

Fitting kitchen worktops can be a fraught operation, so having a decent jointing jig makes all the difference. One that can cope with the many different worktops on the market is a big bonus

## Trend KWJ700 worktop jig

The Trend KWJ700 jig covers worktop widths of 250, 300, 400, 500, 550, 600, 616, 650 and 700mm. It measures 985 x 390mm, and is 12mm thick. It's designed primarily for cutting a range of 90° corner joints in post-formed worktops. It also features apertures for routing the cut-outs for worktop connector (dog-bone) bolts, and offers a variety of positions to cover 45° mitred corner joints, corner radii of 40 and 100mm, and a 400mm radius peninsular joint for fitting breakfast bars. There's even a hole for routing the aperture for kitchen unit door hinges and sink mixer taps.

### Setting up the jig

Each function revolves around the use of indexing pins that set the jig in the correct position for the cut you want to make. You then secure it with suitable cramps to the piece you're routing.

The jig is etched with the correct positions for the width of worktop as well as the other settings, including one that allows you to cut a worktop square. It comes with

a set of six tough ABS plastic indexing pins which you fit into holes in the jig to locate it accurately on the worktop you're cutting. An excellent manual is supplied to show how the various cuts are made.

Additional diagrams etched on the jig ensure you get the jig clamped to the correct surface, as one part of each joint is cut from the face side and the other from the underside to ensure that the cutter engages the workpiece without chipping the joint face.

### Using the jig

You'll need a plunge router rated at 1300W or more with ½in chuck capacity, a 30mm guide bush and a ½in TCT cutter with a

cutting length of 50mm to make the cuts. It really is easy to make a very clean, tight joint. The jig is big enough to give good cramping room without restricting the path of the router, which can be a problem with budget-priced jigs.

Trend claim that the jig allows you to set up and cut a joint in 15 minutes, and that's a claim we agree with. Once the various components were cut and bolted up, the results were first class.

At just over £100, this is a jig that's built to last. Unless you work beyond the standard worktop widths found in most home kitchens, bathrooms or bedrooms, this jig is very easy to get to grips with, has loads of scope in what it does and therefore represents excellent value for money. **AK**

**£106.80**



Insert the index pins to suit the cut you're making; then clamp the jig to the worktop



Take several passes to ensure a clean cut. Then reverse the worktop and make the mating cut



Use the index pins again to position the jig for routing out the connector bolt holes



The resulting bolt holes are crisply and precisely cut, ready for installation

### VERDICT

This is a well-made, professional jig that covers the majority of work involved in fitting standard kitchen and bathroom vanity unit worktops.

- PROS**
- Solid and durable
  - Multiple applications for jointing and profiling
  - Accurate and easy to use

- CONS**
- None

**VALUE FOR MONEY**

**PERFORMANCE**

### FURTHER INFORMATION

- Trend
- 01923 249911
- [www.trend-uk.com](http://www.trend-uk.com)