



HAMMER TIME

Gary Fisher of Lougar Electrical recently got his hands on the new 18V cordless hammer drill from Bosch, but was he 'drilled' to bits? He tells us more.

allows you to very easily change from one fitting to another.

The drill itself is SDS type and features three modes: hammer operation, non-hammer and chisel mode, while the trigger is a doddle to use with both forward and reverse operation.

Extra switch

There's also an additional switch that you wouldn't normally see on a drill of this type. It has two functions: the first is the 100%

operation, which is basically the drill working at full tilt; or you can choose the second operation – the EPC (Electronic Precision Control) – which instructs the drill to work at only 70% of its maximum power and is excellent for those more precise holes.

Another nice feature is the KickBack Control function, which ensures that if

you're drilling with a long masonry bit that suddenly gets stuck, then it won't spin you over and break your wrists, giving you a much better control and use.

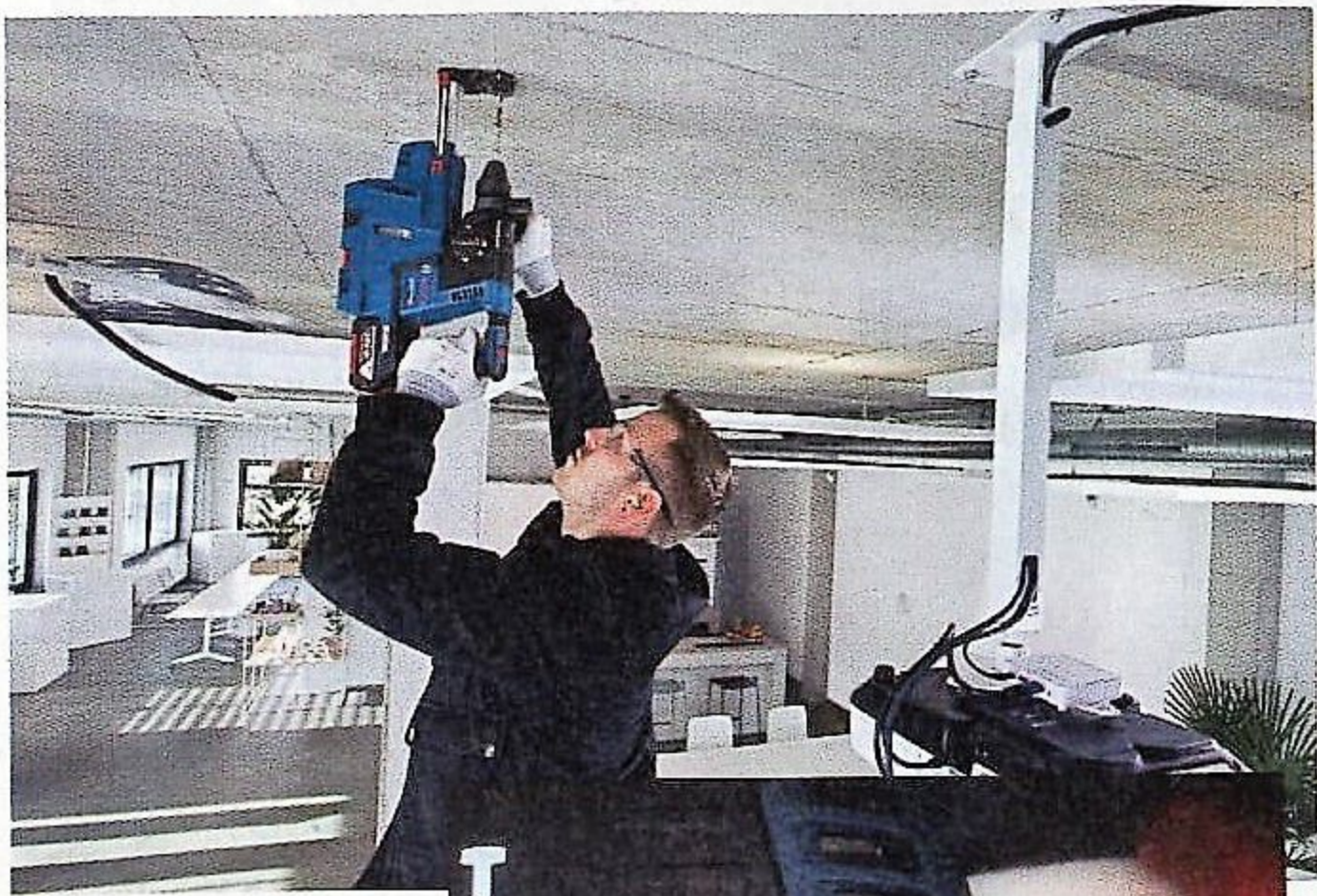
A lot of drills that I've used in the past have suffered with severe vibration through the handle after prolonged use. With this Bosch tool the handle can be de-coupled, meaning the vibration is much better controlled and the unit can be used for longer periods of time.

The batteries easily slide in and out at the base of the handle with no trouble, and having the extra one spare really helps when in constant use as one can be kept on charge, while the other is being used. What's more, you can actually charge a battery to 80% in around 35 minutes, which is less than your average tea break time! The addition of ECP (Electronic Cell Protection) will also protect the drill from over-heating, over-loading and deep discharge.



Is there no stopping the folk at Bosch? Yet again they've managed to come up with another quality cordless battery drill – this time the GBH 18V-26 F cordless hammer drill.

The tool is neatly housed in Bosch's unique L-BOXX which I'm a big fan of, and comes with a standard charger, 2 x 6.0Ah Lithium-ion batteries and a chuck that



No brush

One great development in modern drill technology (and this doesn't just apply to Bosch) is the use of brushless motors, which this unit utilises. It feels incredibly comfortable to use and doesn't suffer with some of the weight/size issues that can be associated with bigger tools.

Did I forget to mention the LED light that illuminates when the trigger is pulled? This is actually pretty standard now on most drills but is a feature that I really do like as, if you're like me and old age is creeping, you can see the smaller detail without having to reach for the glasses.

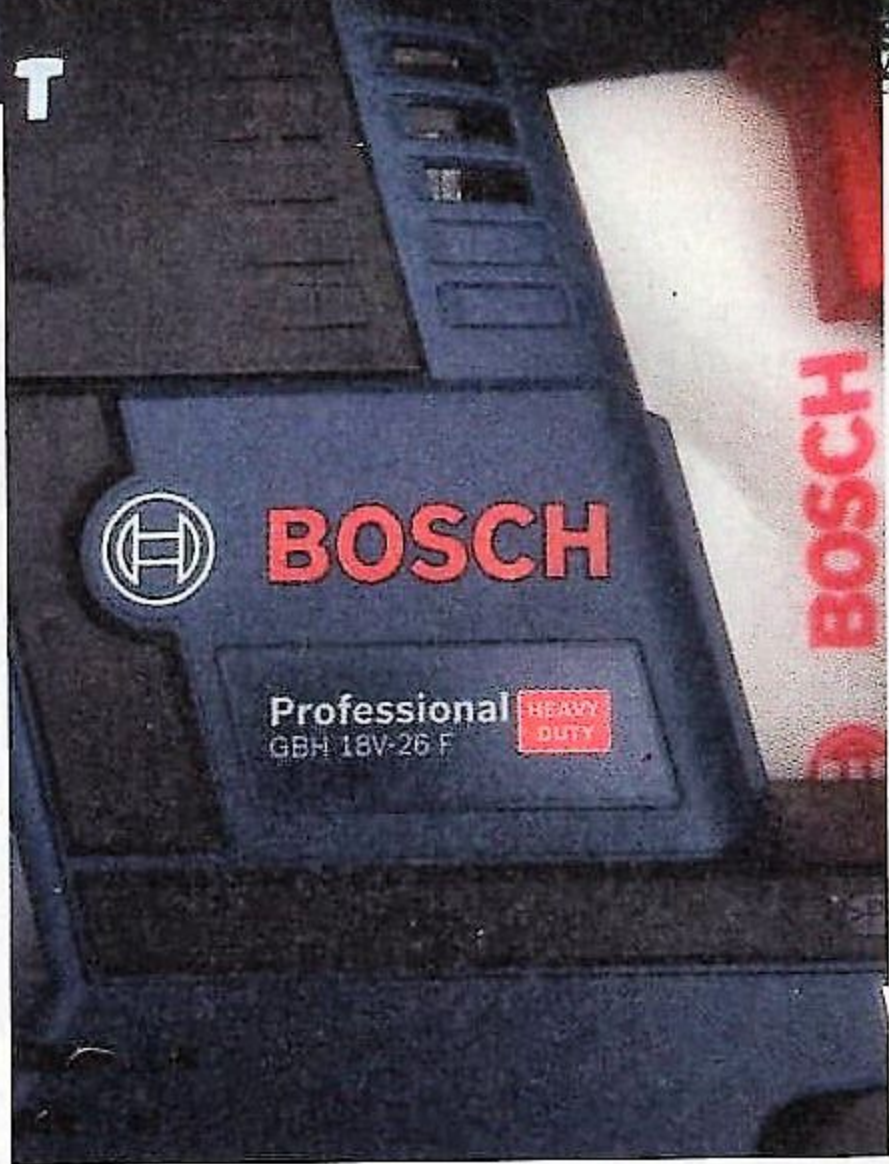
I've been using this tool for a number of months now and it's been drilled into many different materials, including wood, brick and concrete, each with excellent, consistent results. Having the option of using the quick chuck release is fantastic as well, as I no longer have to carry a second drill around with me. Additionally, the inclusion of a chisel function on the same tool is incredibly useful, though this should only really be utilised on smaller works.

In conclusion

If you've not guessed already then it's safe to say I've been really impressed with this product. It can take on smaller jobs just as simply as it tackles the larger ones – whether it's drilling or chiselling, wood, metal or concrete – and is clearly made by professionals, for professionals.

I do feel like all my birthdays have come at once since it was added to my toolbox and would like to thank Bosch for producing what is currently my favourite piece of kit.

For more information about the GBH 18V-26 F rotary hammer drill from Bosch Power Tools visit:
www.bosch-professional.co.uk or circle readerlink 240

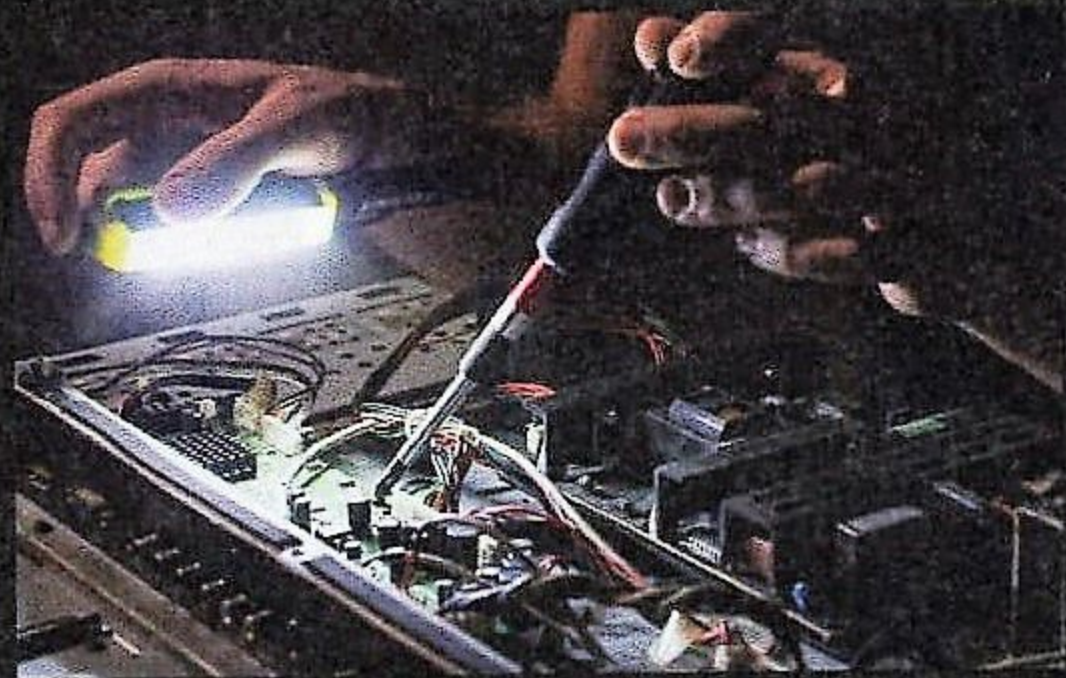


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