Bosch GTS 10 J tablesaw

Don't let a tight budget and cramped conditions limit your expectations. A good basic machine will do more than just the basics



The paddle off switch does not require unclipping before restarting the machine



A single lever releases the side table extension

he Bosch GTS 10 J is quite a chunky yet compact unit designed to give a muchneeded means of accurate board and panel ripping on site, but with a reasonable crosscut ability, that's not all it's good for. I made my first kitchen with solid panel and frame doors in maple (Acer campestre) on a machine not dissimilar to this. After roughing out the sheet material with a jigsaw, the components were dimensioned and the lippings cut prior to veneering. Before I knew any better, I was using it to produce tenons and cut rebates, although these methods are nowadays rightly relegated to the past. I mention this to illustrate what can be achieved on a basic machine when either budget or space is limited.

Extended table

A panelsaw it most definitely is not, but an extending right-hand table means you can rip material up to 460mm wide off the fence. This runs full length and locks firmly in to place. For narrow sections, a separate low level extrusion needs to be attached using three bolts and thumb nuts. Remove the fence and install a purpose made sled to run in the mitre slot and you can easily rip to standard carcass depth dimensions with a little extra support.

Fit for site

If considering it for site work it's worth noting that only a limited amount of assembly is required before you are up and running. You will need a 'Y'-branch on your extraction hose to draw all the dust generated. Trying to fit the machine onto the stand does need a little care and two people to avoid losing it through the hole in the middle. Once in place, the unit is very rigid and although not on wheels there are convenient carrying handles fore and aft to make moving it that

you can rip material up

F&C verdict

As far as features go they are quick to list: rise, fall and tilt. I particularly like the paddle off switch arrangement; it's very immediate and works well. Considering the skeletal design, vibration is minimal and noise levels quite acceptable. At 1,800W the motor does slow down a little before ripping to its full capacity but upgrade to a couple of quality blades and you might overcome this. If successful you've got yourself a very useful compact machine.

Pros

Good solid table Reliable fence Crosscut facility

Cons

Rip capacity limited to 460mm

The numbers

Table size: 642 x 572mm Motor input: 1,800W

Saw blade: 254mm/30mm bore Incline setting: 47°L / 2°R Max cut height: 79mm

Max. ripping capacity from fence:

460mm Weight: 26kg

Price: £598.80

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