassis, with low centre of gravity being a key design factor. I haven't noticed any problem with the Makita DRT50 regarding top heaviness, and I think the balance and feel is just right. Some woodworkers – mainly from across the pond – claim that accidents can occur with top heavy cordless trimmers and lithium batteries suddenly shut off power. I really can't see this being a serious safety issue as the power drops



considerably, thus giving a warning in the last few seconds. However, I'm intrigued that the Trend T18S cordless router boasts a 60mm long plunge stroke. This is presumably for the on-site cutting of deep mortises for door locks.

To conserve battery power for such tasks, why not start by drilling out much of the stock, and just use the router in its jig for defining the mortise's final surfaces?

Surgical precision

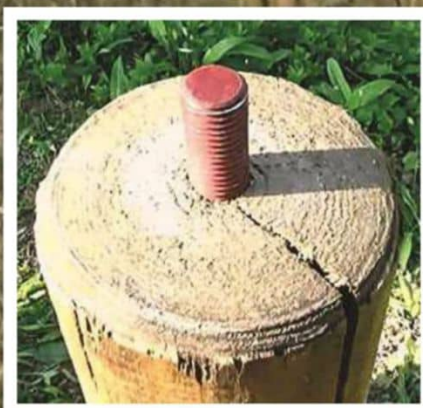
A router's outstanding feature is its precision. In particular, the depth stop in allowing a mortise or other recess to be cut to a precise depth. A smaller router gives greater control for really precise operations such as my use of a tiny 1.2mm diameter cutter to create a fine groove along joint lines (**photo 7**).



3 Using the Makita DRT50 to surface skim my novel dovetail joints



The author with his pack-flat bird hide. A small Ryobi cordless router was used for grooving and drilling the steel bar and studding to secure pole extensions



Sitting down at the bench and taking time to rout each tiny groove demands great concentration. I've always regarded the router as a tool that begs to be used in new and imaginative ways and am puzzled as to why it's still mainly used to replicate methods of the past. A surgeon's tools – whether scalpels or pliers – are ergonomically designed for precision, weight and balance and when handed to the surgeon, he/she'll likely not be looking at the tool itself, but rather, what it then does. Sadly, irrespective of whether a router is large or small, the essential finger/thumb control of the on/off switch is generally poor. It shouldn't necessitate taking the hand off the router hand-grip. Fortunately, with a smaller router the fingers don't have to stretch so far. This is also the case for side play in the router columns, which affects accuracy when carrying out repeat plunge cuts.

Reaching parts other routers cannot

Some readers will remember the Heineken beer adverts (1973) – 'Refreshes the Parts Other Beers Cannot Reach'. A small router can dramatically change the way in which you construct cabinet carcasses and reduce lengthy glue-up procedures by routing shelf and vertical partition housings after the main outer carcass has been glued up.

The Makita DRT50, loaded with a 4Ah battery, stands just under 250mm high

when a short, straight cutter is set to machine a stopped housing run in from the rear of the open carcass. This opens up enormous possibilities and advantages for design and construction in the case of intricate, modern cabinetry (**photos 8 & 9**).

Even the cable sticking out of a router can limit its ability to access closed spaces. Interestingly, the 2-5Ah range of batteries are all the same depth. Out of curiosity, I worked out how tall the Trend T18S stands with a 4Ah battery inserted, then how tall it stands fully plunged. It stands 210mm

tall unsprung, which is 20mm taller than the Makita, but I was surprised that it stood lower fully plunged at 210mm, which is 30mm lower than the Makita! This means that potentially, the T18S can reach parts other routers cannot. I suspect Trend may not be aware of this, but with the creative woodworker in mind, it's a bonus (**photos 8 & 9**).

Fortuitously, the battery's flat outer surface also allows the router to be mounted upside down, which is a huge ease-of-use benefit when it comes to inserting a guide bush or changing a cutter. So onto the battery itself..



4 Surgical precision: the compact Makita DRT50 allows unconventional fast and accurate waste removal on the same novel dovetail joints



5 The Makita DRT50 outside the 'JB OmniBox' space-saving router storage system



6 The Trend T185 1/4in 18V cordless router

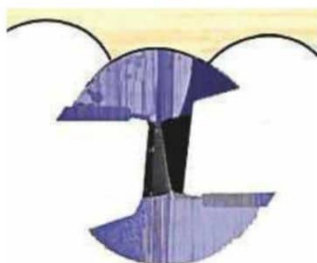
Battery runtime & router usage

The burning question is how long does it function on a fully charged battery? And speaking of burning and how to avoid it, a golden rule of routing is to make light cuts, which is particularly relevant to cordless routing. I cringe when I see YouTube videos showing deep trenching in one pass with the router revs dipping drastically as though a tractor is attacking a furrow. You should cut no deeper than half the diameter of the cutter in one pass and the secret, especially for a cordless model, is to make light cuts at high revs.

Runtime will of course depend on battery amperage – e.g. 3–5Ah. The Makita DRT50, which I find almost perfect for my own diverse routing, tends to be used by tradesmen as a trimmer and a typical application is radiusing window sills. Around 100m maximum can be achieved, which is a long window sill. An amateur woodworker profiling the edge of a table top may take less than two minutes; cutting a dovetail joint in a jig perhaps five minutes. It all depends on the level of resistance to material – load. Take a person such as myself, for example, in the autumn of his youth – a determining factor is stamina at concentrating, eye strain, back strain and wrist ache! I find a natural maximum operation time is around three minutes without a break, and with this in mind, a small router makes sense.

Runtime test

I decided to conduct a very basic test with the Makita DRT50 router fitted with 4Ah battery, subjecting it to high load torque, at highest rpm, making deep cuts into a piece of hardwood using a 10mm wide straight cutter. I worked



10 My fast plunge technique – less than a third of the cutter engages in a rhythmic, vertical, overlapping chop motion



7 Surgical precision and great concentration are required to rout these narrow groove joint highlights

the router deliberately hard with the revs dropping significantly, which you shouldn't do in normal use. I achieved nine minutes in three-minute sessions – the maximum you'd use a router for in any task – and continuously in three-minute sessions. Out of curiosity, I repeated the test using an aftermarket 5Ah battery and achieved six minutes. I then used my fast plunge method (photo 10) for removing stock and achieved 17 minutes runtime with 50% of battery power remaining and well over double the amount of stock removed with three-quarters' battery power still intact (photo 11). A video showing the full test can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0x9hM4lrTA8>.

The fact that a lithium battery suddenly dies isn't so bad. If the router unexpectedly stops it'll seldom ruin the workpiece, but more importantly, you should keep an eye on the condition monitor and not let lithium batteries drain completely. Ideal charging is between 10 and 80% of battery charge state. A 4Ah Makita battery takes about 36 minutes to reach full charge.

Kitting out

You're likely to have spare batteries as Makita and Trend's cordless routers are sold as a kit and form part of their proprietary battery systems. At nearly £400, the full kits aren't cheap, and I don't quite understand why a separate trimmer



9 The main carcass is glued and clamped, then subsequent members housed in



11 Over three times the runtime using my fast plunge method to trench a 20mm deep mortise. After 12 minutes, more stock is removed with a staggering three-quarters' power remaining



8 A small plunging router can radically simplify life with staged carcass construction

is included – a small router has always been used for edge profiling and this can be carried out safely with just one hand.

Feel-good factor

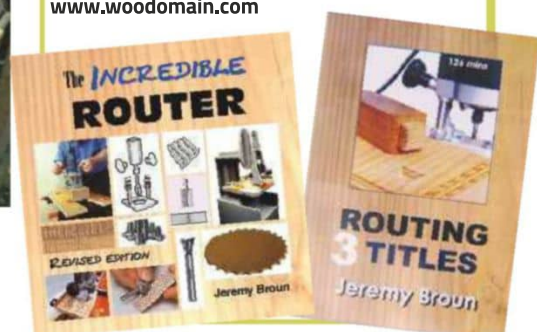
From the unusual and fortunate position of owning numerous routers, I don't have to be married to just one! The litmus paper test seems to be which plunging router I tend to use most of the time given that none are perfect and most have quirks that you get used to. It used to be the DeWalt 621 1,100W router, formerly known as the Elu 97e. The little Makita DRT50 seems to be an ideal size, well balanced with lovely soft rubberised but firm grips. It's the quietest one I own and superbly engineered with an adequate – but not brilliant – plunge lock lever. The straight fence is limited in reach but there are other ways to make parallel cuts, such as using a batten clamp where the fence is unhindered.

In what is already an overcrowded marketplace, Trend has made a bold move in competing with the likes of Makita and DeWalt. Had I been able to source this new router, I could very well have taken to it as with the DRT50. Extra plunge depth is certainly useful and both models look great. After all, the great joy of woodworking is collecting tools that make you feel good during use.

A small router may even encourage you to make smaller objects using this precious material. Considering the shortage of trees and slow-growing hardwoods, timber is set to become increasingly scarce on this planet that's on loan to us. Curiously 'small is beautiful' seemed to be a 1970s fad, but some of the greatest gifts do come in small packages. ✂

FURTHER INFORMATION

Jeremy Broun is the author of the original pioneer creative routing book, *The Incredible Router* (1989). The revised hardback edition (2018) and his definitive routing videos are available as DVDs or downloads at www.woodomain.com



novaTM

Smart Tools, Powerful Solutions

G3 PRO-TEK CHUCK BUNDLES

**Available
now!**

With a rust resistant nickel-plated body, the new and improved NOVA G3 PRO-TEK Chuck comes as a bundle with 50mm Jaws, Pin Jaws and 100mm Jaws.

For ease of use, the G3 PRO-TEK Chuck has intuitive clockwise tightening, with 6-point star head screws to provide better holding power and quicker fastening, saving you time. Stronger and more versatile, the NOVA PRO-TEK Chuck bundle is a must for all woodturning enthusiasts.



Scan me



Two Bundles Available: M33 Direct Thread or Insert Thread. G3 PRO-TEK Chuck also sold individually

6 YEAR WARRANTY
BEST IN THE MARKET!



For UK & Ireland, find your nearest stockist online

www.craft-supplies.co.uk

   @craftsuppliesservice  service@craft-supplies.co.uk

Craft Supplies

BE INSPIRED, BE CREATIVE

WIN WITH



There's a £200 Amazon voucher up for grabs, plus a bundle of Liberon woodcare products worth over £120



We're teaming up with woodcare experts, **Liberon**, to give you the opportunity to showcase your woodworking skills and win a prize bundle worth over **£300**



Running over the next three issues, in conjunction with Liberon – woodcare experts since 1912 – we're giving readers the opportunity to show off their woodworking skills, regardless of discipline – be it general woodworking, woodturning, carving or cabinetmaking, for example. If you've recently completed a project build or restoration – or are in the process of doing so – Liberon invites readers to send in photos of their finished piece(s) along with a brief description detailing the making process involved.

It's easy to enter, and the idea is to show off a woodworking project you're particularly proud of – this could apply to a new piece you've made, a restoration project, or similar. Equally, it could be something small such as a bowl, or a larger item like a dining room table. So whether you've created a piece from scratch or restored an old or antique item back to its former glory, why not showcase your skills – the magazine team and experts at Liberon would love to see what you're capable of.

Showcase your skills

To enter the competition, we ask you to send in, via email, 1-3 photos of your chosen project as well as a brief description giving some details. Together with the Liberon team, we'll judge the best entries and then present the winning project – along with a select few others – in an upcoming magazine feature as well as on our website. This is your chance to show off your skills, have them judged by the experts at Liberon, as well as winning a fantastic prize bundle, which includes an array of specialist woodcare products for use on future woodworking projects.

LIBERON'S WOODCARE RANGE

Ahead of the competition launch, shown opposite is some information regarding various

core items in Liberon's top quality range. These are designed to help both professional and amateur woodworkers achieve a beautiful finish on a wide range of projects.

Wood dyes

Liberon's Spirit Wood Dye is an ethanol-based product ideal for dense hardwoods. To achieve your preferred shade, any of the eight colours in which it's offered can be mixed together.

Available in a choice of 13 different shades, Liberon's Palette Wood Dye allows you to achieve an exact shade by combining any of these. This quick-drying, water-based option is suitable for either soft- or hardwoods.

Oils

Liberon's Finishing Oil blends hard-wearing oils with resins, as well as offering protection, not only against water, but also heat and alcohol.

Liberon's Superior Danish Oil allows you to achieve a wonderful satin gloss sheen while also feeding, protecting and adding long life to both hard- or softwoods. It protects against sunlight and is also resistant to water, alcohol, heat and food acid.

Liberon's Pure Tung Oil is hard-wearing and provides a long-lasting matt finish. It's ideal for surfaces most often in contact with food.



Wax

Liberon's Wax Polish Black Bison has a good content of Carnauba wax and, being highly lustrous, makes wood look simply beautiful. It provides good resistance to finger and water marks, and is ideal for small surfaces. It feeds, polishes and helps to prevent wood drying out and has traditionally been used on antiques.

For further information on Liberon and the company's extensive range of woodcare products, visit www.liberon.co.uk.

ENTRY DETAILS

1. Send your entry to the following email address – editor.ww@mytimemedia.com – with 'Liberon competition' as the subject title
2. In order for your entry to qualify, please provide the following information: **a)** Your name; **b)** Confirmation of email address; **c)** A contact telephone number; **d)** 1-3 photos of your woodworking project – please ensure these are in JPEG format and each 1-2MB in size; **e)** A description of your project – maximum 100 words
3. Entrants must be willing to have their project photos and details published and used on Liberon's social media channels, as well as in *The Woodworker* magazine and accompanying website: www.thewoodworkermag.com
4. The winner must be willing to feature in a photo of themselves with the prize – £200 Amazon voucher and a range of Liberon woodcare products worth over £120
5. Entries must be received by midnight on **20 May 2022**
6. Multiple entries are permitted – i.e. each person can submit up to three different pieces, but each must be emailed separately
7. The winner will receive £200 worth of Amazon vouchers plus a bundle of Liberon products worth over £120, both of which will be supplied by Liberon directly. Please note that no cash alternative is offered
8. The competition is open to mainland UK residents only
9. Once judging has taken place, a feature showcasing the winning entry – plus a selection of runners up – will appear in the August 2022 edition of the magazine, as well as the website and Liberon's social media channels
10. For further terms and conditions, see www.thewoodworkermag.com/category/win

TORMEK®

STAY SHARP WITH TORMEK

Tormek's sharpening machines are designed for every job where sharp results are important. The powerful Tormek T-8 and T-4 are the foundation of the water cooled sharpening system that allows you to sharpen practically any type of edge tool. Which machine suits your needs?

*our compact sharpening machine,
perfect for home and hobby
- as well as professional use*

*Create your own Tormek by
choosing your grinding wheel,
honing wheel and jigs!*



Tormek T-4 Original

Tormek T-8 Custom

Tormek T-8 Original

*our most versatile machine
with both our Square Edge
Jig and Truing Tool included*



ENTRY
DEADLINE:

31 July 2022

A £20 entry fee
applies and a
maximum of two
entries can be made
(£20 per entry)



THE

Alan Peters

FURNITURE AWARD

2022

For the second year running, this is your opportunity to be part of a prestigious annual award, which champions UK furniture design and making talent while celebrating the life and work of the late **Alan Peters OBE**

Woodland Heritage – Patron of The Alan Peters Furniture Award 2022

Woodland Heritage was established as a charity 27 years ago, in 1994, by two cabinetmakers keen to 'put something back'.

A membership-based organisation, the charity supports the resilient management of woodlands, development of the timber supply chain, furthering of knowledge and skills within the forestry and timber sectors as well as within the general public, and tackling of threats to the future supply of high-quality UK timber.

As well as running the popular 'From Woodland to Workshop' courses and a Field Weekend each year, Woodland Heritage produces an annual Journal for its members.

For many years, the charity sponsored the 'Best use of British Timber' award at the Celebration of Craftsmanship & Design exhibition in Cheltenham, which recognised the creative talents of both established woodworkers and those relatively new to making.

Since 2016, Woodland Heritage has owned Whitney Sawmills in Herefordshire, with its support for research into Acute Oak Decline dating back to 2009, since which time £2.5m has been raised to tackle this threat to our most popular tree.

HRH The Prince of Wales has been Patron of Woodland Heritage since 2005. For more information, see www.woodlandheritage.org



2019 winner of Woodland Heritage's 'Best Use of British Timber Award'
– Adrian McCurdy's 'Ark'



WOODLAND
HERITAGE

The
Woodworker
Good Woodworking

JB JEREMY BROWN

AXMINSTER

Tools & Machinery



English
Woodlands
Timber Ltd

This annual award celebrates the legacy of one of Britain's most prominent furniture designer-makers of the late 20th century while aiming to encourage all talent in the craft of furniture design and making. Any woodworker who's a resident citizen of the British Isles, over the age of 18, with a passion and talent for designing and making contemporary furniture, is invited to submit up to two pieces made primarily of wood. These can also include, if applicants so wish, other complementary materials that echo Alan Peters' design philosophy. Judging is based on the appropriate use of material, quality of workmanship, functionality, as well as originality of design.

Both one-off designs and potential batch-produced designs are encouraged and the piece(s) doesn't have to be large. Applicants should be familiar with the work of Alan Peters prior to applying and are encouraged to read organiser Jeremy Broun's 64-page online video-integrated e-book, which is offered free-of-charge here: www.woodomain.com/alanpetersaward2022.

The man behind the award

Alan Peters OBE (1933–2009) was one of Britain's most prominent furniture designer-makers of the latter part of the 20th century. He was apprenticed to Edward Barnsley and had a direct link to the English Arts and Crafts Movement. He was hugely influential internationally in his practice, teaching and publications. Above all,

his respect and understanding of how wood behaves and the value of hand skill, while moving tradition forward, resulted in the creation of many timeless pieces. He created affordable, functional furniture, which was built to last, making an art of his craft in some of his subtle innovations.

History of the award

The original award was called 'The Alan Peters Award For Excellence' and was initiated by Jason Heap in 2010. The prize was offered to three winners, each of whom were given free exhibition space alongside the professionals at his annual furniture event in Cheltenham. The award ran for eight years and the judging panel comprised of Jason Heap, Keith Newton and Jeremy Broun.

Following the success of the 2021 online award, it's hoped that this year there will be a physical exhibition along with a judging ceremony. Further details will be given in the next issue.

Expert judging panel

Jeremy Broun (Organiser) – designer-maker and co-exhibitor with Alan Peters from 1978–2002

Andrew Lawton – designer-maker who worked with Alan Peters as well as on his last commission

Freya Whamond – Yorkshire-based woodworker and furniture designer-maker. ✂

2021 AWARD WINNERS

1ST PRIZE

Overall winner of
**The Alan Peters Online
Furniture Award 2021:**
Andrew Laphorn's
'Remnant' table



2ND PRIZE

Aidan Donovan's
'WAGA' table
in English elm



3RD PRIZE

Nick Newlands'
'Art Chest' in cherry
and sycamore



An exhibition
programme for
winning pieces is
being planned
for August/
September –
look out for
LATEST NEWS

PRIZES OFFERED

1ST PRIZE

£1,000

Axminster Tools
voucher

2ND PRIZE

£500

English Woodlands
Timber voucher

3RD PRIZE

£300

Judges' prize

This award is open to any resident citizen of the British Isles, aged over 18, who has an enthusiasm and flair for woodworking. A piece of furniture – indoor or outdoor – is to be made and six high resolution JPEG images submitted, together with a Word document description. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to engage in a Zoom video call or submit a one-minute mobile phone video introducing themselves and describing the piece(s).

Judging of entries will take place in August followed by an exhibition(s) in September – exact dates TBA

It's important to get designing and making straight away, as the submission deadline is 31 July 2022. To download an application form and view the free 64-page e-book, visit www.woodomain.com/alanpetersaward2022. The entry form can be found at the right of the page. Payment for entry can also be made securely via the website. For further information, contact either Group Editor Tegan Foley tegan.foley@mytimemedia.com, or organiser Jeremy Broun (jb@woodomain.com)



A-Z

WOODWORKER'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA **PART 38**

In this section of the directory, **Peter Bishop** takes us through the Ts and lots of bits and bobs, ending up with the only renewable resource we know



Fitting a tambour door to a piece of furniture

Tambours

A tambour is a flexible top or door that's made from strips of interlocking wood mouldings, which are fixed to a material backing. This is the sort of thing you'd find on a roll-top desk. The tambour strips should be moulded in such a way that they'll curve and not expose the backing. The backing can be made from a sheet of, say, canvas, strong calico or be in strips running at right angles to the tambours.

and a groove on the other. Nothing fancy, just a simple joint. Used for floor boards and, if you want to hide the nails, the joint can be staggered so that the following board covers the nail head. Secret nailing in other words. There's a few variations, however. PT & G is the closest – planed, tongued & grooved. You may also have PTG & V jointed, where the face edges have a small 'V' moulded on to mask any shrinkage, etc.

Tang

If you remove the handle of a chisel or file, you'll find a 'tang', which has been driven up into it. It's the spike that holds the tool onto the handle.



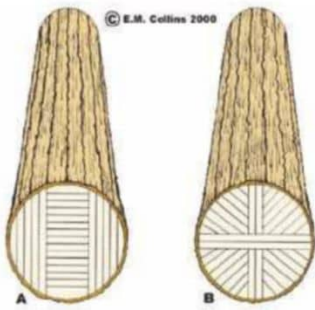
Oak tambour roll-top desk by Kernow Furniture



The tongue & groove joint adds strength and exact alignment



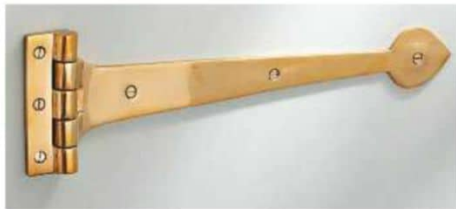
Ward 32mm vintage bevel-edged chisel tang



Tangential sections are made perpendicular to the rays (A) and tangential to the annual rings (red circles) and face of the log

Tangentially cut

This is what we might call 'plain' or 'flat' sawn material from a log. It's cut on the tangential as opposed to the radial section. This stuff won't display much 'figure', which is why it's called plain-sawn. The boards also have a tendency to cup away from the heart side when drying.



Heavy bronze 15in tee hinge

Tee hinges

These are basically the same as strap hinges. They'll have one long side that's fixed to the door face and a butt hinge half on the other end.

Template

You might make a 'template' so that you can repeat a pattern on, say, round legs turned on a lathe. This is any pattern or profile you make, use and then keep for future reference.



Tusked through tenons used on a French granary

Tenon, tenoner & tenon saw

I don't think we'll spend too much time describing a tenon, do you? A 'tenoner' is a machine that'll help cut your tenons, probably all in one go. Single- and double-ended tenoners are available. Some will also have scribing blocks so that you can wrap the shoulders round the mouldings on adjoining pieces. The 'tenon saw' will be a fine-toothed back saw, which allows you to cut and make good joints. There's lots of different shapes and sizes available, and it's always useful to have one in the workshop.



Egyptian stool with through tenons – circa 1991–1450 B.C



PAX hand saw with beech handle from Thomas Flinn & Co Ltd



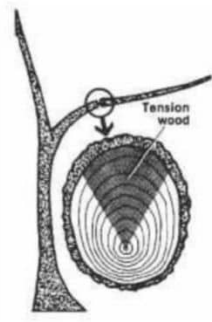
Tapered tenon saw from Lie-Nielsen Toolworks



A simple trick for measuring the strain on the blade is to clamp a calliper to it

Tensioning

There are two variations on the use of this word, but both are associated with a bandsaw. The first is carried out by a saw doctor. The ribbons of steel that are joined up to make a blade will have in-built tensions within them. To tension a large bandsaw blade, the saw doctor will pass it through some rollers until they're happy it will run true on the machine's pulleys. It's a skilled job, and if not done correctly the blade is liable to come off! On smaller bandsaws, we also tension the blades once we've put them on the pulleys. This tensioning, or tightening if you will, helps to keep the blade in place. The top or bottom pulley should also be able to cant – make the blade move to the back, middle or front of the pulleys. Canting and tensioning the blade correctly will keep it on the machine. An incorrectly canted blade will soon work its way off the pulleys, just as a loosely tensioned one will.



Tension wood forms above the affected part of the tree, pulling it up. It has a high cellulose content, which means that the fibres will lift quite easily and the wood will be more difficult to turn or work. When fibres lift, the wood takes on a woolly texture and tends to produce a fuzzy surface, especially when worked green

Photograph courtesy of 'A Bodger's Blog' – <https://treewright.blogspot.com>

Tension wood

Earlier in this series, we talked about 'compression wood' found in conifer trees – softwoods. 'Tension wood' is the opposite, and this is found in *dicotyledons* or 'dicots' – hardwoods. Collectively, these different types of wood structure are called 'reaction wood'. Tension wood is created by the tree reacting to some form of stress or pressure. So if a tree is growing in a position in which it leans, maybe on the side of a hill or is driven one way by a prevailing wind, it'll lengthen its cells when placed under this tension. The result can easily be seen if the trunk is cut through. There'll be a narrowing of the growth rings on the side the tension has been applied to. When a tension wood log is converted, the planks produced from it can be problematic. There's a high tendency to distort, especially if only part of the tension wood is present in the piece.



Termite damage in wood

Termites

These little critters aren't so small; they're about the size of an ant and can cause havoc when hungry. There's lots of different species and we tend to see their damage on imported hardwoods from tropical countries. Until late in the 20th century, there weren't any colonies in the UK, but some have been found in the Midlands and Devon. Keep an eye out for flying ants, then check online to see if they're termites.

Texture

This is one of the 'gross' features of wood we might use to help with identification. We'll classify each wood as coarse, medium or fine textured depending on the size of the wood

elements, such as pores. Quickly grown in hot climates, it's likely to be coarse textured while slow grown stuff in colder climates will probably be fine.

Thickener

This is one of our powered planing machines. In this case, it'll be one that we pass the wood through, helped by a powered feed, to plane stuff to regular thicknesses. On its own this isn't the first choice of planer because it only has one function – like a surfacer. If you have choices, buy an 'over and under' planer. These allow you to flatten one face – over the top – before passing it through – underneath – to finish the material to a desired thickness.

Thickening up

A technique to fool the eye! This involves gluing extra pieces to the edge of a thin board to make it appear thicker than it actually is.

Thick & thin stuff

If we want to be pedantic, 'thick' stuff is anything over 115mm thick and 'thin' stuff is anything under this.

Third-fix & snagging

This is finishing off the fine detail in a new build after decoration. The 'snagging' refers to fixing anything that's not right or has gone wrong.

Threshold & threshold strips

A threshold is the cill on an external door frame and a threshold strip is a covering or meeting board in the middle of an internal doorway.



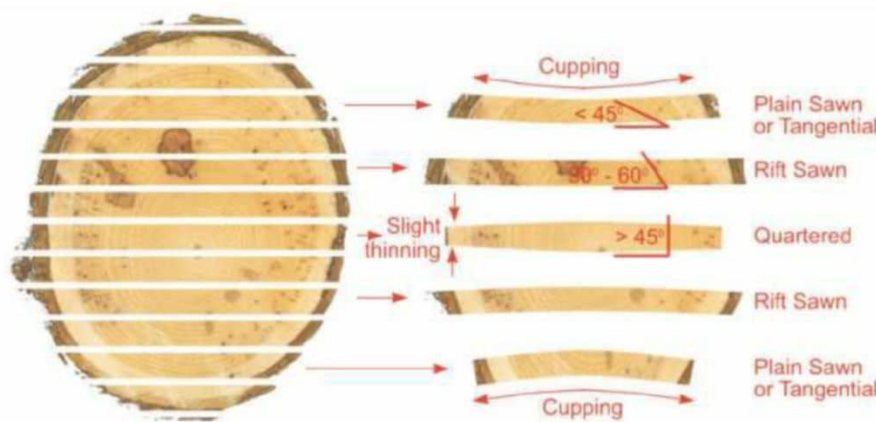
Various types of oak threshold strips



Drip groove edge profile

Throating

A small groove between two adjoining pieces or on the underside of a cill – a drip groove – which helps to prevent water ingress.



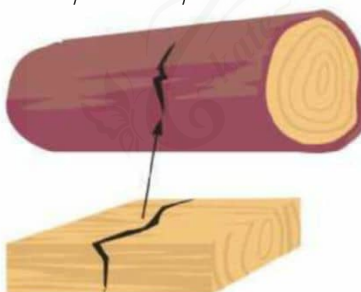
Sawing through and through is the most economical method of timber conversion

Through & through sawn

The easiest and most economical way to convert a log into lumber. There's lots of different ways to go about it, but this one will provide the best yield, if not the best quality, from a log.

Thunder shake

A 'cross' shake. This is one of the shakes that may or may not have been caused by a natural phenomenon! The theory is that a growing tree might have been struck by lightning at some point and this has severed the cells across the grain, thus creating a thunder shake. The alternative view is that they're caused when the tree trunk is harvested. As it falls heavily onto the ground, the shake is created. Either way, they're a pain if strength is required. Additionally, they'll stand out if you stain anywhere near them.



Thunder shake runs across the grain and is caused by shock – during felling, for example

Tie beam

Most likely to be found in buildings where oak or other hardwoods have been used to construct the roof. The tie beam is the main timber that links the bottom ends of the splayed rafters together.



The tie beam was introduced by Gothic carpenters

Tight knot

This is a knot that's firmly fixed all round and not loose in any way.



An intergrown knot is the base of a living branch within a tree, which is surrounded by a halo of circular growth rings. An intergrown knot is also called a 'tight' knot because it's tightly bound to the wood around it

Tile battens

These are the battens, or laths if you wish, used on roofs onto which the tiles or slates are then fixed.

Tile pins

An old-fashioned way of fixing tiles or slates to a roof using wooden pins rather than nails. Not often seen, but this practice was used in commercial chemical works where metal might have simply corroded away.

Timber

What a way to end this section! The only naturally renewable resource we know. ✂



NEXT MONTH

Part 39 sees us well into the Ts and here, Peter covers a couple of lengthy subjects

WIN!

1 of 5 Joiners Mate product bundles

Geocel

In conjunction with **Geocel**, we're giving away five **Joiners Mate** product bundles. A range of quality adhesive solutions, **Joiners Mate** is designed to help you get the job done

The Joiners Mate range was created to provide a go-to solution to tackle any joiner's challenge – part of Geocel's extensive Mate's range of sealants and adhesives for any construction challenge.



Joiners Mate Wood Adhesive

Joiners Mate Wood Adhesive

In the bundle, you'll find the Joiners Mate Wood Adhesive, a one-part BS EN 204 Class D4 clear polyurethane adhesive for internal and external bonding. Suitable for use with wood, metal, stone, concrete, brick, masonry and also various plastics, Joiners Mate Wood Adhesive creates a high strength bond and sets in just five minutes. It can be worked, shaped or overpainted and is thixotropic, meaning it can be used for vertical joints without mess. Finally, it's resistant to weather, acid, most chemicals, and is also 100% seawater-proof.

Joiners Mate Liquid Wood Adhesive

You'll also receive Geocel's Joiners Mate Liquid Wood Adhesive, a one-part rapid curing, BS EN 204 Class D4 polyurethane liquid glue. Moisture curing, it expands slightly to increase bite strength and is also ideal for bonding rubber and PVCu where fast assembly time is essential.

Joiners Mate
Liquid Wood
Adhesive



Easy to use, it features a spray application and its applicator bottle is purposefully designed for minimal mess.



Joiners Mate
Mitre Bond

Joiners Mate Mitre Bond

Finally, you'll also get your hands on Geocel's Joiners Mate Mitre Bond – a high strength, two-part instant bonding system comprising an adhesive and aerosol activator, ideal for both interior and exterior use. Creating a high strength bond in just 10 seconds, Mitre Bond is ideal for use on cornice and profile mitres, trims, picture frames, skirting, architrave joints and worktops. However, it can also be used to successfully bond rubber, PVCu, metals and most plastics, as well as overpainted for the perfect finish.



The prize includes:

- 1 x Joiners Mate Wood Adhesive 310ml cartridge
- 1 x Joiners Mate Liquid Wood Adhesive 500ml
- 1 x Joiners Mate Mitre Bond two-part system

For more information on Geocel's Joiners Mate range, visit www.geocel.co.uk/brands/joiners-mate.

HOW TO ENTER

For your chance to win one of five Joiners Mate product bundles, visit www.thewoodworkermag.com/category/win and answer the multiple choice question below:

QUESTION: How long does Geocel's Joiners Mate Wood Adhesive take to set?

- A: 10 minutes**
B: 5 minutes
C: 7 minutes

Five lucky winners will be randomly drawn from all correct entries. The closing date for the competition is **22 April 2022**. Only one entry per person; multiple entries will be discarded. Employees of MyTimeMedia Ltd, Geocel and the Sherwin Williams Group are not eligible to enter this competition

RAISE THE RED LANTERN



Peter Benson creates an Arts and Crafts-inspired square table lamp

Following a recent discussion on making table lamps without a lathe, here's my take on the idea. The lamp was designed to complement a bedside table I made a few years ago. Once the tables were placed beside the bed, they clearly needed matching lamps to complete the picture – and to allow for bedtime reading.

Some distinguishing features of the Arts and Crafts movement – think Charles Rennie Mackintosh – were strong, vertical lines tied together by clean horizontals, and featuring clearly visible joints. Lamps of the period were often exquisitely, artistically designed. While the present lamp may not be in the same league – and that's not me just being modest – it does, however, bear some of the same trademarks...

Design traits

The lamp design matches that of the bedside table and also uses up some of the leftovers from this earlier project. In order to complement the table design, I decided to reverse the order of timbers used – cherry verticals and sapele for the horizontals. The latter comprise the base, middle frame and open top.

The height of the lamp was chosen in order to bring the bulb high enough to provide light for reading in bed. A small footprint was called for, so the lamp doesn't take up too much of the limited space on the table top. The need for stability was taken care of by making the base fairly thick – i.e. heavy.

The top needs to be open so that light, and more importantly, heat, can escape. To make good use of small, leftover pieces, the top is an open square frame, mitred at the corners, along with ply reinforcements at each. A rebate allows the top to be attached to the verticals and provides a mounting for the shade material.

The lampshade had to be simple, neat and low cost. I considered making a box shape from thin plastic – DIY Plastics sells a thin, lightweight, clear prismatic sheet, which looked ideal – see www.diyplastics.com. However, I thought it would need joining at the vertical corners, and I couldn't find a way of accomplishing this neatly enough. In the end, a sheet of oven parchment from the kitchen – it'll never be missed – fills the need perfectly. It has the required degree of translucency, is low cost and also designed to withstand elevated temperatures.

Preparing components

Begin by preparing the piece of sapele for the bases. Cut the square base, plane and sand to 240 grit, then chamfer the top edges. All the components will be small, but keep the pieces as big as possible for as long as



possible, for convenience and safety, and use an anti-snip sled if sending small pieces through the thicknesser or drum sander.

The verticals are four slim lengths of cherry, planed and sanded to final finish before assembly. If slicing them from a wider board, be sure to plane the newly-sawn edge after slicing off each piece; this way, one side of the smaller piece will already be planed smooth. As I was using offcuts, I wasn't able to do this, so opted to use double-sided tape to stick the eight verticals – I was making two lamps, remember – to a sled before passing them through the thicknesser. While they were thus mounted, I also took the opportunity to sand them to a final finish with 240 grit abrasive, as it'd be very difficult to do this once the lamp was assembled. Prior to assembly, I used the router table to run a 6mm groove down the outside edge of the rear vertical; this would house the electrical wire.

Making the top

To build the square top, you'll need four pieces of the horizontal timber – sapele in my case. The pieces need rebating to half their thickness and the same depth, so that the shade parchment can later be mounted. At this time, drill a 1.5mm blind hole at the mid-point of two inside opposing faces – these holes will take the wire support for the lamp holder on final assembly – then carefully mitre the corners.

Remember that the mitre joint is the most difficult joint to get right, and requires great care when cutting the 45° ends on each piece.

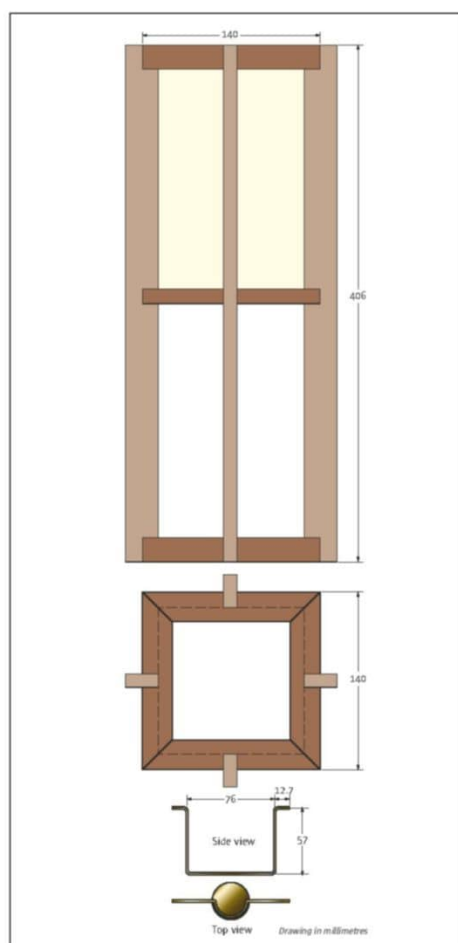


Fig.1 Table lamp dimensions

It can then be sanded to 240 grit. To assemble the top, I made a simple jig consisting of a 6mm thick base with a square block mounted in its middle. The pieces of the lamp top frame could then be glued together and clamped around the block on the jig. It's important that the two previously-drilled holes end up facing one another. To reinforce these rather fragile joints, I made up some small corner pieces from 3mm plywood, glued these into the inside corners, then trimmed them once the glue had set.

Frame assembly

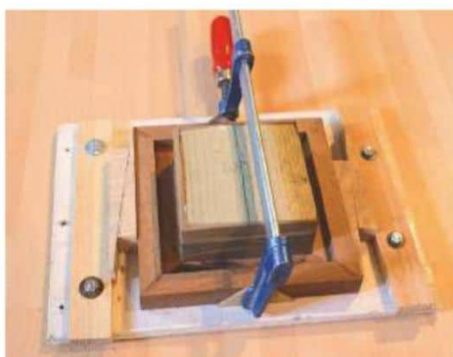
The frame at the bottom of the shade is similar to the top, though a little thinner for appearance, with a groove for the shade instead of a rebate. It can be assembled on the same jig as the top frame. Once the glue had set, I drilled a 6mm hole at 45° across each corner and inserted a length of glued 6mm dowel to enhance the joint's strength. The wooden skewers that provided these tiny dowels were fugitive kebab sticks from the kitchen.



1 Run a groove down the outside edge of the rear vertical; this will house the electrical wire



3 ... and the same depth, in order to accept the shade parchment



5 To assemble the top, I made a jig consisting of a base with a square block mounted in the middle

Once the glue had cured, I trimmed the excess dowels using my zero-set Japanese saw, and sanded the frame. Mark the centres of each side of the base and top, where the verticals will be slotted in.

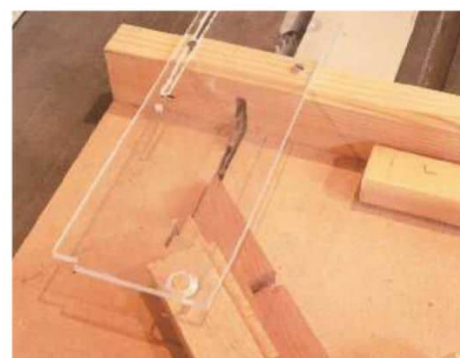
Clamp the top and middle frames together with the base and use a hand saw or bandsaw to cut slots for the verticals to fit into. They should be a nice fit and it's important that the slots are perpendicular, or the lamp will develop an unattractive list. Mark the top and bottom so that you can maintain their orientation when putting everything together.

Dry-assemble the wooden parts of the lamp to make sure they fit well, and the lamp sits upright. To assemble the lamp, put the middle frame inside the verticals but don't glue it; just let it sit on the base until the shade has been inserted. Apply glue to each of the base slots, then insert the verticals.

Repeat with the top frame, paying close attention to maintaining the marked orientation. To hold it all together while the glue set, I used



2 The pieces making up the square top need to be rebated to half their thickness...



4 Mitre the corners, taking great care with this notoriously difficult joint. Sand to 240 grit



6 The pieces for the lamp's top frame can then be glued together and clamped around the block



7 The mitred corners need to be reinforced with plywood triangles

pieces of masking tape and two large rubber bands, being careful to remove the tape the next day. I then conducted a clean-up and applied three coats of Danish oil; it's important to avoid getting the oil on places where glue will be used. Small pieces of felt can be attached to the underside of the base to protect the table top.

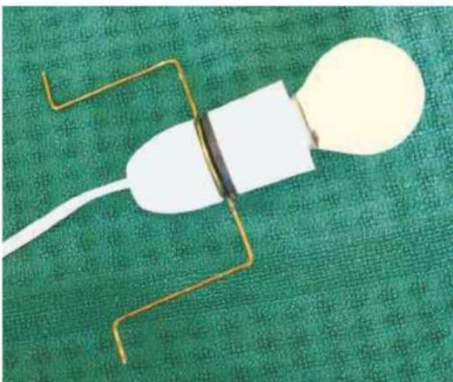
The shade...

... is a rectangular piece of oven parchment, carefully folded at right angles every 104mm, so the ends overlapped in the middle of one side – which would eventually become the back of the lamp. The parchment can be attached inside the rebated top using small staples, though I thought this might cause tears, so used small pieces of double-sided tape to hold the shade to the inside of the top frame.

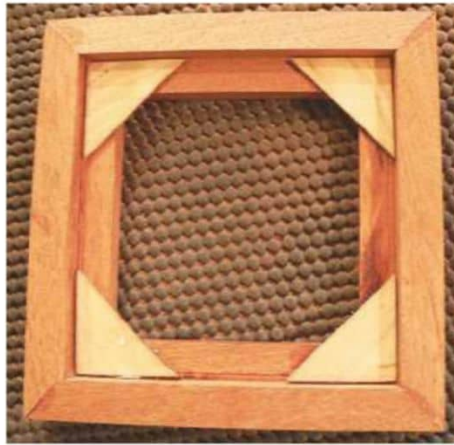
Once the shade was in place, I could raise the middle frame, which had been sitting on the base. It should just touch the bottom of the shade; at this point you can secure it with four tiny brass brads, pushed into the inside edges of the verticals. This allows the frame to be released if at any time the shade requires replacement.

The bulb holder

The bulb holder is suspended in a frame made from a wire coat hanger, bent to shape as shown in **Fig.1**. This stage of the project allows substantial adjustment of the bulb height by modifying the measurements. I started forming the basic circle by wrapping the wire one-and-a-



10 The bulb holder is suspended in a frame from a wire coat hanger, which is bent to shape



8 The strengthened top frame is then ready for trimming

half times around a broom handle, which had the same diameter as the lamp holder, so as to avoid possible damage to the holder itself. Once the wire support was bent correctly, the lamp holder could be inserted into the circular wire loop. Next, the ends of the wire frame were pushed into the 1.5mm holes drilled earlier, in opposing faces of the top frame.

The electrical connections involve stripping 6mm of insulation from the two wires of some 2 x 0.5mm lamp flex: pass it through the cap of the lamp holder and tighten the cable clamp to grip the wire. Place the bare copper wires into the holes in the screw terminals and tighten the screws. Check that no loose strands of copper are straying, then replace the lamp holder's cover.

A 60W golf ball-type bulb is best suited to this lamp – ensure not to exceed this wattage. The other end of the wire is attached to a standard three-pin plug containing a 2 or 3 Amp fuse. A switch can be connected in the wire to the lamp. I installed a 40W golf ball bulb, but you may prefer a 60W. I ran the electrical wire through the top frame and down a groove in the edge of the lamp's rear vertical support, holding it in place with a couple of dabs of hot



11 The completed bedside table lamp in situ



9 The parchment for the lamp shade is folded and attached inside the rebated top

glue. Alternatively, small pieces of double-sided tape could also be used.

I hope this demonstrates an interesting alternative to the standard turned lamp.

It was certainly fun to make and presents a good way of using up offcuts effectively. ✕

SAFETY WARNING & DESIGN ALTERNATIVES

It's essential to use three-core flex if fitting a metal bulb holder, and the earth wire must be attached correctly. Always get a qualified electrician to check your work if a project involves wiring of any sort. Do this before plugging in the lamp for the first time because even a straightforward project like this could be dangerous if you get it wrong

Shade & materials

The shade could be embellished with cut-outs of flowers or, for the youngsters, favourite characters. Instead of using parchment, you could make the lamp from thin plastic panels. Stained glass panels could also be used, especially if the lamp is destined for the living room rather than bedroom

Top of lamp

The verticals don't need to stop flush with the top frame. Instead they could be pointed on one side and protrude 12mm above the frame. If you prefer not to see the top joints – ends of the verticals – then a final veneer could be used to cover the top frame, but remember you need to let the heat out. 2mm slices of the same sapele would accomplish this, mitred like the frame itself

Switch possibilities

Instead of incorporating a switch in the wire, it could be recessed into the base, or taken to an external dimmer unit. Perhaps the simplest to make, though not necessarily the most convenient to use, is to install a lamp holder with a built-in switch. There are many options, though you really must consult a qualified electrician when it comes up wiring up a lamp such as this



ROUTER-TABLE WORK HORSE!



I have four routers, and this is the only one I couldn't live without. Total beast under the router table.

Griffin Tato

Designed by woodworkers for woodworkers, the award-winning TRA001 has been a benchmark in professional routers around the world for over 20 years

45 YEARS
in the
MAKING

Find your nearest stockist **TRITONTOOLS.COM**

3YR
GUARANTEE

A CLASSIC DESIGN REIMAGINED

Glenn Perry makes use of a repurposed elm plank and comes up with a unique design for a three-legged stool's central stretchers, which are cleverly joined by a central sphere

This project came about following a visit to a timber reclamation yard in nearby Essex. On the lookout for some plywood, I happened to spot a plank of timber in an oddments rack.

It appeared to have once been the top of an old bench or small table, due to the fact it had four holes drilled in the corners. These holes had domed bottoms, so I reckon they were formed with an old spoon bit many years ago. Underneath layers of old finishes, I recognised the timber as being elm (**photo 1**), and a look along its length revealed an extensive twist in the plank. I'd normally reject a piece of timber so badly warped, but I thought that using a small section would mean I could plane it and therefore lose less of the thickness. The plank, at around 800 × 460 × 45mm thick, cost me just £2.

Stool considerations

While unsuitable for a chair, I decided to make a stool. I've produced a few before and prefer ones with three legs as opposed to four as they remain stable, even on unbalanced floors. Simple stools can be made with no stretchers joining the legs: I usually assemble mine with two joined stretchers in a T-shape. While effective, being asymmetrical can give the stool an odd look, so to provide a more balanced appearance, I decided to turn three stretchers joined by a central sphere.

Planing the elm

The first task was to plane flat a smaller section of the original elm plank, then reduce it to a uniform thickness (**photo 2**). I did this using a No.5½ jack plane. Despite its reputation, the elm was a pleasure to work and revealed



an attractive grain. From an original thickness of around 45mm, I ended up at 32mm. I created the circular seat plank using a trammel-guided router with a long 8mm cutter (**photo 3**). I find a stool top measuring between 275–320mm diameter is ideal; mine ended up at 292mm.

Turning the legs

Next I moved on to the legs. I sketched a full-size design onto a piece of card, incorporating a thick central section to locate the stretchers, transferring positions of coves and beads, etc. to the edge (**photo 4**). I then transferred these to the cylinders I'd turned. To complement the elm top, I used ash for all the other parts.

I turned three legs at 460mm long leaving a shoulder at the top and a 25mm diameter section, which would be tenoned into the seat. Tip: to make drilling legs for the stretchers easier when using a cradle, make a section of the leg at each end maximum diameter.

On the central underside of the seat, I drew a circle to indicate where the legs of the stool would be positioned. As there were three, I spaced them at 120° intervals using a protractor and drew radii out to the edge (**photo 5**). Using my angled drill guide ▶



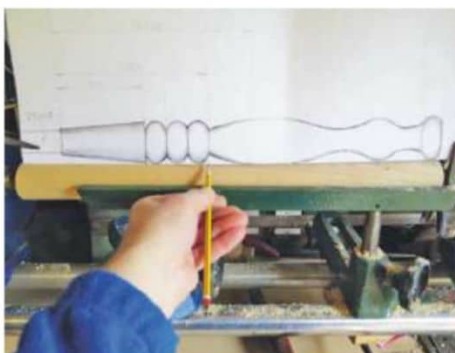
1 The elm plank, which was formerly a bench/table



2 Flattening one half of the plank



3 Using the router to create a circular top



4 Transferring my leg sketch to a turned ash cylinder



5 Marking out leg positions using a protractor



6 Angled drill at 12° with sawtooth bit





7 My setup for marking leg stretcher positions

supported on a piece of timber the same thickness as the seat, I drilled 25mm holes for the legs, ensuring to stop before going all the way through. An angle of 12° seemed about right (**photo 6**). I can't stress enough the importance of using good quality drill bits: I bought a Planet sawtooth bit for this project and it worked beautifully. A 3D bit used previously was useless, and ended up filling my workshop with smoke!

Stretcher sockets

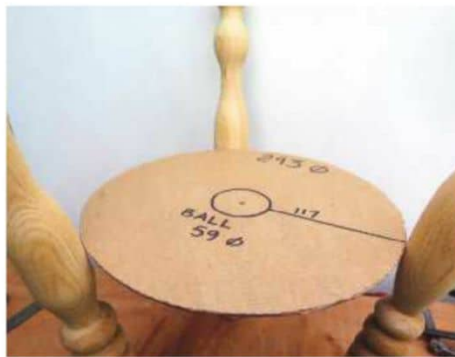
With the holes drilled and the legs positioned in their sockets, I could then mark the stretcher sockets' positions at 240mm from the seat using my arrangement of two squares (**photo 7**). To calculate the diameter of the joined centre sections, I cut a cardboard circle that touched



12 Stool components awaiting assembly



13 Setup showing central stretchers



8 The circle gives a rough idea of stretcher lengths

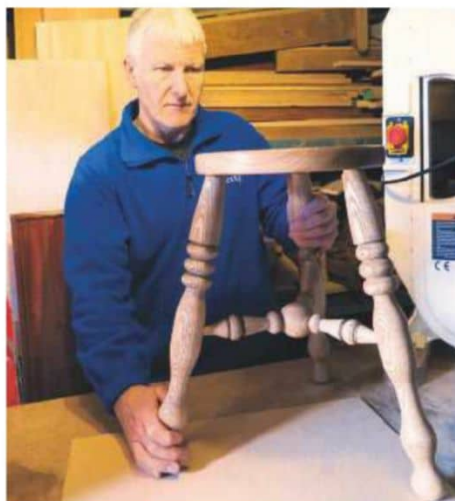


10 Dividing the circumference by three using a pair of callipers

the three marks on the legs (**photo 8**).

I turned a sphere – or an approximation of – leaving two identical sections either side for mounting in a cradle. With the diameter of the sphere measured, I could then turn the stretchers that would radiate out from it. I completed these with 15mm diameter ends, which would insert into the sphere and legs.

With the sphere mounted back on the lathe, I drew a pencil line around the centre and used a strip of paper to mark its circumference (**photo 9**). Dividing this by three using callipers (**photo 10**) would allow me to mark the positions of the sockets for drilling. I used an adjustable cradle jig set to 12° to drill 15mm holes in the sphere and legs (**photo 11**). Next, I mounted the circular



14 Examining the completed stool



9 A strip of paper is used to measure the circumference of a turned ball



11 A 15mm Forstner bit held in the angled cradle jig

stool top on my lathe using a screw chuck, before rounding over the edges and finishing using a selection of turning tools and abrasives.

Gluing & assembly

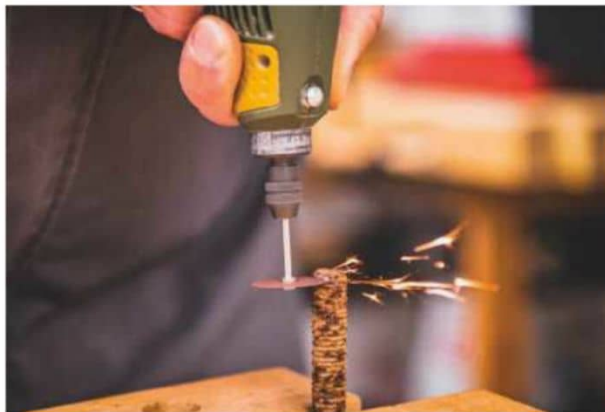
The next job was to assemble and glue all stool components. This is where a small amount of looseness in the tenons and sockets helps to lock everything together. My preferred finish for many hardwoods is Black Bison wax in a medium oak colour. To make life easier, this can be applied before gluing and assembly.

Finally, I finished the stool top using a cabinet scraper followed by fine abrasives, and the surface soon developed a silky, tactile feel (**photo 15**). Having seen elm used for the seats of many old Windsor chairs and on Ercol furniture, this was the first time I'd worked with it. I was impressed with the grain pattern and workability, so much so that I'm going to search out more for use on future projects. ✂



15 Stool top showing elm grain figuring

PROXXON



THE FINE TOOL COMPANY

Known for quality and cutting edge precision, PROXXON will always be the top choice for all things model making. When you require a machine that offers a delicate touch, look no further than PROXXON - precision power tools and accessories for model engineers, model makers and more.

Explore what PROXXON has to offer at your PROXXON dealers:

AXMINSTER TOOLS
axminstertools.com

BARNITTS LTD.
barnitts.co.uk

BEESLEYS
tool-shop.co.uk

C W TYZACK
tyzacktools.com

CHRONOS LTD.
chronos.ltd.uk

COOKSONGOLD
cooksongold.com

D J EVANS (BURY) LTD.
djevans.co.uk

G & S SPECIALIST TIMBER
toolsandtimber.co.uk

H S WALSH
hswalsh.com

HOBBIES LTD.
hobbies.co.uk

R W MORTENS LTD.
01943 609131

RDG TOOLS
rdgtools.co.uk

SNANTON WOODWORKING SUPPLIES
snantonwoodworking.com

SQUIRES
squirestools.com

THE CARPENTRY STORE
thecarpentrystore.com

TOOLITE
toolite.org.uk

WESTCOUNTRY MACHINERY 4 WOOD
machinery4wood.co.uk

YANDLES OF MARTOCK
yandles.co.uk

KNIFE WORK



Dominic Collings hopes to improve his dovetailing skills, but first he needs a marking knife fit for the job

In this day and age, I'm certainly not the only amateur to have approached woodworking the wrong way round. Most vocationally trained, professional woodworkers will have started their interest and careers by learning the basics with saw, mallet, chisels and very little else. As time goes by, they'll progress into relying more heavily on machinery to do the same tasks, but the traditional skills they learned will still be there.

On the other hand, I plunged straight into the machinery side of things. I missed out

on the learning of those basic skills; you might think that this wouldn't be a problem with the availability of reasonably priced machinery these days, but with this comes certain limitations. Most machine-made furniture has a very machine-made 'look' to it and, although up until now I've been fine with that, I find myself increasingly wishing I'd started from the traditional side of woodwork. That's why I'm currently trying to learn more hand tool skills – and acquire some quality equipment while I'm at it.

One of the first things I want to tackle is cutting dovetails by hand to finally get rid of that annoying machine-cut look to projects. I started by listing all the tools I'd need to do the job and asked various relatives to buy them for me as gifts, with the exception of one thing: I'd inadvertently ordered a right-handed marking knife because I'm right-handed, not realising that the handedness concerns whether you're cutting up to the left- or right-hand side of an edge. To compound matters, the one I bought was as blunt as a butter knife and the edge-



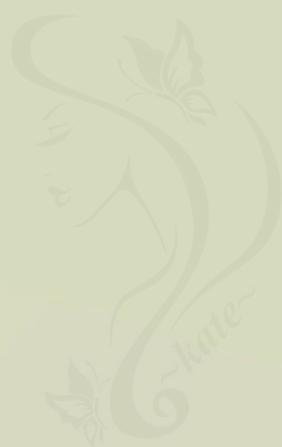
1 I used an iroko offcut for the knife's handle and a brass rod left over from a previous project



2 After planing the iroko down to correct thickness, I dimensioned the piece in half on a bandsaw



3 Using this piece as a spacer, I made an MDF jig to hold everything together while I machined the metal



holding qualities very poor. All of this became apparent on Christmas Eve, by which time it was obviously too late to order another one. Luckily, there's a Cromwell Tools branch near me where I thought I'd be able to find the necessary bits to make a better knife myself.

Preparing materials

I came back from Cromwell's with the only material they had in stock – a length of 1mm thick, 25mm wide gauge plate, or precision ground flat stock, as it's sometimes called.

I had an iroko offcut for the handle as well as some brass rod, which was left over from a previous project (**photo 1**).

After picking up various tools and deciding on the length I thought I'd need, I arrived at measurements of 140mm for the handle and an extra 50mm for the blade. The blade's width would be a little wide for comfort if left at 25mm, so I started by machining the iroko, then cut the metal back to match it.

After ripping and planing the iroko down to correct thickness, I cut the dimensioned

piece in half on the bandsaw (**photo 2**).

I used this piece as a spacer and made a quick MDF jig to hold all the pieces together while I machined the metal (**photo 3**).

Using a hacksaw, I cut the metal roughly to length by hand, and with all three pieces held together, I drilled holes all the way through for the brass rods (**photo 4**). I needed to do this now before hardening the metal. With the brass rods holding all three pieces in place on the jig, I simply sanded the metal back to the handles (**photo 5**). I never run my



4 With the metal and wood piece held together, I drilled holes for the brass rods



5 Held together by rods, this was placed on the jig and the metal sanded back to the handles



6 I roughly cut the point at the end of the blade using a disc sander and mitre gauge



7 I used a blowtorch to heat and harden the blade steel, which was clamped in a vice



8 The process left the metal black, which I proceeded to rub off using a Hermes Webrax pad



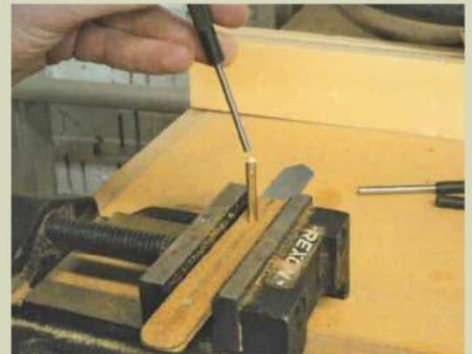
9 I ground an edge into the blade with a general mounting jig set at 25° ...



10 ... and used the side of the stone to initially polish the blade's reverse



11 I rounded over the edges of both sides of the handle on a router table



12 I drove the brass inserts into place; both ends were mushroomed over

extractor when sanding metal, just in case an errant spark happens to set fire to sawdust collected in the bag.

Making a point

To roughly cut the point at the end of the blade, I used my disc sander along with a mitre gauge set at an angle slightly greater than 45°; this would help me get right into the corners during use (**photo 5**).

Having disassembled the pieces, it was time to harden the steel. With the blade clamped in a vice and a bucket of hot water underneath, I heated the metal until it glowed cherry red. **Photo 7** is a little misleading as while it shows the correct colour, I couldn't get enough heat into a large enough area, so resorted to using a larger blowtorch borrowed from a friend. To help the heat along, I held a heat-resistant brick behind it.

To harden the work properly, the steel should be kept at cherry red for one hour per inch of thickness, so in this case, just

two and a half minutes. After heating I simply opened the vice, dropping the hot metal into the water to quench it. This process left the metal black and for the next step, it's important you're able to see the colour of the metal, so I rubbed the black off using a Hermes Webrax pad (**photo 8**).

Next was the tempering, which is exactly the same process as before except you only heat the steel until it turns the colour of straw, before quenching it once more in hot water.

Using my Tormek grinder, I ground in the edge with a general mounting jig, set to 25° (**photo 9**). I used the side of the stone to

initially polish the blade's reverse (**photo 10**). Finally, I rounded over the edges of both sides of the handle on a router table (**photo 11**). With a sporadic dab of epoxy on the handles, I used a punch to mushroom over one end of two brass inserts. Once driven into place I cut the excess off, leaving them about 1mm proud and once turned over, mushroomed over the other side (**photo 12**). With the blade end clamped in the vice, I applied a Polyx oil finish (**photo 13**).

The only thing left to do was to try out my new knife. Well, it sits comfortably in the hand and creates a nice, fine point, so I'm more than happy! ✂



13 With the blade end clamped in a vice, I applied a Polyx oil finish



14 The final step was to put the knife to work and see how it performed

FOR A PERFECT BOND



Stick with your BEST MATES

Need a solution that sticks? The Joiners Mate range of quality adhesive solutions is there to help you get the job done. That's why, for the perfect bond, tradespeople turn to Joiners Mate.

A mainstay of Geocel's product line up for more than two decades, Joiners Mate comprises gel and liquid BSEN204 Class D4 wood adhesives and mitre bond, a two-part instant bonding system.

geocel.co.uk/brands/joiners-mate



LETTERS

★ LETTER OF THE MONTH

WORKSHOP EQUIPMENT

Hello Tegan,

I read Patrik Waters' article in the January 2022 issue showing his solution for storing tools, etc., then in the February 2022 edition, Paul Chesterman's article detailing his budget workbench. As a result, I thought my efforts along these lines, as shown in the enclosed photos, might be of interest.

Around 15 or so years ago, I built a 1.4m high 'chest of drawers' to hold a lot of my loose tools. Made from planed softwood, plywood and MDF, the top five are for carpentry hand tools and the larger, lower ones, hold unboxed power and air tools. The drawers all have hand holds, which allows them to be removed for carriage, but I never do – I just pull them out far enough to get what I need. The unit has moved house with me twice since I built it, without any damage, so it's obviously quite solid.

The bench – approximately 1.8 x .75m – was made nearly four years ago, using cleaned up pallet wood – free – for the pedestals and strutting, along with some structural timbers, bought years ago from a DIY store when they were £2.45 for a 2.4m length – nowadays it's double that!. I didn't have anything suitable for the top so had to buy a sheet of plywood, which I used for the top and pedestal shelves. I also bought some softwood for the worktop edging, as well as nuts and bolts. The vice is a Woden 189B/2 quick release, which I've owned for over 45 years, but is probably a fair bit older. I also have a Record Steel No.75 mechanic's vice, which is bolted to a timber base and held in the woodwork vice when I use it.

I haven't moved house with it, yet, but when the time comes, the top detaches from the pedestals and the strutting is demountable, so it should be portable.

All the best, **Alan Hughes**

Hi Alan, many thanks for getting in touch and sending in photos of your workshop equipment. It's great to see the items you've made yourself, which have obviously been built to your exact specifications. Both are clearly incredibly sturdy and certainly up to the job! Thank you for sharing these with us and I'm sure other readers will be interested to see them as well.

Best wishes, Tegan



Alan's 1.4m high 'chest of drawers' holds many loose tools, including carpentry hand tools as well as unboxed power and air tools



The workbench measures approximately 1.8 x .75m and was made using a combination of pallet wood and structural timbers

SIMPLER SPLINES

Dear Tegan,

I much admired Andy Standing's lucid piece about making dovetail splines for his beautiful boxes – 'Box-making brilliance', March 2022 issue. However, there's a much simpler way to achieve his results – without having to make a clever but complicated jig, or clamp the workpiece, or transfer the angle of the dovetail to a table saw.

The answer is to use the same dovetail cutter, set at the same plunge depth, to cut both the slots and splines. All you need are two offcuts glued at right-angles on to a thin base. Oh, and a horizontally-mounted router.

The photos tell the story:



1 JIG TIME: To cut slots of any shape reliably and diagonally across any corner, it helps to have a simple jig. This is two offcuts glued at 45° to a thin base. A similar jig could position splines for a pentagon, hexagon or triangle

2 READY, STEADY, CUT: By tucking each corner of your box or frame firmly into the apex of the jig, you can use any size and shape of router cutter to carve precisely matching slots across each joint. And by adjusting the height of the router, you can make as many slots as you like, with any spacing



3 LOWER AWAY: Two wooden crosses attached to bolts control the height of the cutter on my home-made router table. The left-hand bolt acts as a pivot; the right-hand bolt slides in a curving slot. Wooden fins keep the face flat despite the weight of the router.

The router trigger has been replaced by a table-mounted switch so that I don't have to hold the router in use. It may upset health and safety zealots, but I feel a lot safer having both hands free to guide the wood

4 UNDERCUT: Leaving the router's plunge position unchanged ensures that the dovetail tongue – the spline – will match the slot exactly. Gradually deepening the cuts beneath each side of the strip lets you creep up on the thickness needed to fill the slot



5 GETTING STUCK IN: For the sake of safety, it makes sense to rout your dovetail spline along the edge of a strip longer and wider than you need. It's then easy to cut the finished strip into manageable sizes and slide the pieces, glue-smeared, into place

6 CLOSE FINISH: Once the glue dries, a quick trim with a bandsaw – followed by a plane or abrasive and your favourite finish – results in a neat and elegant corner, which derives strength from its shape as well as the glue



Regards, **Tony 'Bodger' Scott**

Hi Tony, thank you for sharing your method with us. As you say, Andy's splines are beautifully done but perhaps a tad over-complicated. We're all for workshop hacks and if there's a simpler method of doing something, then all the better. That's not to say that Andy's method doesn't have merit, but if you're a novice or perhaps don't have all the equipment at your disposal, then this different approach will indeed come in handy. Many thanks again!

Best wishes, Tegan



The Alice Hawthorn – the Wood Awards' 2021 Commercial & Leisure Winner

THE ALICE HAWTHORN INN

Dear Tegan,

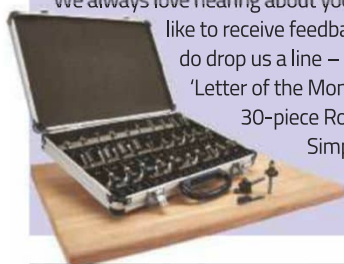
It was so pleasing to see that the Alice Hawthorn Inn had been awarded the Commercial and Leisure 'Wood Award' for their courtyard development. It's indeed special: understated but overwhelmingly comfortable and well appointed with underfloor heating. We stayed two nights in early December to celebrate my wife's 80th birthday. I'm sorry the judges couldn't stay as they certainly would've enjoyed it – and the grub's not bad either! Sincerely, **John Dickinson**

Hi John, many thanks for your email. I'm glad you enjoyed the Wood Awards winners feature in the January 2022 issue and great to hear that you're familiar with one of the featured entries. It certainly looks like a lovely place to stay and sounds like you visited before it's set to become very popular! What a wonderful place to enjoy birthday celebrations; I'll make sure I add it to my wishlist! Best wishes, Tegan

WRITE & WIN!

We always love hearing about your projects, ideas, hints and tips, and/or like to receive feedback about the magazine's features, so do drop us a line – you never know, you might win our great 'Letter of the Month' prize, currently the new Trend 1/2in 30-piece Router Cutter Set, worth over £100.

Simply email tegan.foley@mytimemedia.com for a chance to get your hands on this fantastic prize – good luck!



NEW FLEXIBLE CURVE ROUTING GUIDE TEMPLATE ACCESSORY

An 8mm thick mini flexible curve used to make templates, enabling a shape to be cut repeatedly with precision.

- Used in conjunction with a self-guided cutter, a router or router table.
- Alternatively a standard cutter can be used when guided with a guide bush.
- Includes fixing screws.

Product Ref.	Length	Price
CURV/8X500	500mm	£32.40 inc VAT
CURV/8X1000	1000mm	£62.40 inc VAT



trend
routing technology

www.trend-uk.com
enquiry@trendm.co.uk
01923 249911

READERS' HINTS & TIPS

AXMINSTER TOOLS
We share your passion

Due to major stock issues with the Veritas range, a decision has been made, in conjunction with Axminster Tools, to substitute the original prize for a similar one within Axminster's Rider range. Rider planes represent traditional, quality plane manufacture and feature a ductile iron alloy body, accurately ground sole and carbon steel blade. The new prize – the **Rider No.5 1/2in Jack Plane** – is not only versatile, but also perfect for flattening, jointing and general preparation.

To be in with a chance of winning this great piece of kit, just send your top workshop hints, tips or pointers – indeed anything that other readers may find useful in their woodworking journeys – to tegan.foley@mytimemedia.com, along with a photo(s) illustrating your tip in action. For more information on Axminster Tools, see www.axminstertools.com



ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSH SANDER



Colin's ingenious electric toothbrush sander with polishing attachment

Hi Tegan,

In pursuing the Bouille marquetry restoration that I mentioned in an earlier email, I've found the following item to be of great use – a DIY electric toothbrush sander.

Many of the brass inserts that have come away from the marquetry panel need cleaning up with removal of tarnish and old glue. These are quite delicate in form, often with pieces that are only millimetres across and normal methods using sheets of abrasive paper or pastes are liable to do more damage than good.

So I bought a cheap electric toothbrush and cut/ground all the brush fibres away from the head. I then attached a round adhesive hook-and-loop piece to the head and adhesive matching hook-and-loop to abrasive paper and cut this into square units.

The unit is remarkably effective in removing the tarnish – using either dry or wet/dry abrasive. This is a simple DIY job and provides a useful tool for small delicate tasks that are often in difficult-to-access areas.

Dr Colin R. Lloyd



Toothbrush head and various hook-and-loop polishing squares



Using the sander to polish up some of the – now – attached brass inserts

BRANCHING OUT



TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:

Tape measure & pencil;
handsaw; hand drill or cordless
drill/driver with 10mm and
4mm drill bits (optional);
screwdriver; claw hammer;
Surform plane; 80 & 120 grit
abrasives; woodblock;
electric sander; wood glue;
screws; nails

Think twice before feeding the woodburner with offcuts, says **Mark Griffiths** – instead, you could spend half a day or so making one of these stools

After many a happy weekend spent creating wonderful wooden objects for yourself and your friends' outdoor spaces, if you take a look around the workshop all you may see are large quantities of seemingly useless scraps of wood, fit only for a wood-burning stove. Well, think again.

What you actually have are the raw materials to make these handy stools. Use them for tables, flowerpot stands or even as bedside tables. Make them as large or as small as you like, round or square in shape. As a variation, I made one using the branches from a tree that was in need of pruning. Whatever you decide, the building principle remains the same – and, most importantly, simple. ▶

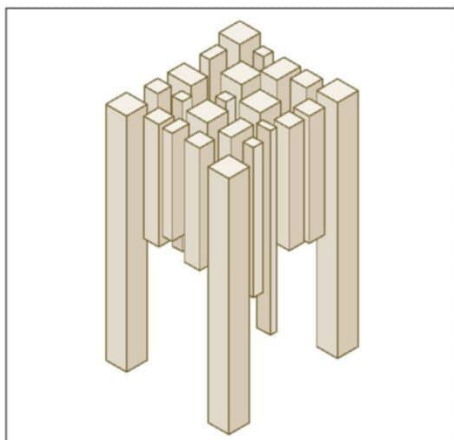
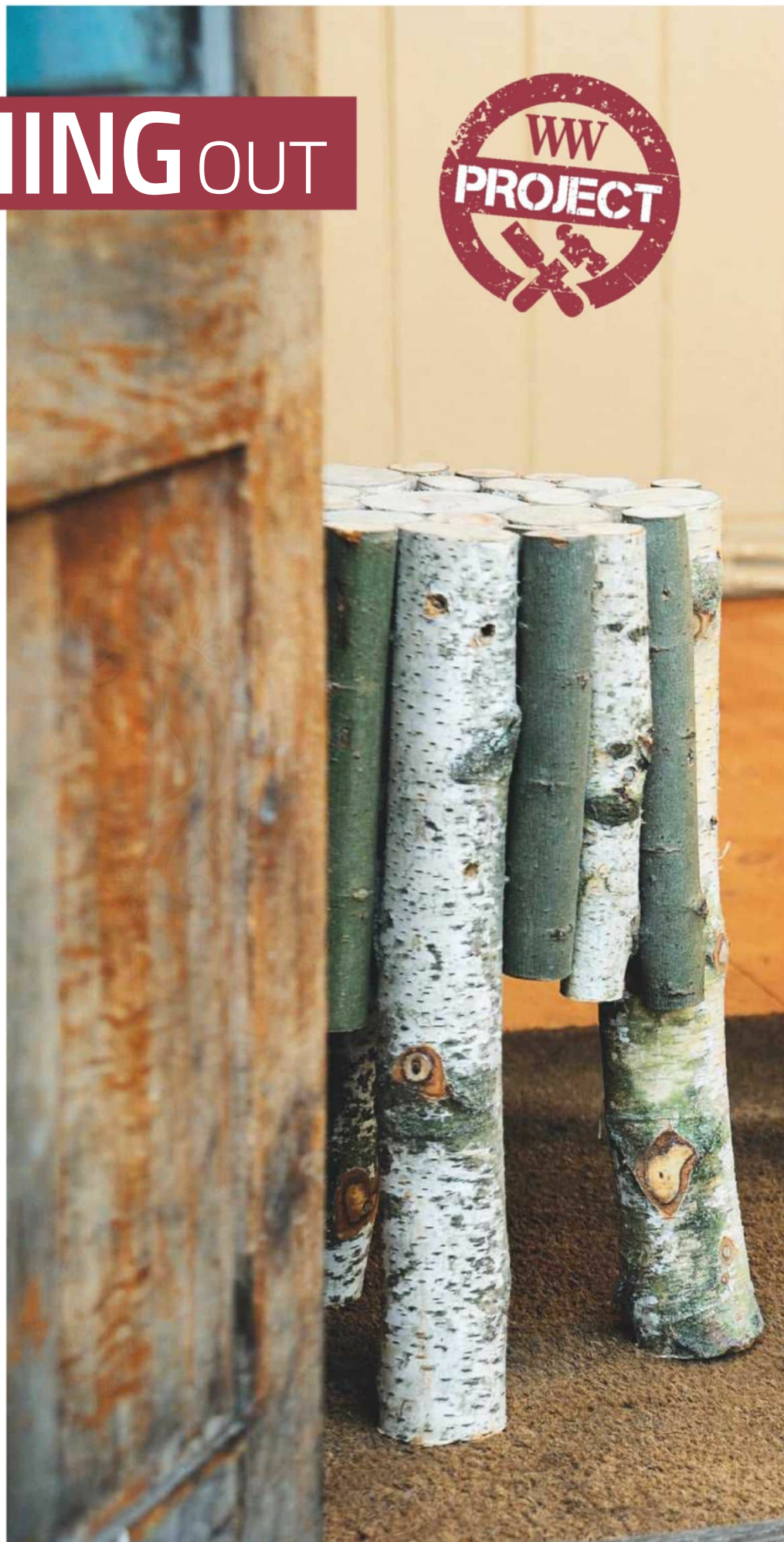
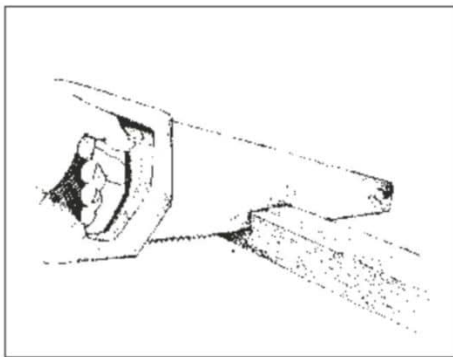


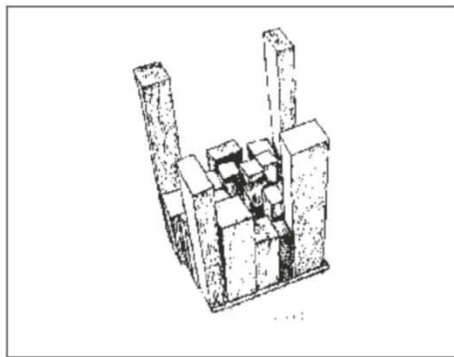
Fig.1 Suggested design for block stool







1 Using a tape measure and pencil, measure and mark the height of the stool on the four lengths chosen for the legs. Using a handsaw, trim these down so that they're equal in length



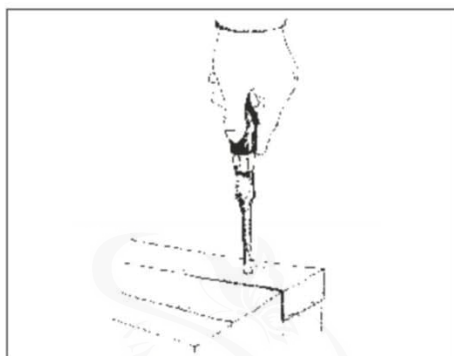
2 Place the four legs on their ends roughly where you want the corners of the stool to be and at about the desired size. Now, similar to a jigsaw puzzle, work out how you want the scrap wood pieces to fit together to make the stool



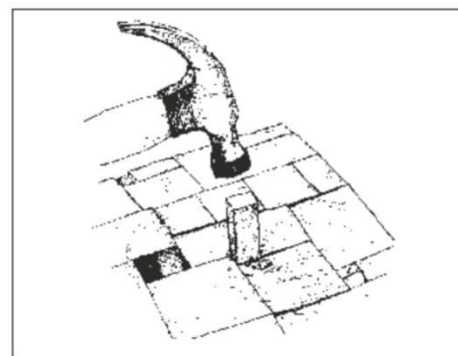
When working out the fit of your pieces of scrap wood, consider how the colours and grains will work together and complement one another



Make sure the exterior edges are aligned as possible in order to give a neat, crisp appearance



3 Starting with the first leg, dismantle the mocked-up puzzle and, one by one, glue and screw each piece together. It'll be easier to assemble if the pieces are laid on one side. Try to keep the ends for the seat part aligned as much as possible. For the legs, screws are best and create a stronger joint; however, on smaller scrap pieces, nails will be better for holding the wood while the glue dries



4 Once the main pieces are fitted together, flip the stool over onto its legs. You'll probably find a few gaps in the top, but this isn't a problem: search the offcuts pile for small pieces of wood to fill the holes. If necessary, trim them with a saw or remove some material using a Surform plane; a tight fit is preferred. Add a little glue to the hole and use a claw hammer to tap the wood infill piece into the gap; it doesn't matter if it protrudes. Let the project sit overnight until the glue dries

TIPS

- If you don't have a flat, level floor, try working on top of an unwarped sheet of manufactured board
- Before you get started, make sure you have the claw hammer, screwdriver, nails, screws and wood glue ready and close at hand. For best results, once you start assembling the project, aim to keep working without taking breaks
- Applying the glue can be a bit messy so work on a ground cloth. It's also advisable to wear rubber gloves as some types of glue can irritate the skin
- When fitting the screws, it'll help if you pre-drill the first section to be fitted. Start by using a 10mm bit to drill a hole of the same depth, then drill straight through with a 4mm bit
- Most types of glue will block any finish you apply, leaving unsightly patches in the varnish or oil, so ensure to sand off any glue. Whether sanding with power or by hand, always wear a good dust mask

Choosing materials...

A good stool height is 530mm but you may wish to modify this to suit your individual needs. Once you've arrived at a measurement, collect a pile of scrap wood and pull out four pieces that are roughly the correct length. These lengths will form the legs, so choose pieces that are thick and at least 50mm square. They don't have to be the same thickness, however – in fact, it's preferable they're not. When choosing scraps or logs to form the seat, consider the contrast and hues of the colours and wood grain and how these work together.

The end-grain, as found on top of the stool, is the hardest part of the wood, so therefore requires a fair bit of sanding in order to achieve a pleasing result. However, the payback will be evident once the first coat of chosen finish is applied – a well-sanded end-grain top is truly a thing of beauty.

... & finish

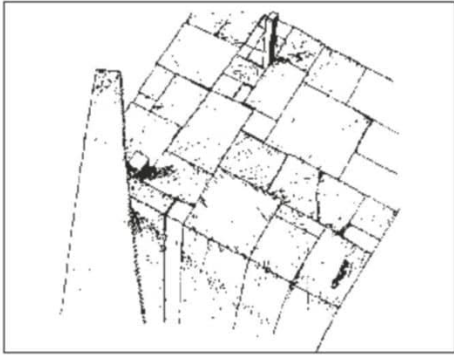
Choose your finish to suit the stool's intended environment. If it's to live outside and you want to show off the wonderful hand-sanded top,

choose either a flexible exterior high-gloss varnish or a weatherproof oil coating. For a more subtle finish, however, try a penetrating wood stain; this will ensure the stool contrasts with its surroundings.

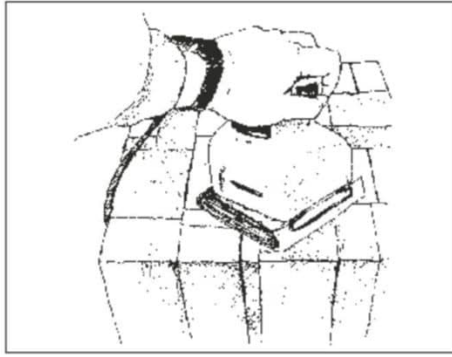
WOOD CUTTING GUIDE

- Legs – four boards 50 × 70 × 560mm
- Approximately 30 assorted scrap wood blocks or logs





5 When you look at the project the next day, you should find a dry, solid little stool in need of a clean-up. The first task is to trim off any protruding infill pieces with a handsaw. Lay the saw flat on the top and cut flush with the rest of the wood



6 If you're lucky enough to own an electric sander, you'll appreciate it now; if you don't, however, this is where the hard work begins. Starting with 80 followed by 120 grit abrasive, give the stool a good working over, removing any excess glue, sharp edges and splinters

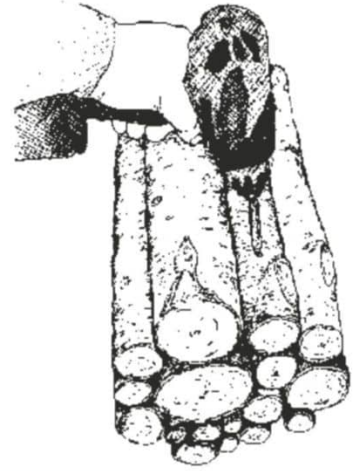


7 The completed chunky laminated block stools

www.thewoodworkermag.com

ALTERNATIVE PROJECT

If you wish, you can make a stool using logs and branches – just follow the same assembly steps as for the scrap wood version. However, because the wood will be green – i.e. with a high moisture content – you'll find it won't take a finish well, in which case it's best left in its natural state



WOODWORKING FOR THE WEEKEND – by Mark Griffiths

This may be a book of basic projects but they're aesthetically pleasing and work on several levels: they're ideal for woodworking beginners. All can be made using only simple kit, and most importantly, they're designed to be constructed from salvaged timber.

The paperback contains 20 original projects including seats, tables and chairs, all made using repurposed materials. There's also a dog house that looks like a Shaker barn, shelves built from old ladders, and a beehive created from wine boxes.

Because the projects are meant to be made from reclaimed wood, there's no worry about making costly mistakes, and of course each piece will have an individuality about it. Also, you won't have to make that intimidating trip to the timber yard only to be confounded by unhelpful jargon – an excursion that can be very off-putting for novices.

Mark tells you where to find the wood and how to prepare it, as well as providing an introduction to the basic toolbox, workspace setup as well as advice on fixings and finish.

The book has an attractively old-fashioned look about it, with the black-and-white drawings seen here providing a homely, welcoming feel.

Yes, it's one for beginners, but there's some clever ideas for the more skilled woodworker to copy and build on as well ✂

Web: www.amazon.co.uk



Protect and enhance the natural beauty of wood with Treatex Hardwax Oil



treatex
Naturally superior wood finishes

Table designed and built by Jim Sharples Furniture



Treatex Hardwax Oil

protects and enhances the appearance of all types of internal wood surfaces including floors, stairs, doors, furniture and worktops. Treatex Hardwax Oil is manufactured on a base of natural sustainable raw materials: jojoba oil, linseed oil, sunflower oil, beeswax, candelilla wax and carnauba wax.

- Brings out the timber grain
- Adds warmth to wood
- Easy to apply
- Quick drying
- No sanding required between coats
- Low odour
- Resistant to spills of water, wine, beer, coffee, tea and fizzy drinks
- Withstands high temperatures
- Very durable
- Easy to clean and maintain
- Spot repairable
- Safe for use on children's toys

tel: 01844 260416
www.treatex.co.uk

NEW woodworking tools from FastCap



FastCap FASTenon - Pack of 100

The FASTenon from FastCap allows you to pull your joints together without the need for clamps. The barbs bite into your material, holding your workpiece firmly together. Add a little glue inside each joint to make it even stronger. Also great for aligning components when assembling.

ONLY £34.96



FastCap Uni-Vac Hose Connector

The FastCap Uni-Vac is the ultimate shop vacuum accessory. The super flexible rubber grips round, oval or any shape dust port from 1/4" up to 2-1/2" making it the most versatile dust extraction fitting on the market. Adapts to most table saws, routers, miter saws, sanders, and many more!

ONLY £19.96



BabeBot 4oz NOT included

FastCap GluBot Clip - 4 Pack

FastCap's GluBot Clips make managing your GluBots easy. Whether you have GluBots with multiple different adhesives or you find GluBots all over the workshop and it's never to hand when you need it the GluBot clip is the product for you. One clip fits and holds both the GluBot and BabeBot.

ONLY £5.95



FastCap ProCarpenter Autolock Tape Measure

This dual scale tape measure has all the features of the original ProCarpenter Tape Measure, plus the autolock and super-ergonomic design. Simply pull the blade out and it stays in place then push the release button to retract the blade. With built-in stainless steel pencil sharpener.

FROM £13.96



Andy Standing introduces us to the dovetail housing joint, which is ideal for use when constructing shelving units or cabinets. You also only need a few pieces of kit in order to make it

SAFE AS HOUSES

The housing joint is particularly useful when constructing shelving units or cabinets. It precisely locates shelves or partitions in position and is an easy joint to cut. If, for any reason, the carcass becomes stressed or distorted, however, the joint can be pulled apart as it has no mechanical grip. So, for instance, should the uprights in a bookcase bow outwards, the shelves would fall out of their housings. One way to guard against this possibility is to use a dovetail housing instead. All you need is a good router, dovetail cutter and, ideally, a router table. ►



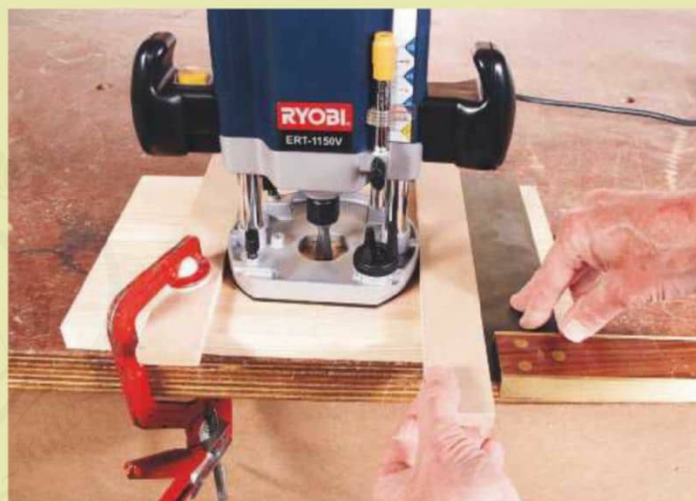
1 Start by marking out the position of your joint on the side panel. Just use a single line to mark the joint's centre



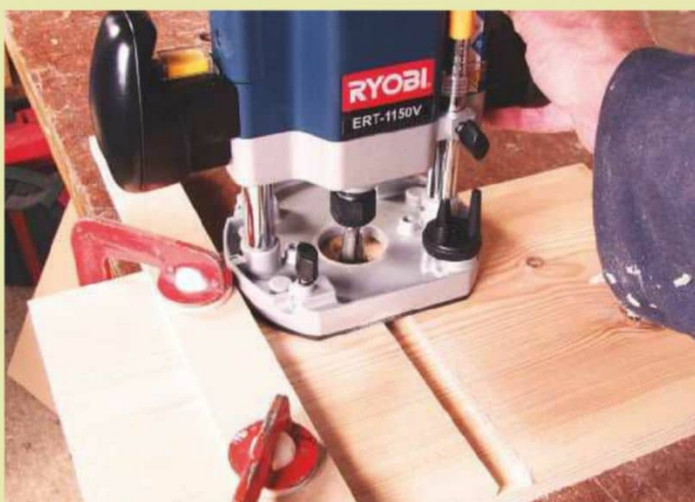
2 Unless you want the dovetail to show through on the front of the joint, you need to mark a point where the housing will stop. This should be 5-10mm from the edge



3 Fit your router with a dovetail cutter. The diameter should be reasonably close to the shelf member's thickness. To centralise the router on the line, unplug it, stand it on the board and plunge the cutter down to touch the surface. Turn the cutter by hand and move the router until both cutter faces are exactly on the line



4 Using a try square, align a batten with the side of the router and clamp it in place. For added security, you can put a second one on the other side to sandwich the router, although this isn't entirely necessary



5 The housing doesn't need to be too deep and certainly not more than a third of the thickness of the side panel. Set the router to the required depth and place it on the edge of the workpiece. The joint must be cut with the cutter at full depth from start to finish. Plunge the cutter fully, start the router and move it smoothly into the work, keeping it hard against the batten. When you reach the end mark, stop the router and switch off. Don't release the plunge lock. Once the cutter has stopped spinning, pull the router back out of the cut



6 The housing should look like this



7 Fit the router cutter into your router table. To set the depth, lay the machined board on the router table and raise the cutter until it just touches the bottom of the housing



8 Position the fence so that the cutter will take a shallow cut and run the shelf board vertically past it. Machine both sides



9 Check the fit, re-set the fence and take further shallow passes on each side of the shelf board until it's a sliding fit in the housing



10 Lay the shelf board on the side panel and mark the end of the housing onto it



11 With the dovetail cutter set at the same height as before, move the fence back and take a series of cuts until you reach the marked line. Use the mitre fence to support the workpiece on the router table



12 The completed joint should be a tight fit and may need tapping home with a hammer and woodblock ✂

DIRECT DEBIT SUBSCRIPTIONS UK ONLY

Yes, I would like to subscribe to *The Woodworker*

- ☐ Print + Digital: £13.00 every 3 months
☐ Print: £11.00 every 3 months

YOUR DETAILS MUST BE COMPLETED

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms..... Initial Surname
 Address
 Postcode Country
 Tel Mobile.....
 Email D.O.B

I WOULD LIKE TO SEND A GIFT TO:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms..... Initial Surname
 Address
 Postcode Country

INSTRUCTIONS TO YOUR BANK/BUILDING SOCIETY

Originator's reference 422562 
 Name of bank.....
 Address of bank
Postcode
 Account holder
 Signature..... Date
 Sort code Account number

Instructions to your bank or building society: Please pay MyTimeMedia Ltd. Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with MyTimeMedia Ltd and if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Reference Number (official use only)

Please note that banks and building societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions from some types of account.

CARD PAYMENTS & OVERSEAS

Yes, I would like to subscribe to *The Woodworker*, for 1 year (13 issues) with a one-off payment

UK ONLY:

- ☐ Print + Digital: £54.99
☐ Print: £46.99

EUROPE & ROW:

- ☐ EU Print + Digital: £73.00
☐ EU Print: £65.00
☐ ROW Print + Digital: £73.00
☐ ROW Print: £65.00

PAYMENT DETAILS

☐ Postal Order/Cheque ☐ Visa/MasterCard ☐ Maestro
 Please make cheques payable to MyTimeMedia Ltd and write code TWW2022 on the back
 Cardholder's name.....
 Card no: (Maestro)
 Valid from..... Expiry date..... Maestro issue no.....
 Signature..... Date.....

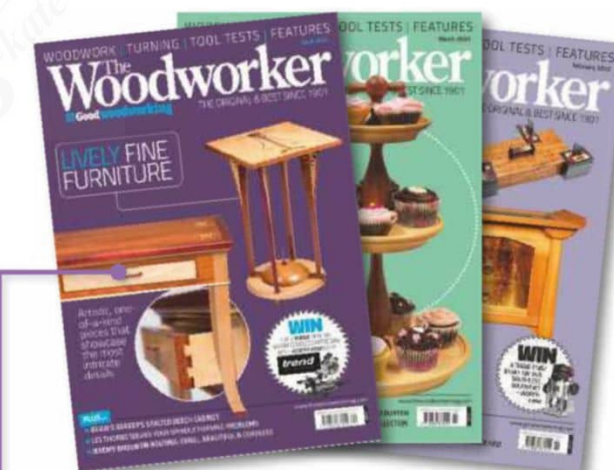
TERMS & CONDITIONS: Offer ends 31/12/2022. MyTime Media collects your data so that we can fulfil your subscription. We may also, from time to time, send you details of MyTime Media offers, events and competitions but you always have a choice and can opt out by emailing us at unsubscribe@getwoodworking.com. Please select here if you are happy to receive such offers by email ☐ by post ☐ by phone ☐. We do not share or sell your data with/to third parties. Details you share with us will be managed as outlined in our Privacy Policy here www.mytimemedia.co.uk/privacy-policy.

**POST THIS FORM TO: THE WOODWORKER SUBSCRIPTIONS,
 MYTIME MEDIA LTD, 3 QUEENSBIDGE, THE LAKES,
 NORTHAMPTON NN4 7BF**

**HURRY
 OFFER
 ENDS
 SOON!**

PRINT + DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION

- **Great savings** on the shop price
- 1 years worth of issues **delivered to your door**
- **Free** postage & packaging
- **Download** each new issue to your device
- A **75% discount** on your digital subscription
- Access your subscription on **multiple devices**



PRINT SUBSCRIPTION

- **Great savings** on the shop price
- 1 years worth of issues **delivered to your door**
- **Free** postage & packaging
- **Never** miss an issue

SUBSCRIBE SECURELY ONLINE

GET YOUR FAVOURITE MAGAZINE FOR LESS

DIGITAL
SUBSCRIPTIONS
AVAILABLE ONLINE!

WOODWORK | TURNING | TOOL TESTS | FEATURES

April 2022

The Woodworker

Goodwoodworking

THE ORIGINAL & BEST SINCE 1901

LIVELY FINE FURNITURE

Artistic, one-of-a-kind pieces that showcase the most intricate details

PLUS...

- BRIAN'S BARBER'S SPALTED BEECH CABINET
- LES THORNE SOLVES YOUR SPINDLE TURNING PROBLEMS
- JEREMY BROWN ON ROUTING: SMALL, BEAUTIFUL & CORDLESS

WIN
1 OF 2 TREND T815 18V
184MM CORDLESS MITRE SAW
KITS - WORTH £558 EACH!

trend
tool technology

www.thewoodworkermag.co.uk

9 772432 337014

Delivered
to your door
when you
**SUBSCRIBE
TODAY!**

SAVE 73%*
ON DIGITAL ISSUES



The Woodworker & Good Woodworking is a hands-on magazine aimed at the home woodworker. Its heritage, dating back over 110 years, makes it the authoritative voice on the subject. Edited and written by enthusiasts, there is a real feel for the subject. *The Woodworker & Good Woodworking* magazine presents projects and technical advice on all aspects of woodworking, plus features, news, reviews and tests of the new and most popular tools available.

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Offer ends 31st December 2022.

*This digital discount is only available when you subscribe to the 'Print + Digital' package. You can still get a great discount on the digital package, please visit the URL stated below for more information. Please see www.mytimemedia.co.uk/terms for full terms & conditions.

 <http://tww.secureorder.co.uk/TWW/TWW2022>

 **CALL OUR ORDER LINE**
0344 243 9023

Quote ref: TWW2022

Lines open Mon–Fri – 8.00am–8.00pm GMT & Sat – 9.30am–3.30pm GMT

Please visit www.mytimemedia.co.uk/terms for full terms & conditions

CODE TWW2022



Seeking a home for his CD collection, **Brian Barber** allows some beautiful spalted beech to dictate the design of an elegant cabinet

LET THE TIMBER DECIDE



In terms of construction, my woodworking is pretty traditional. The same, however, cannot be said of my approach. I don't use plans, only rough sketches with a few dimensions added as I go along. I like the freedom of allowing my original ideas to evolve into whatever the finished article happens to be.

I hope I can inspire you to have a go at this way of working, which although not for the faint-hearted, is certainly a lot of fun. It's a fact of life that things can and will go wrong, and it's often best to prepare yourself for such eventualities. Don't forget, however, that more often than not there's a way of making things right again.

The project depicted in this article came about as a result of discovering some wonderful pieces of spalted beech (**photo 1**). The larger one had a really nice grain pattern, which I thought would make a beautiful set of panelled doors when resawn. This provided the inspiration for the piece here – my idea was to make a tall and

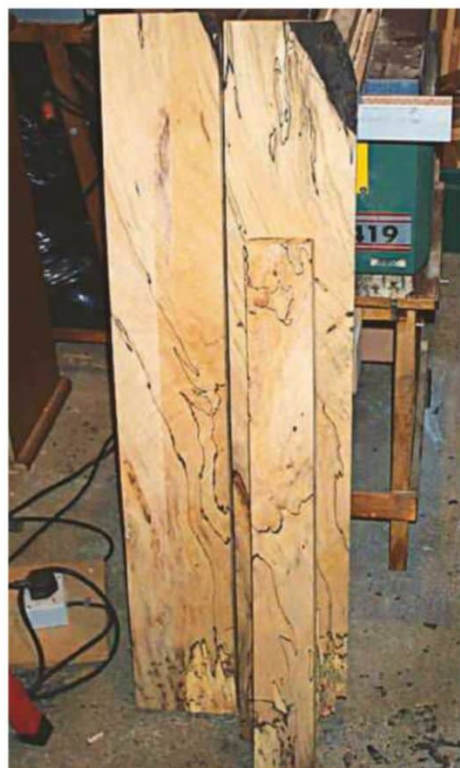
slender sycamore cabinet, complemented by the spalted beech, but beyond that I had no idea what it was going to look like.

I've been told the completed cabinet has a rather Krenovian look. Maybe that's something to be proud of, but I can't say it figured in my original intentions. I do have some of James Krenov's books, so perhaps

I was influenced by him on a subconscious level? Consciously, however, I simply did whatever came to mind, allowing things to develop organically.

Doors first

I started by cutting the larger piece of spalted beech to around 500 × 150mm.



1 These pieces of spalted beech provided the impetus and inspiration for the cabinet project

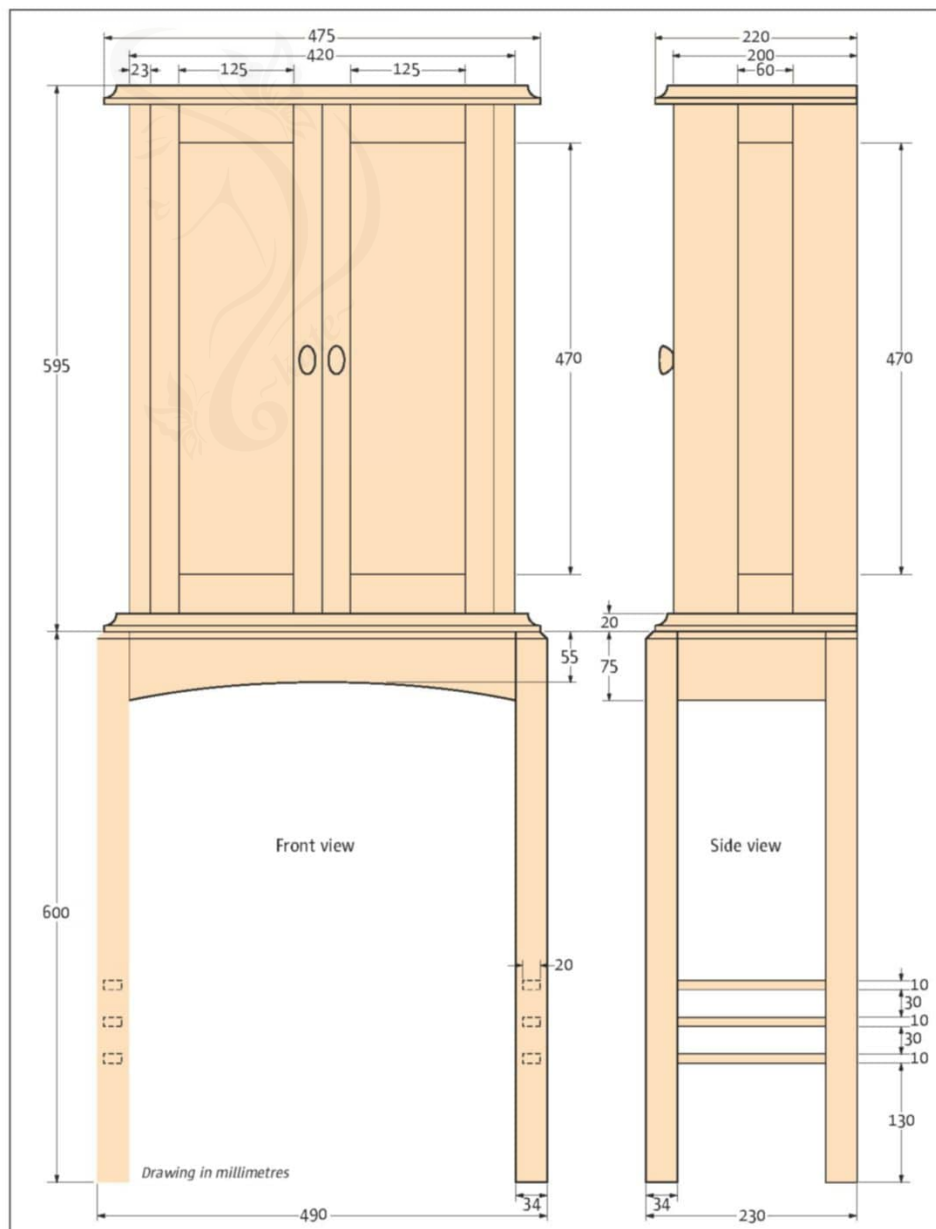


Fig.1 Spalted beech cabinet dimensions



2 I resaw the panels in order to make best use of the interesting grain pattern

This was just about right to resaw on my bandsaw into two pieces, each around 16mm thick. After a few passes through the planer/thicknesser, followed by some hand planing, the result was a nice set of bookmatched panels (**photo 2**). I made these into the two doors by framing them with sycamore, allowing the beech panels to float in grooves in the frames; this would also allow them to cope with any expansion of the timber. It's important not to glue the panels into the frames, otherwise splitting is very likely to occur. The corners of each panel were then mortise & tenoned in the usual way.

Before constructing the door panels, I first applied Rustin's plastic coating to the spalted beech as a finish. I'll come back to this in more detail later, but for now I will say that, because spalted beech is very porous, about 10 coats were required to give a decent and attractive finish to the wood (**photo 3**). This had the advantage of hardening the spalted beech, and consequently, adding increased stability.



5 The quarter-round mouldings on top and bottom soften the cabinet's hard edges



3 10 coats of Rustin's plastic coating gave the doors their attractive finish, and some additional strength to boot

The basic cabinet

Having constructed the doors, the size of the cabinet was defined – to an extent at least! – so I could now get cracking on making it. I had the idea of using this cabinet as storage for my CDs, and therefore decided to make it wide enough inside to hold three CD cases side by side. I was pretty pleased with the look of the doors, and so decided to use a similar type of construction for the side panels, using smaller pieces of spalted beech (**photo 4**). I then attached the sides to matching top and bottom panels, each of which has matching quarter-round mouldings routed on the edges (**photo 5**). Biscuits were used to join the end panels to the top and bottom of the cabinet – a nice and elegant way of obtaining clean lines.

This is something I'm pretty strict about; all my joints must fit in such a way that only a line is visible, any gaps are verboten. It might seem harsh, but if you're going to practice the fine art of woodworking, this is the way it has to be.

The cabinet was rebated at the back to allow for a rear panel. I had some 6mm maple-veneered ply, which worked well with the sycamore. Although it'd be perfectly acceptable, there's no reason to go to the length of using, say, solid sycamore for the back panel. For my purposes, the maple-veneered ply did an excellent job.

The slender legs...

This cabinet called for slender legs, but I decided that they needed to be a bit special. I therefore opted to use a curved rail at the front and rectangular ones at the sides, and as there was plenty of spalted beech left over,



4 In keeping with my design-as-you-go approach, the cabinet sides were modelled on the doors

I used it to make a decorative inlay for each side of the front rail (**photo 6**). With a template, I routed a 5mm depression on either side to receive them, after which I carefully cut and shaped the beech to fit.

The sides of the legs would've looked a little bare on their own, so I decided to add three small rails, which I felt made them stand out a little (**photo 7**). The completed legs are shown in **photo 8**, while details of the sizes are given in **Fig.1**.

Piecing together

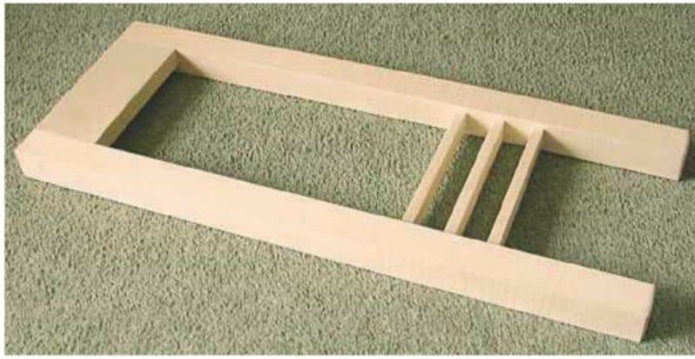
With all cabinet components now ready, it was time to assemble the project. The doors were carefully planed to fit, and hung with brass butterfly hinges. I decided to make these a feature of the cabinet rather than hiding them as I'd usually do with butt hinges.

Photo 9 shows the cabinet before any finish was applied. The top was attached to the legs with small buttons to allow for any movement between the two. A small chamfer was added to the top of the rails on the bottom of the cabinet, which blends nicely with the cabinet's routed base. Finally, a small shelf was added to the inside.

Before applying a final finish, the cabinet was sanded using 320 grit abrasive. I find that this is fine enough to give a really good finish, especially as the paper gets worn and the surface begins to improve without the need for any finer grits. Usually, this is the only paper I need to use since I make sure that everything is hand planed using really sharp plane irons prior to final finishing. I can't emphasise enough the need for razor-sharp tools – this applies to chisels and hand planes in particular.



6 Leftover spalted beech was used to create inlays on the front rail – a great decorative feature



7 Three small rails were added to the legs to make them look a tad more interesting...



8 ... and they also give the slender legs a somewhat greater impression of solidity

Blending the timbers

The cabinet was finished using Rustin's plastic coating. This can be difficult stuff to apply, especially when neat, as it has the consistency of runny treacle. I rarely, if ever, use it undiluted since it has a tendency to stick to the rag or brush.

I personally always use a rag to finish all of my furniture. This eliminates brush marks and gives a nice finish. With Rustin's coating, I tend to use a technique somewhat akin to French polishing, using a cotton rag rolled up in a similar way to a French polishing rubber, and dipping



9 The butterfly hinges were made into a feature as opposed to being hidden away

GETTING A HANDLE



With a cabinet like this, handles often pose a problem, and true to form I couldn't find anything suitable. Brass didn't seem right, even though I used brass hinges, which worked well. Square or rectangular handles also didn't seem appropriate, although long spindly ones might've just about worked. I was left with no choice – I had to make my own, once again using spalted beech. These were hand-carved and attached to the doors with small dowels

this into very dilute plastic coating – at least 50% thinner, but often more. Even then the rubber can stick, and you have to work fast. Usually about four to five coats are necessary to build up a beautiful finish, using '0000' wire wool between each.

Sometimes more coats are necessary if the wood is very porous. This stuff dries very quickly and is best applied outside, or at least in a very well-ventilated room, since the fumes are very powerful. I usually leave a day between coats to allow the finish to harden. The last coat is usually very thin, by at least 75%. This allows a nice finish to be obtained

before applying a final coat of wax.

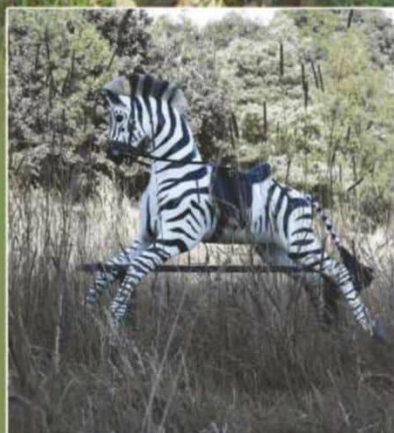
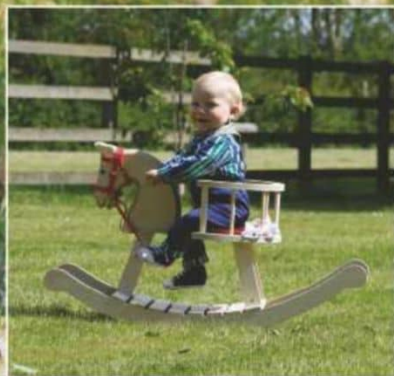
With that, this project comes to a close – and I'm left with a cabinet that I'm rather pleased with. As an epilogue of sorts, I'll reiterate my belief in the value of just letting go and seeing what happens, particularly if you have an interesting bit of timber like this spalted beech to take inspiration from.

By building the cabinet around those panels and allowing the beech to take centre stage, I've really been able to employ it to maximum effect. Anyway, that's enough proselytising for now; I'm off to alphabetise my CD collection... ✕





Designers, Makers &
Restorers of Beautiful
Rocking Horses
Since 1976



Why Not Make Your Own Rocking Horse?

- Woodworkers Plans
- Instructional Books & DVD's
- Timber Kits
- Accessories & Tack
- Carving Courses
- Tools

All Plans include: actual size drawings, colour pictures, step by step instructions & cutting lists. All plans supported by DVD's, books and quality timber & accessory kits (everything you need to complete your project!) All available in store or online.

www.rockinghorse.co.uk



Amazing Savings!

6 issues for £20

LIMITED TIME ONLY!



SUBSCRIBE SECURELY ONLINE
WWW.MYTIMEMEDIA.COM/6FOR20
OR CALL 0344 243 9023 AND QUOTE 6FOR20**

LINES OPEN MON - FRI - 9.00AM - 5.00PM GMT

Calls are charged at the same rate as standard UK landlines and are included as part of any inclusive or free minutes allowances. There are no additional charges with this number. Overseas calls will cost more.

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Offer ends 31st December 2022. *UK print subscriptions offer only. Subscriptions will begin with the first available issue in 2022. MyTime Media collects your data so that we can fulfil your subscription. We may also, from time to time, send you details of MyTime Media offers, events and competitions but you always have a choice and can opt out by emailing us at unsubscribe@mytimemedia.com. Please be aware, by opting into our communications, we may contact you with offers by email/post/phone. We do not share or sell your data with/to third parties. Details you share with us will be managed as outlined in our Privacy Policy here www.mytimemedia.co.uk/privacy-policy. Issue frequency is subject to change. Current yearly term varies per issue. Please visit www.mytimemedia.co.uk/terms for full terms & conditions.



THOMAS FLINN & Co LTD



SHEFFIELD • ENGLAND



The UK's last remaining traditional saw
and hand plane manufacturer

Garlick
MADE IN SHEFFIELD
ESTABLISHED 1858

**E.T. ROBERTS
& LEE**

PAX
ESTABLISHED 1776

CLIFTON

www.flinn-garlick-saws.co.uk
orderonline@flinn-garlick-saws.co.uk
Tel: 0114 2725387

SPINDLE TURNING PROBLEMS

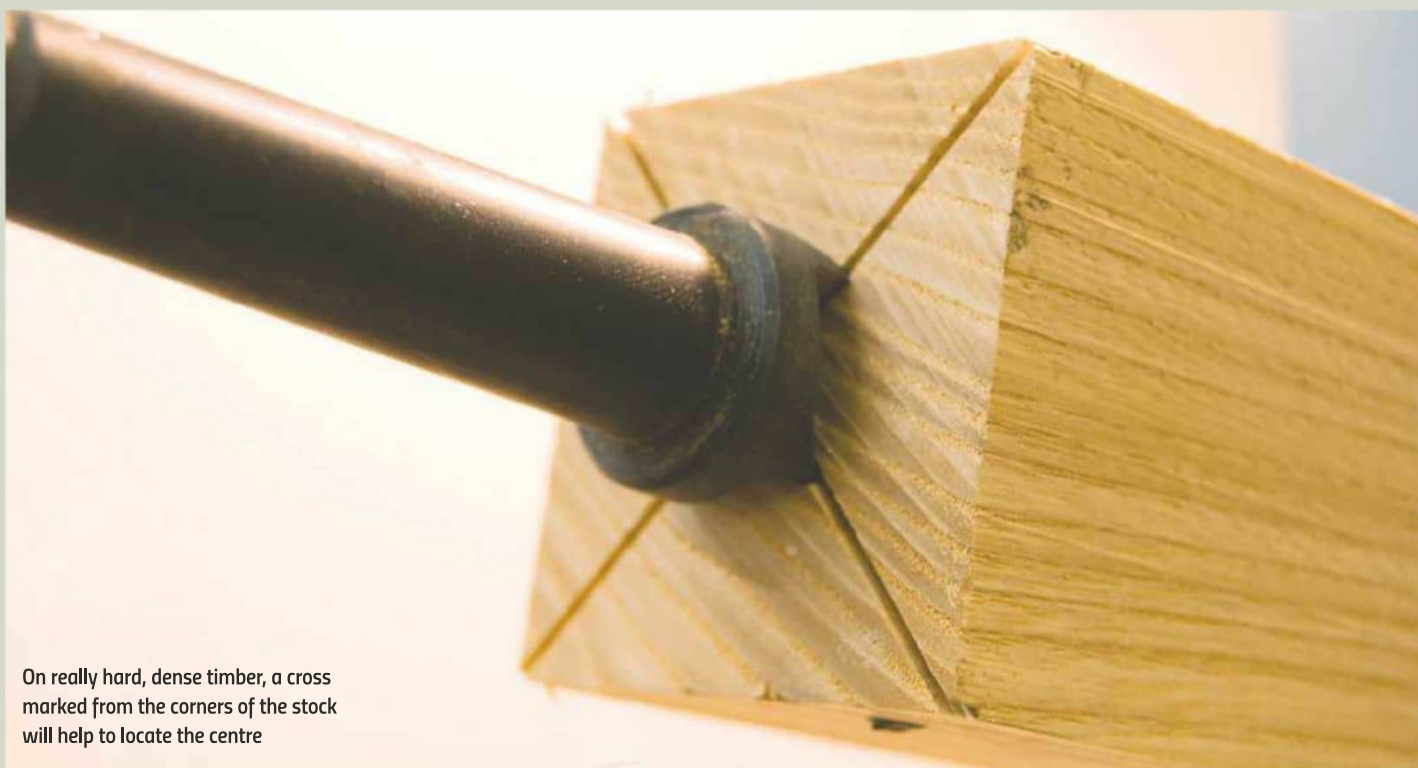
SORTED

Les Thorne looks at six common spindle turning problems and offers some helpful solutions

Having been a production turner, teacher and demonstrator for a number of years, I've come to realise that a lot of people hit against exactly the same problems. Many of these will occur early on in your turning life, but some will emerge as you progress. This month, I thought I'd attempt to provide the answers to many of these problems, hopefully giving you a first port of call before you need to seek outside help. Consider me your Turning Troubleshooter!

A lot of the solutions I'll be supplying have come from other experienced turners – people like Gary Rance and Stuart Mortimer have had a huge influence on my turning, Gary being a time-served spindle turner and Stuart having an intensely analytical mind. I'm lucky that I've always had a group of other turners to call upon when I come up against a problem, but for those without access to such experience, here I am!

Of course, you may have other ways of overcoming some of the things I'm going to cover over the next few pages. Feel free to email the editor directly – tegan.foley@mytimemedia.com – if this is the case, especially if you think that your way is better – anything that makes me a more effective turner is honey to the bee. After all, just because you've been doing something a particular way for a number of years doesn't necessarily mean that it's the best way – just ask my wife!



On really hard, dense timber, a cross marked from the corners of the stock will help to locate the centre

QUESTION 1:
“Why does the wood not drive properly while working between centres?”

The first thing to check is that there's enough pressure from the tailstock, because as you tighten the hand wheel, the whole tailstock can slide along the lathe bed if it's not tightened down properly. The two- or four-prong drive that's normally used can also become blunt, and therefore requires careful sharpening on a bench grinder or with a file.

Always mark a centre point with a bradawl, then, using a mallet, bang the drive into the end of the wood until indentations are made for the teeth to locate. This should

be adequate for all but the hardest of timbers. A last resort would be to cut across from corner to corner on the stock so that the drive can locate firmly into the end-grain.

A Stebcentre will always help as the surface area on the drive is greater – more teeth means more grip. If the piece is going to be completely round, taking the corners off with a bandsaw will initially put less pressure on the drives.

If I'm turning long and thin, I'd normally hold one end in the chuck as applying too much tailstock pressure will cause the wood to bow, thus making turning a problem

We generally see turning as a series of beads, coves, v-cuts, ogees, etc. Quite often the shape we require is either a parallel cylinder or taper.

One of my early production jobs was a 406mm long tapered lamp from 100-64mm. I used to turn a fair number of these and learned quite quickly the most effective ways of tooling them.

I place the toolrest roughly at the required angle and use a spindle roughing gouge. The little finger on my left hand runs on the toolrest and I remove timber in an ever lengthening cut.

The parallel cylinder is formed in the same way, but with the toolrest set parallel to the lathe bed. If the surface you end up with isn't perfect, then just sand in the usual manner, holding the abrasive against the revolving wood, following the shape that's there. By using a wider, stiffer abrasive, or by wrapping the abrasive around a piece of hardboard, you can sand the high spots down until the surface is flat.

After each grit, it's advisable to turn the lathe off and sand with the grain

QUESTION 2:
“I'm having problems turning a straight line or tapers”



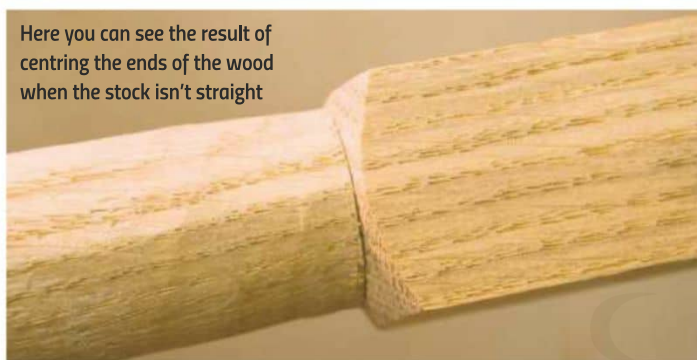
The little finger on my left hand runs on the toolrest, and I'm able to remove timber in an ever lengthening cut

QUESTION 3:
"My 1m-long
50 × 50mm
spindle is bent!"

Tapping the wood
with a mallet will
help to ensure the
stock is running true



Here you can see the result of
centring the ends of the wood
when the stock isn't straight



Books, DVDs and magazines all tell you to mark the centres before mounting the wood on the lathe. That's all very well and good if the wood is dead straight, but you'll encounter problems if it isn't; the blank will wobble violently and when you start to turn, you'll remove more off one side than the other, so your details will end up being different diameters. When I'm mounting thin, long stock on the lathe, I tend to worry about the centre of the stock running true rather than the ends – I might even make a test cut to see if it's even all the way around. This isn't always fail-safe as the timber can be bent and twisted, but I'll look for an optimum average. I adjust the stock by easing off the tailstock pressure and using a mallet, tapping the spindle in the direction I want it to go, then retighten. This may take a few attempts to get right

QUESTION 4:
"How do you turn
thin stock? When
I try, mine keeps
bouncing away
from the tool"

Most beginners don't realise that wood can be flexible. Even thick stock such as 100mm can bounce when held between centres. If a cut is made in the wood and it flexes, it'll leave a spiral finish at best, or even knock the wood off.

There's many ways to minimise the risk of the wood vibrating. Variable speed is an asset here – there tends to be an optimum turning speed which will probably be slower than you'd normally use, as the faster the speed, the more the wood tends to flex.

I'll always use a steady when turning long and thin, and by far the best I've used is made by Oneway, which is available from Hope Woodturning – www.hopewoodturning.co.uk. You obviously have to make the stock round and I'd tend to support the wood with my left hand while holding the tool in my right; this may look dangerous, but if you place your hands correctly, you remove the risk of pinching your fingers.



A good spindle steady like this Oneway model from Hope Woodturning is absolutely essential

Here you can see the spiral
pattern on the timber, which
is a result of it bouncing



Supporting the workpiece
with your spare hand may
look dangerous, but
it's perfectly safe
if done correctly



Next, I set up the steady – its soft nylon wheels won't mark the timber. The actual tooling techniques you use on your flexible spindles is important – I've found this isn't the time for scrapers, or any scraping actions. Use the bevel rubbing and cut with a gouge or skew to give better results. A scraper will bounce the wood away whereas if the bevel is in contact with the wood, then the cutting edge is supported, which means there'll be less chance of it grabbing the timber.

If you still find vibration marks on the timber, it's worth starting the sanding process with a coarser abrasive in order to remove these. Sometimes the stock can move and warp as timber is removed; the steady will help to keep this all in line, but when you come to remove it, don't forget to sand the piece.

In some cases, the piece can start to wobble violently. On more than one occasion, I've had a workpiece hit the toolrest and come flying off the lathe. Some timbers behave better than others; I prefer those that are easier to sand, such as oak or tulipwood, so if you do get tool marks, these can be sanded away easily

QUESTION 5:
"Why is the
finish I get
so poor?"

Spindle turning is what I'd call pure turning, as you're cutting one type of grain at any given time. With faceplate turning, on the other hand, you're cutting end-grain then side-grain alternately. The tool needs to be moved through the wood from larger to smaller diameter to ensure that the fibres are supported while advancing the cut. The bevel of the tool is in contact with the wood at all times during the cutting process. Not only does this afford you cutting edge support, it also has the benefit of burnishing the timber behind the cut to give that 'good tooled finish' we all strive for. In the photo you can see the difference between a cut bevel rubbing with the grain as opposed to a scrape against the grain.

Pine is a great medium for learning and practising turning techniques. It rarely responds well to scraping so a cut will give you a better quality finish. Some woods – especially the

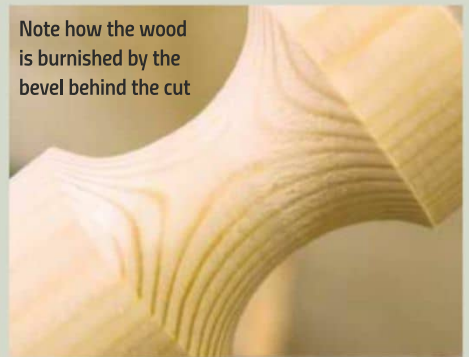
dense oily ones such as ebony, boxwoods and rosewoods – will often respond well to a light scraping cut, but always with the grain. A lot of the old style ebony, ivory and bone turners developed their techniques around the use of certain materials, so when you see a tool or method being demonstrated, remember to ask yourself if it's working effectively because of the material being used. The best example of this is hand thread chasing – you can't cut a fine thread on more open-grain timbers as you'll experience break out.

As in most forms of woodwork, sharp tools are imperative to achieving a good finish, so don't ignore this when it comes to turning. A scraper that relies on the burr to do all the work will blunt the tool quicker than when the edge is supported by the bevel. I've never been able to fathom why smaller tools produce a better

Finish not
as good as
you like? Make
sure your tools
are sharp!



Note how the wood
is burnished by the
bevel behind the cut



finish than bigger ones, but a change from a 10mm to a 6mm bowl gouge can mean the difference between a sandable and a poor finish.

As I've discussed in previous articles, speed is normally our friend, especially when it comes to achieving a good finish. So all in all, a really good technique, sharp tools and a reasonably high speed are all conducive to a quality finish

The finish to the left is from bevel
rubbing, while the right-hand side is
from scraping upwards



When entering
the timber, you
need to be bold and
confident



QUESTION 6:
"When I present
the tool to the
wood I lose control,
resulting in
a dig-in"

Dig-ins, catches, snatches... call them whatever you like, they're trouble. At the very least such an error will result in a design change, while in a worst-case scenario, you'll have ruined a project. Starting the cut can be potentially difficult for a beginner – the tool will need to be presented in such a way that it cuts rather than skids across the surface. Pivoting the cutting edge off the toolrest rather than just pushing it in is an effective method, but you'll have to remember to put the tool on the rest before going in for the cut. You'll also need to ensure that it's still on the toolrest all the way through the cut – obvious, I know.

One problem I have from time to time is lifting the tool off the rest during the cut. Believe me, if you make the same mistake, you'll soon put it back on!

Before advancing the tool, whether it be

a gouge or skew chisel, ensure the bevel is in contact with the wood and maintain the cut by advancing the tool and moving your body around. You need to be confident when you approach the timber: the tool needs to be locked into your body, and I'd recommend a 'hand over' or a 'hand under' grip. Other grips are generally weaker and, in my opinion, less effective. The best, most prolific turners use a combination of these two styles

THE LIFE OF A WOODTURNER

The last time I wrote this, I was contemplating the start of a large, repetitive job – which provided the inspiration for an article on copy turning – and people have been asking if I've finished it yet. Well, they're all done and paid for, and the customer was as happy as he possibly could be upon parting with a considerable amount of money!

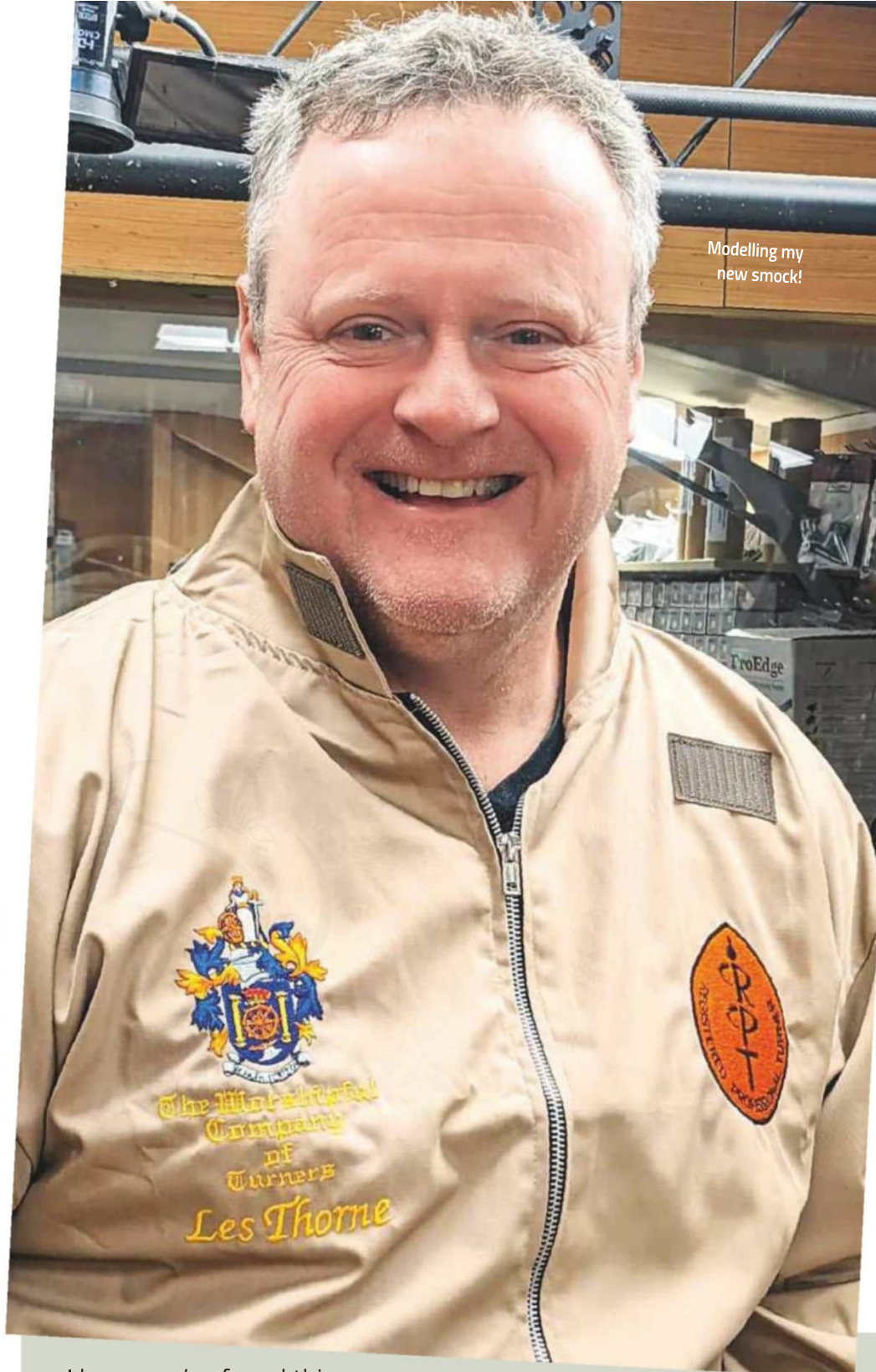
In other news, strange commissions are on the agenda again. A local sculptor asked me to turn three large eggs from wet, sweet chestnut. Everything in the workshop, including my hands, turned black from the tannin. I bet you're wondering what their intended purpose was... a big nest of course!



Astragal rings made from sapele to match a straight moulding



Green oak acorn finials for a garden feature. I love the smell of the workshop when turning oak; it takes me back to my sawmill days



Modelling my new smock!

I hope you've found this Q&A helpful and that some of your turning problems have been solved. Perhaps you've not encountered any or all of these before, but that doesn't mean you won't in future. It's worth being prepared and also knowing how to avoid these happening altogether.

If you find yourself running into the same problems over and over again, it may be worth investing in some quality instruction from a professional turner, be that lessons or even a dedicated course ✕

IN CONCLUSION...

THE GAMES PEOPLE PLAY



Despite games today becoming increasingly electronic, there's still a strong case for the old favourites, many of which are played using handmade boards and pieces, as **Paul Greer** shows here



1 Three-player chess set

With so many now offered via electronic devices, it's worth remembering that games and pastimes used to be played with solid objects, many of them made of wood. Those still taking a physical form today tend to be produced as high-quality items, aimed at the more discerning – or simply better-off – enthusiast.

Chess sets & pieces

For centuries, the finest chess sets were carved in bone or ivory, but from the middle of the 19th century, those resorted to by the best players were made of wood, and equally significant changes to them were soon to follow (**photos 1 & 2**).

The case for standardising chess pieces had strengthened because players were refusing to play with their opponents' sets, whose unfamiliar pieces often proved hard to recognise. In 1849, this prompted Nathaniel Cook, an Englishman, to patent his designs for chess pieces, combining distinctiveness with simplicity. He based his knight on a sculpted horse from the Elgin Marbles (**photo 3**), a then recent – if now dubious – acquisition from the Parthenon, in Greece.

John Jaques, a games maker, was so impressed by Cook's designs that he proposed them as a basis for sets to be manufactured commercially. His cause

was boosted significantly by Howard Staunton (**photo 4**), then considered the world's best player, who, besides endorsing Cook's design, prompted uniform rules for the game, and in 1851, in London, set up the first international tournament. In time, Cook's designs became known as the Staunton pattern, and only chess pieces conforming to it are today permitted in international competitions. Founded in 1795, Jaques of London term themselves '8th generation games makers'. One of their strikingly handsome chess sets, together with its mahogany casket, retails at £3,000 (**photo 5**).

Pub games

Played on a wooden board normally from 1.8-3m long and 0.6-0.9m wide, bagatelle is a pub game closely related to snooker, billiards, and American pool (**photo 6**). Using a wooden cue, the player attempts to hit balls into a number of holes on the board, while avoiding fixed vertical pins, which guard them.

In Britain, from around 1770-1850, bagatelle was as popular as billiards and during the first half of the 19th century, John Thurston, a leading billiard table maker, also turned out many designed for bagatelle.

While conceived as a game for public houses, bagatelle nevertheless became

so popular during the Victorian period that smaller tables were made for home use. Up to the 1970s, towns like Coventry and Chester boasted thriving bagatelle leagues, where – though in general decline since – it's still played.

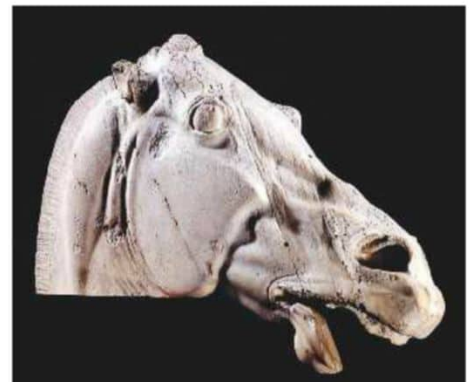
Though the earliest references to it are German, skittles has been played in English inns or pubs for centuries. The game normally entails a projectile – often called a 'cheese' – being propelled down an indoor lane in an effort to knock down nine wooden pins. Over time, however, differences in the size and shape of the 'cheese', number of pins, and length of the alley, have become evident (**photo 7**). Many of these variations are regional – in London, a heavy 'cheese' thrown 'full-toss' has been popular, while in the West Country, it's been rolled down the full length of the alley (**photo 8**).

Jigsaws – from past to present day

Jigsaws began as educational tools to raise awareness of world geography. Credit for the first goes to John Spilsbury, an English engraver, who in 1760 mounted a world map on hardboard, and, using a marquetry saw, cut around national boundaries (**photo 9**). He called the result a 'dissected map' and turned out eight, four covering all the – then known



2 Handmade wooden travel chess set



3 Elgin Marbles Horse Head



– continents, and four for the countries in Britain. These early examples were popular among the wealthy, including King George III (**photo 10**); however, they differed from modern jigsaws, being formed of heavy woods, while in most, only border pieces actually interlocked.

Nevertheless, the late 19th century saw the introduction of foot-powered jigsaws, permitting faster production and more intricate shapes. Significantly cheaper cardboard puzzles became soon widely available, with wooden versions, synonymous with quality, becoming destined for a limited market. In time, however, advances in lithographic techniques let higher-

quality prints be transferred onto wooden surfaces, while thin-layered plywood resulted in wooden puzzles, which were both lighter and affordable.

Laser technology now yields very detailed and even – where desired – highly personalised products (**photo 11**). Ranking high among quality makers is the 'Wentworth Wooden Jigsaw Company' (**photo 12**). For just over three decades, it's been turning out hand-designed puzzles at its factory in Wiltshire, where the complete production process takes place, employing wood sourced from sustainably-managed forests.

Using specialised software, each hand-drawn design is individually programmed into the laser machines, to ensure the most precise cut possible. This results in perfectly-fitting pieces, while also allowing Wentworth to make what it calls 'whimsies' – distinctive designs that strike an entertaining note, as well as providing puzzlers with an extra challenge. Besides a large menu of standard designs, bespoke jigsaw reproductions are also available – i.e. family snapshots.

'The Austen Spillikins'

Spillikins was originally played with 'rods' or 'sticks' made of bone or ivory, although today



4 Howard Staunton, an English chess master, was generally regarded as the world's strongest player from 1843–1851



5 1849 Staunton Mahogany Casket, from Jaques of London, has a price tag of nearly £3,000



6 Victorian mahogany Bagatelle games table by Thurston & Co, mid-19th century



7 A pub skittles alley in Dorset

these are typically wooden and consist of between 20–50 pieces (**photo 14**). Reputedly originating in China, it's also known as 'pick-up-sticks' or 'jackstraws'. The rods are gathered together before being allowed to fall, normally on a level surface. Each player then tries to remove them, singly, without disturbing the others, the object being to collect as many as possible.

The novelist Jane Austen was an avid games-player (**photo 15**), particularly with young relatives, and, while referring to one in a letter to her sister Cassandra in 1807, she



10 George III, shown here in a Coronation portrait by Allan Ramsay, 1762



8 A traditional and, in this case, much battered pub game in Oundle, England

says 'Half her time here was spent at Spillikins; which I consider a very valuable part of our household furniture...' Jane's own set, known as 'the Austen Spillikins' is on display at the museum in Lyme Regis, Dorset (**photo 16**).

Dominoes & darts

Dominoes originated in 12th century China, and was an extension of the game of dice. It arrived in Britain from France in the late 18th century, possibly via French prisoners during the Napoleonic era. The face of each rectangular domino tile is divided into two squares, or 'ends' (**photo 17**). Each end is either blank or bears a number of spots – also known as 'pips' or 'dots'. In its conventional form, dominoes is a competitive



11 Interior of St Peter's, Rome jigsaw from The Wentworth Wooden Jigsaw Company

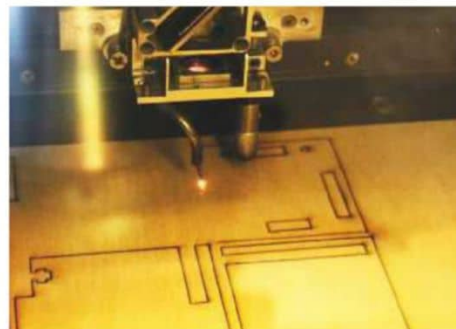


9 'Europe divided into its kingdoms, etc.' (1766), believed to be the first purpose-made jigsaw puzzle

game for two players.

The 'domino effect' describes a situation in which one action initiates a chain of similar ones. At arranged displays, hundreds – or even thousands – of dominoes can be set up with great precision to create breathtaking visual effects when made to fall in an arranged sequence (**photo 18**).

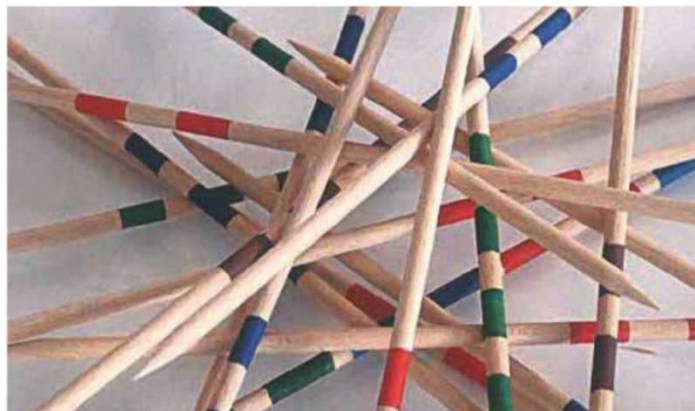
To maintain their throwing skills, as well as for amusement, medieval soldiers took to aiming spear-heads at upturned wine-casks, or the base of tree trunks. This was the origin of the game of darts. In fact, growth rings and radial cracks on trees became a template for modern dart boards. Into the 20th century, these were made of wood, and even though other materials better-



12 Laser-cutting jigsaw pieces



13 Cutting jigsaw pieces using a scrollsaw



14 Spillikins or 'pick-up sticks'



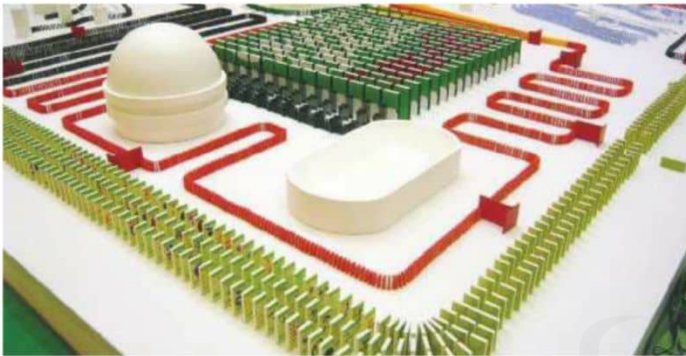
15 Jane Austen (1775–1817)



16 Jane Austen's Spillikins – seen in the upper right-hand corner



17 Wooden dominoes game



18 Domino toppling is achieved by standing dominoes on end and arranging them in the desired patterns and sequences



19 Dartboard housed in its own wooden cabinet

suited to their function were produced from the 1920s onwards, good-quality wooden boards are still made today (photo 19). The 1920s also saw the game itself moving towards standardisation. The National Darts Association was formed and brewery leagues appeared, the width of wooden beer casks being used to calculate where the darts would be thrown from.

Hitherto popular indoor games such as skittles and quoits – or 'rings' – were rapidly ousted by darts. During World War II, troops – even those in POW camps – were eager devotees, while American soldiers visiting Britain during the conflict were very taken with it, and generated notable interest in the game on their return to the US. In 1896, a Lancashire carpenter named Brian Gamlin is credited with arriving at the now universal score number distribution. Seeming random,

they were in fact calculated to minimise luck while maximising skill.

Games you can make yourself

A recent arrival on the game scene is 'Jenga', which was created by designer Leslie Scott. It consists of 54 wooden blocks – each measuring $1.5 \times 2.5 \times 7.5\text{cm}$ – and is intended for two or more players. The blocks are first built into a tower, then removed singly, before being placed on top. The player whose final move makes the tower too unstable, leading to its collapse, is declared the loser.

Linley make their own up-market version of the game with blocks in walnut, cherry, ash, wenge, maple and oak (photo 20). Jenga XXL and Jenga Giant contain much larger blocks and can reach 150cm or higher in play (photo 21).

Some players strive for speed, and a few years ago an American duo set a record by constructing a stable 30-level tower in less than three minutes!

From a woodworking perspective, there's a great range of games you can make yourself using wood as the primary material. The editor informs me that there's a wonderful backgammon board coming up in a few issues' time, which will consist of 2-3 parts, and an online search throws up a variety of ideas, including a live-edge cribbage board and Dutch billiards. There's also a few ideas on the website – www.thewoodworkermag.com – including 'Kubb', which dates back to Viking times. Lastly, with summer not far off, why not have a go at making your own wooden garden games such as quoits or even croquet? ✕



20 Tumbling blocks game by Linley



21 Kelvin – aka MengaMan – broke his own world record when he stacked 1,512 Jenga pieces on top of one single block



22 Wooden brainteaser puzzle variants

Coming up in the next issue...

*The Woodworker
& Good Woodworking*
May 2022 issue –
on sale 22 April



WIN!

trend
tool technology

The best just got better! To celebrate the launch of the new T12 and T14 plunge and workshop routers, Trend is giving two lucky readers the chance to get their hands on these fantastic prizes!



1ST PRIZE:
T14 2,300W 1/2in workshop router with WRT 240V workshop router table – worth £1,200

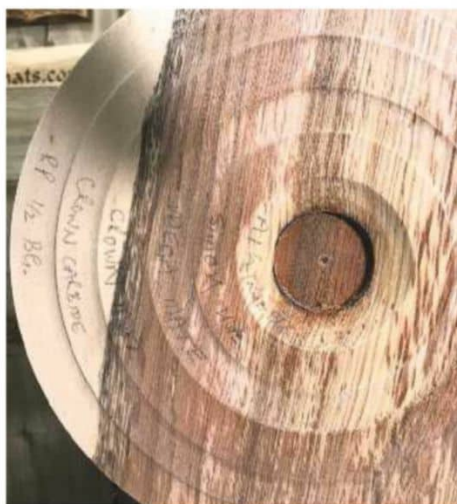
2ND PRIZE:
T12 2,300W 1/2in plunge router – worth £557



PLUS!
Exclusive test

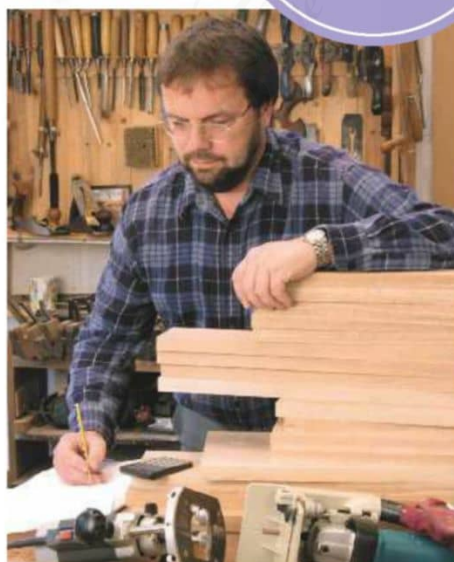
OPEN & HONEST

Brian Barber's free approach to design exposes the simple beauty of his 'designer drawers'



WET VS. DRY; TRADITIONAL VS. CARBIDE

Andrew Hall conducts an experiment in tools, timber and techniques



MARKING TOOLS & TECHNIQUES FOR FURNITURE MAKING

John Bullar explores the range of marking tools available to the furniture maker as well as the techniques that can be used to ensure you get the most from them

- PLUS** ■ Carl Sadler: Trug maker, coppicer & green woodsman ■ Bird table build
■ Intro to decorative woodcarving ■ Pigeon hole box ■ Woodworker's encyclopaedia – part 39
■ A new door for spring ■ Turned string tidy

MISSSED AN ISSUE?

Did you miss a copy of

The Woodworker & Goodwoodworking

YOU CAN NOW ORDER THESE ONLINE



June 2021



July 2021



August 2020



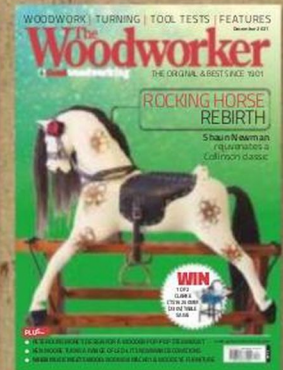
September 2021



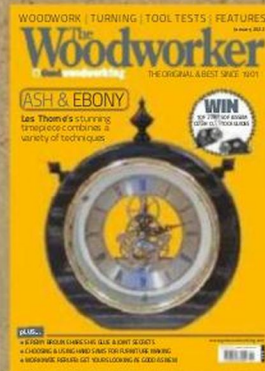
October 2021



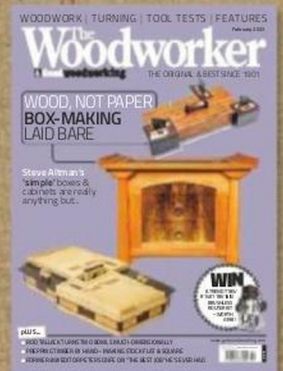
November 2021



December 2021



January 2022



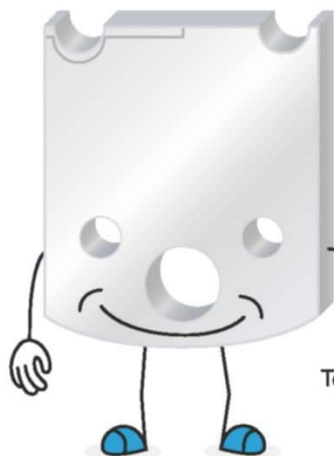
February 2022

Order Online: www.mags-uk.com

mytime media
print & digital media publishers

Please note that we cannot guarantee the availability of all issues displayed above.

SPINDLE MOULDERS, CUTTERS & LIMITERS



**MADE
TO
ORDER!**

**Very quick turnaround
To suit most types of blocks
Many low priced
standards in stock**

Get in touch: 01684 293092

sales@tewkesburysaw.co.uk

www.tewkesburysaw.co.uk

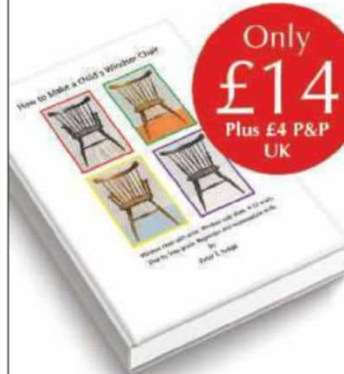
Newtown Trading Est.
Tewkesbury, GL20 8JG



HOW TO MAKE A CHILD'S WINDSOR CHAIR

The chairs in the book are completely new designs of Windsor chairs for children 4 to 12 years.
(Windsor side chair and Windsor chair with arms)

by Peter E Judge



**Only
£14
Plus £4 P&P
UK**

"Can I just say, what a lovely, well illustrated and structured book. I ordered it for my dad, and he is over the moon with it."
Mrs A. D. North Yorkshire

"What a fantastic book. You have covered every detail and procedure, so anyone can make a Windsor chair, no matter their ability. Your book is a work of excellence."
Mr B. C. Northumberland

"I'm impressed with the layouts and methods used in your books."
Mr S. H. Lincolnshire

"I'm making two chairs for my grandchildren, and due to your detailed instructions, all is going well."
Mr W. P. Sussex

Also on the website, see Book 2. Alternative Assembly Procedures
These special procedures are an alternative way to assembling the chairs shown in 'How to Make A Child's Windsor Chair' - using precision techniques.

View a selection of pages from the books at website

www.makewindsorchairs.co.uk

Order through PayPal on the website,
or please contact Peter by calling **0121 705 2196**,
email: **peterejudge@gmail.com** or write to Peter E Judge,
21 Somerby Drive, Solihull, West Midlands B91 3YY, UK

Add delivery to the book price:
Europe £12 P&P | America and Canada £18 P&P | Australia £19 P&P

Easy Inlays for Woodturning and Detailing

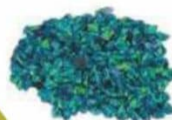


**NEW for
2022**

Easy Inlay Gold Flake

Add a luxurious element to gilding, resin casting, or inlay accents for any woodworking, woodturning, or crafting project. Unlike flat gold sheets used for gilding, tamisé gold flake is tumbled and can be turned into smaller bits, making it easy to add a pop of gold into any inlay or resin casting for pens, knife handles, and more.

ONLY £17.95



**NEW
Colours**
Now available
in 7 colours

Easy Inlay Opals - 2 grams

These lab-grown opals contain the fire typically seen in rare opals and are optically, physically, and chemically identical to those found in nature. Also, unlike natural stones, the color, luminosity, and brightness of these opals will not fade over time. Available in a variety of colours.

ONLY £19.96



Easy Inlay Mother of Pearl - Flake

Mother of Pearl is a versatile, natural mineral used to create many types of inlay. It can be used as is, or dyed to emulate a variety of luxurious gem stones such as sapphire blue, ruby red, jade green and more. You can also mix it into our other inlay materials to add a shimmering translucent chatoyance effect.

ONLY £19.96



Join us at Makers Central 30th April & 1st May

Visit us at stand A12 for great show offers on quality brands such as Armor Tools, FastCap, INCRA, JessEm, Micro Jig, Woodpeckers and own brand AUKTools. Peter Sefton, an award winning furniture maker will be demonstrating hand skills and tool techniques. Plus Scott Grove, owner of Easy Inlay, will be demonstrating his range of Easy Inlay products.

**TO ADVERTISE
IN**

The Woodworker
Good Woodworking

call
Rhona Bolger
0204 522 8221
rhona.bolger@mytimemedia.com

HOBBY'S
Annual 2022 • Number 52 • £3.95 • 328 pages

HOBBY'S We hold stock for a great variety of crafts and model making hobbies, including mould making and casting. We supply all the tools, adhesives, materials, plans, kits and books you could need.

Knights Hill Square, London SE27 0HH.
Tel: 020 8761 4244 mail@hobby.co.uk
Visit www.hobby.co.uk

THE MODELMAKER'S YEARBOOK

TOP QUALITY - LOW PRICES!

VSM VITEX ABRASIVES
KK532F Starter Pack (4 Metres) £14.00
Inc.VAT & UK post. ½ metre each of grit 80, 120, 150, 180, 240, 320, 400 and 600.

***GRIP-A-DISC* Power Sanding System**
50mm Starter Kit - £32.00 Inc.VAT & post. Contains 50 Discs and Holder.

We also stock: Sorby Tools, Chestnut Products, Pacer Super Glues & VSM belts.

SAE for Catalogue
Jill Piers Woodturning Supplies
2 Kimberley Villas, Southmill Road,
BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS. CM23 3DW
Tel/Fax: **01279 653760**

Old Fashioned Milk Paint
THE GENUINE MILK PAINT
NATURALLY SAFE: HISTORIC PAINTS

www.oldfashionedmilkpaint.co.uk

The original milk paint for an authentic period finish
Eco friendly | Zero VOC | Food safe | Quote WWM01 for 10% off

JOHN LLOYD

**The SIXTEEN WEEK
Ultimate Skills &
Techniques Course**

**Comprehensive programme of
Short Courses for all levels**

Hardback books, video integrated ebooks, downloads

**JB woodomain
MEDIASTORE**

Jeremy Broun (est 1973) www.woodomain.com
01225 332738 07963 591650

WEB GUIDE

WEALDEN TOOL COMPANY

Router cutters
Spindle tooling
Bandsaw, jigsaw & circular sawblades
Online catalogue & ordering
www.wealdentool.com

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MAKERS

Musical Instrument Makers' & Repairers' Supplies

TOUCHSTONE TONEWOODS

Largest selection of tonewoods, tools & parts in the country.
Visit our website or order our catalogue. Callers welcome

Touchstone Tonewoods, Albert Road/North, Reigate, RH2 9EZ
Tel: 01737 221064 Fax: 01737 242748
www.touchstonetonewoods.co.uk

Machine Mart

WHERE QUALITY COSTS LESS

65 SUPERSTORES NATIONWIDE

Clarke GARAGES/WORKSHOPS UP TO 24' (7.3M) LONG



ZIP CLOSE DOOR

BRIGHT WHITE INTERIOR

MODEL SHOWN CIG81220

FROM ONLY
£239.00 EXC. VAT
£286.80 inc. VAT

MODEL	SIZE (LxWxH)	EXC. VAT	INC. VAT
CIG81212	3.6 x 3.6 x 2.5M	£239.00	£286.80
CIG81015	4.5 x 3.7 x 2.4M	£279.00	£334.80
CIG81216	4.9 x 3.7 x 2.5M	£319.00	£382.80
CIG81020	6.1 x 3.7 x 2.4M	£349.00	£418.80
CIG81220	6.1 x 3.7 x 2.5M	£399.00	£478.80
CIG81224	7.3 x 3.7 x 2.5M	£489.00	£588.80

Great for use as a garage, workshop or storage area

- Triple-layer, waterproof cover
- Fully UV treated for long-term protection
- Heavy duty, powder coated steel tubing
- Ratchet tightening to ensure drum-tight cover
- Includes ground anchoring system

5 EASY WAYS TO BUY...

- CALL & COLLECT AT STORES TODAY**
- CLICK & COLLECT OVER 10,500 LOCATIONS**
- TELESALES 0115 956 5555**
- ONLINE www.machinemart.co.uk**

SUPERSTORES NATIONWIDE

All prices correct at time of going to press. We reserve the right to change products and prices at any time, E&OE.

Unloved? Unuseable? RESTORE IT!



Stanley No.5 'before & after' photo courtesy Peter Hemsley – The ToolPost

Restore Rust Remover & Restore Rust Remover Gel

Remove only the rust leaving sound metal unaffected. Cleans and brightens brass and nickel plating. See more stunning 'before & after' examples on our website photo galleries. Find local and international stockists on the website.

Shield Technology Limited.
 Unit 69, Grimsby Business Centre
 King Edward Street,
 Grimsby, DN31 3JH

Tel: +44 (0)1472 360699
 Fax: +44 (0)1472 324685
 Email: info@shieldtechnology.co.uk
www.shieldtechnology.co.uk

Distributor enquiries welcome

SHIELD TECHNOLOGY

Guarding Against Corrosion

Allan Calder's Ltd Sandpaper Supplies

Unit 2B, Churnet Works, James Brindley Road, Leek, Staffordshire ST13 8YH.



We are supplying top quality brands of sanding abrasives for all types of Wood Turners, Joiners & Cabinet Makers.

Web: www.sandpapersupplies.co.uk

email: sandpapersupplies@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: 01538 387738

ADD A NEW DIMENSION TO YOUR WORK WITH

metalcraft

Visit our Online Store Today!
 (web address at bottom of this advert)

Easy to use tools that do not require heat or power



WINDYLEA

Ideal wherever wood and steel can combine to make stylish...

- Furniture
- Clocks
- Signs
- Frames & Decorative Panels
- and so much more

Call today for our free Catalogue and if you quote the promo code "MTW19" we will send you our new demo DVD free of charge

J & CR Wood Ltd, Dept MTW20, 66 Clough Road, HULL HU5 1SR
 01482 345067 | info@jandcrwood.co.uk

www.metal-craft.co.uk

FOR SALE

Copies of *The Woodworker* – complete collection from Jan 1985 to Dec 2019 except for 11 missing copies from 1985 to 1993; all boxed up and free to collector; collection only **01708 702 437** (Essex)

Hope easy arm hollowing jig – the easy way to turn hollow forms; fits on all flatbed lathes with centre height up to 12in (24in swing). The jig will take 19mm and 16mm round bar tools; used once as new with original packaging; cost £245 but selling for £145 **07816 371 694** (Newcastle on Tyne)

Perform MJ343C CCBB bandsaw – little used – supplied with mitre guard & fence plus manual; 240V, 315mm wheel diameter; £30 – buyer collects **07981 267 171** (Essex)

Kity 1637 planer/thicknesser – 10 × 8in; 1994; needs new motor; 240V – lovely machine with manual – open to offers; buyer collects **07981 267 171** (Essex)

DeWalt DW1251 radial arm saw – 1980 – genuine machine, needs some TLC – open to offers; buyer collects **07981 267 171** (Essex)

Kity 1619 circular saw – 1994 – lovely machine with fold-up extension table & manual – 240V – open to offers; buyer collects **07981 267 171** (Essex)



Coronet Major lathe – in very good condition & supplied with a very new Robert Sorby chuck. Fitted with a Coronet two-speed gearbox, making it a six-speed machine – saw bench, disc sander table, faceplate & all the tooling and accessories seen on the benches – owned since new; £750 – collection only **07802 759 284** (Mid Devon)

JET JTS-600x circular saw bench – join blade; supplied with all accessories; little use & in excellent condition – buyer collects; £550 **0161 224 2405** (Manchester)

Clock parts – Festool tools, Legacy router lathe & many others; view in situ at seller's address – call for further details **01293 406 056** (Crawley)

JET JWS-34KX spindle moulder

– unused & in pristine condition; single-phase – buyer collects; £800 **07900 041 049** (North Hertfordshire)



Lie-Nielsen honing guide – with standard & long jaws – used only a few times; long jaws not used at all – in original packaging with instructions; £100 including UK postage **07702 798 651** (Merseyside)



Felder BF5 with phase converter – two table extensions, tenoning table, safety spindle fences & dust extraction hoods. In excellent condition; £3,500 – buyer collects **07816 407 935** (Essex)

Felder BF 6-31 pro-level combination machine – with wheel lift for easy manoeuvring; 300mm saw sliding table extension & hold down; spindle moulder, 30mm shaft & separate spindle for router bits; planer/thicknesser – 310 × 225mm, plus other bits – no mortiser; £4,250 **07968 347 733** (Shropshire)

Copies of *The Woodworker* – from June 2020–December 2021; free to collector **01322 664 388** (Kent)

WANTED

Trend T30 AF vacuum, in working order – can collect **07718 262 905** (Lincolnshire)

Tenoning table/sledge for Axminster/Jet spindle shaper **07974 853 172** (Bristol)

Tyre for Tormek 2000/T8 drive wheel, or complete drive wheel **01793 771 898** (Wiltshire)

Kity combination machine (or similar) – must feature saw, planer, mortiser, spindle moulder, etc. Carriage paid **+087 2275266** (Ireland)

Australian-made Symtec woodturning lathe; in sound condition; must be complete with toolrest – excellent price paid **01454 260 395** (Berkeley)

Three-jaw chuck for mortiser attachment Kit K5. Attaches to planer cutterblock with left-hand thread – both 12mm **01302 817 889** (Doncaster)

Stanley No.1 plane & Stanley No.2 plane – one of each wanted by novice collector **01572 723 976** (Rutland)

Woodworking tools: planes by Norris, Spiers, Mathieson, Preston, Slater, etc. brass braces, interesting rules & spirit levels; top prices paid, auction prices beaten **01647 432 841** (Devon)

Woodworking hand tools, especially old wood & metal planes, wanted by collector. Write to Mr B Jackson, 10 Ayr Close, Stamford PE9 2TS or call **01780 751 768** (Lincs)

BOOK YOUR FREE AD

• This space is available only to private individuals wishing to buy or sell woodworking machinery and tools.

• Each coupon is valid for one free insertion in the next available issue.

• The publisher accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions in this section.

Please publish this advertisement in the next available edition of *The Woodworker*. I am a private advertiser and have no trade connections
PLEASE TICK: FOR SALE ☐ WANTED ☐

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Daytime tel no. _____

Signature _____

My advertisement (max 20 words please)
reads as follows:

Please write your advertisement in **BLOCK CAPITALS** and send it to:

The Woodworker Marketplace, MyTime Media Ltd, Suite 6G, Eden House, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF. You can also email your free ad to: **tegan.foley@mytimemedia.com**. Send/email a photograph of your item and we'll include it with your ad for **FREE**



TAKE

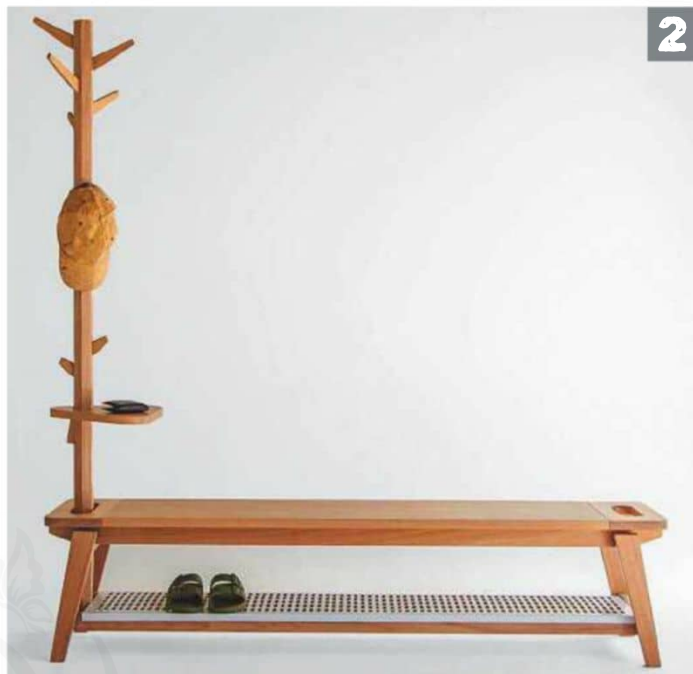
5

From classic Italian design to pieces that open up new horizons for contemporary cabinetmaking, this month's selection celebrates a variety of techniques, processes and materials

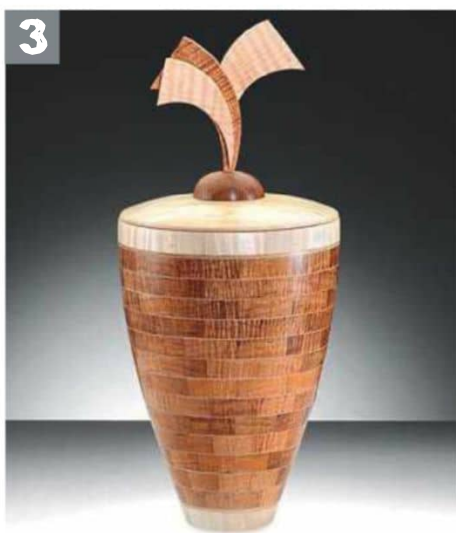
1



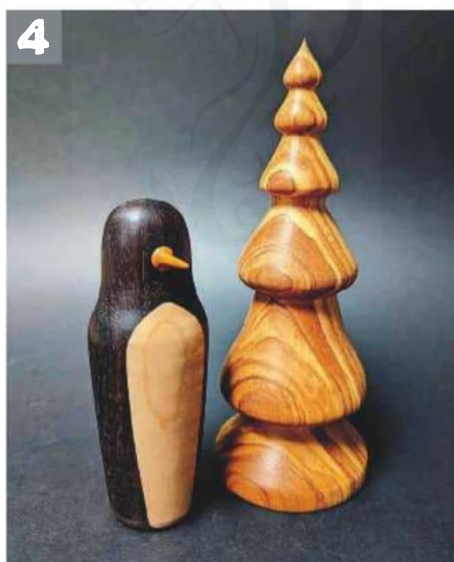
2



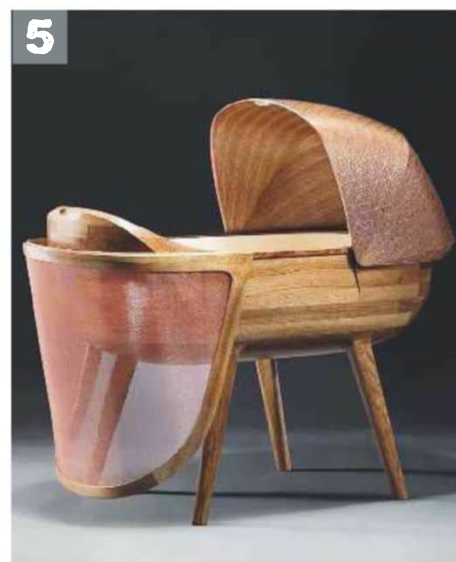
3



4



5



1

1950s walnut desk by Italian designer partnership Studio BBPR (Banfi, Belgiojoso, Peressutti, Rogers)
– posted by [@the_aesthetic_channel](#)

2

'Caxingui Bench' by [@farpa_](#) – originally posted by [@chair_tag](#)

3

Turned segmented vessel in Tasmanian blackwood and curly maple with a metallic white epoxy interior
– 150 x 305mm high – finished in shellac and Renaissance wax – by Ron Katz – [@sawdusters55](#)

4

Turned walnut and maple penguin ornament with a turned fir tree in olivewood – by Tanis Johnson
– [@tangle_ridge_turnings](#)

5

'Argo' crib in fine walnut and copper, carefully combined to shield an infant from damaging electromagnetic waves. Named after the mythical vessel that protected Jason and the Argonauts, it gently cradles, shields and reassures – product of close collaboration between [@ludwigetdominique](#) master cabinetmakers and [@noirvif](#) designers – exploration of techniques and design opens up new horizons for contemporary cabinetmaking

Follow us on
Instagram –
[@woodworker_mag](#)
– for regular
magazine updates
and posts

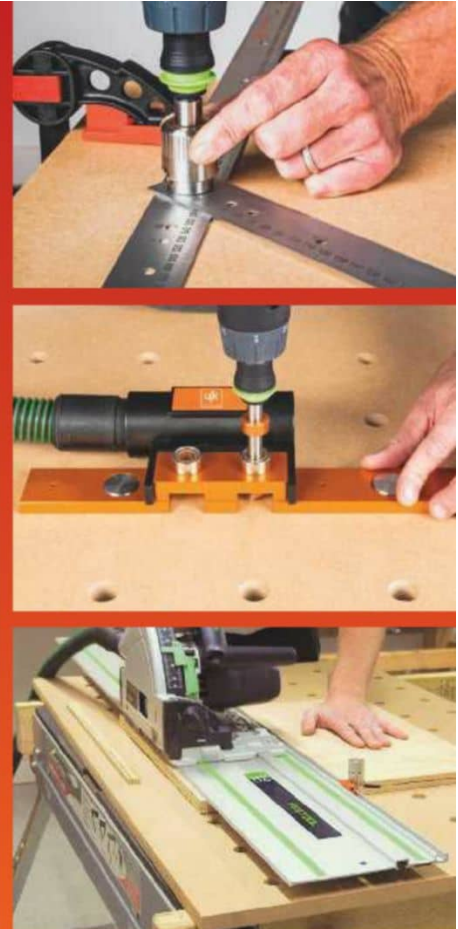
NEED GUARANTEED ACCURACY & TIGHT TOLERANCES?



Made in Axminster, Devon, the UJK Parf MkII Guide System is based on Pythagoras' Theorem. This versatile jig allows you to create a custom made benchtop or portable cutting board in less than 30 minutes, wherever you are! Choose from an array of UJK accessories to take your work to the next level.

Parf Mk II Guide System

Only £199.98 | Code: 104779



Parf Super Dog

Only £29.98 | Code: 104302

CNC machined, Parf Dogs can be locked in and thus ensure there is no movement, unlike other dogs without a locking feature



Adjustable Work Support Dogs (Pk 4)

Only £36.98 | Code: 108330

Brand new, the adjustment on these dogs allows them to be utilised for levelling, supporting uneven work surfaces or those with a height differential.



Combined Chamfer & Reamer Tool for 20mm Dog Holes

Only £39.98 | Code: 107868

The reamer part of this tool uses four cutting flutes, to ensure the holes are precise. The chamfer allows full use of the Parf Super Dog and its stop collar, as well as removing the sharp edge around the hole.



20mm Dog Storage Rack

Only £19.98 | Code: 107869

Keep your dogs tidy in the workshop and to hand at all times, easily wall mounted and with space for up to eight dogs.



AXMINSTER TOOLS

We share your passion.

To view the whole UJK range, **visit one of our stores**, search **axminstertools.com** or call **03332 406406**.

For the complete Axminster experience and to keep up with projects, how to's, news and much more, browse knowledge.axminstertools.com and follow us on social media.

Prices may be subject to change without notice.

AXMINSTER • BASINGSTOKE • CARDIFF • HIGH WYCOMBE • NEWCASTLE • NUNEATON • SITTINGBOURNE • WARRINGTON



Rated 'Excellent' on



Trustpilot



ROUTER-TABLE WORK HORSE!



I have four routers, and this is the only one I couldn't live without. Total beast under the router table.

Griffin Tato

Designed by woodworkers for woodworkers, the award-winning TRA001 has been a benchmark in professional routers around the world for over 20 years

45 YEARS
in the
MAKING

Find your nearest stockist **TRITONTTOOLS.COM**

3YR
GUARANTEE