

# Tips for success

Using a 30mm guide bush, this cutter is designed for worktop and stair housing jigs and suchlike

**B**eing able to touch up and sharpen a TCT router cutter is handy, but when working to specific templates taking a fraction off the diameter of a straight cutter can affect the fit of the joint, so when jointing a worktop the cutter needs to retain its diameter as much as possible. While a re-touch may be OK, a full re-grind will affect the diameter enough to alter the fit of the finished joint.

Although this cutter has replaceable tips of just 30mm deep the shank has a tapered design to allow it to plunge and continue to cut beyond, has enough length to cut a 40mm-deep worktop with ease and will cut to a maximum of 50mm.

The carbide is branded as Dynamic for extended use in both timber and abrasive stock such as chipboard or MDF, as well as being part of the Trend Rotatip cutter family which gives two or four cutting edges per tip for extended life span depending on the specific cutter – two in this instance. Although initially an expensive outlay, this particular cutter is available with three additional replacement tips for eight cutting edges, which equates to less than £12 per cutter. There is a single-blade option, with replacement tips at around £7.50 each.

Swapping is simple via the supplied Torx wrench with a flag-style handle.

### In use

There is a maximum speed marked on the shank of 28,000rpm so that does affect the cutting performance if you work at a similar feed rate of a two-tipped standard equivalent, and I did find that when making a joint on a solid oak worktop the end grain cut was certainly more effortful than using a standard cutter. The hardness and end grain caused chatter if I attempted to push through too quickly or tried to take too deep a cut per pass. A lower feed speed combined with a couple more passes than usual nailed it though and the resulting joint was perfect.

Trying the same joint in a chipboard top was far more fluid as the core is so friable, allowing the cut to be made closer to the manner of a standard cutter.

### Conclusion

If you frequently need a ½in cutter for jig work this one comes up trumps, offering a sharp edge every time and good results once you adjust your working practices to suit a single-edge cutter rather than the usual two.



## Good The Woodworking Verdict

- + Replaceable tips; easy to swap; self setting
- High initial cost; slower feed rate

Rating ★★★★★

Typical price: **£93.90** with 3 additional cutters, **£79.43** with one cutter

Diameter: 12.7mm

Shank: ½in

Overall length: 100mm

Maximum cutting depth: 50mm

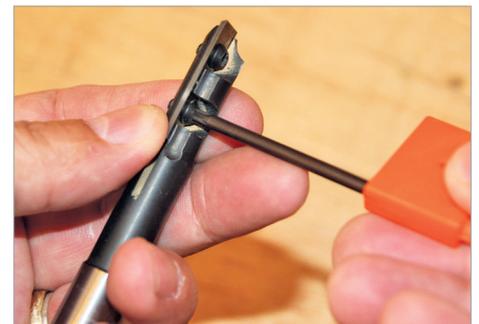
Web: [www.trend-uk.com](http://www.trend-uk.com)



▲ These replaceable bits have dual cutting edges as well as a bottom plunge cut



▲ The cutter slides into the body, self setting for fast swapping



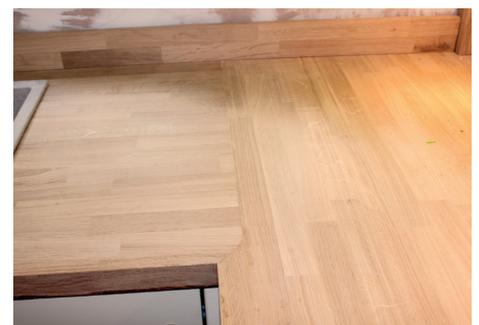
▲ A couple of Torx screws retain the cutter using a supplied wrench



▲ This oak top took a little longer than usual with the single cutting edge



▲ Taking a few more passes than normal it does a great job



▲ The results speak for themselves – a perfect joint