

The Bevel Cutter

Resident craftsman Stephen Prescott has made a special jig for cutting wide bevels on the underside of curved tabletops and work surfaces

In the making of a tabletop recently I couldn't find a bevel cutter the right angle or the width I needed, so I made a bevel jig from MDF. The jig enables you to use a **Wealden 6-Wing Surface Trimmer** to cut the bevel 1.5mm (one turn of the T11 router plunge screw) at a time. The two dowels bear on the edge of the workpiece. By using those dowels, when I inevitably wobble a bit the cutter swings away from the work. The disadvantage of this arrangement for the table is that the elliptical top has a constantly changing radius, but the difference this makes to the size of the bevel at any point under the tabletop is not obvious.

With careful adjustment a bevel wider than the surface trim cutter can be made. With my jig this would mean I needed to unscrew the angled mounting plate from the lower part of the jig and re-position it. If an adjustable mount



was made using the fence mounting rails for the router this re-adjustment would be quicker. Similarly the bevel angle could be made to be variable. I made mine fixed at 23° as it was very quick to make from MDF, and the number of times I'll use it will probably not justify the extra work involved in making an adjustable version.

Details *The Wealden Tool Company Surface Trim cutter is part no. T6150. It is 52mm diameter, with six wings. You need a 1/2in collet, but with 70mm of shank there's plenty of plunge. It costs £32.25 from wealdentool.com or 0800 328 4183.*



Surface Wealden's Surface Trim cutter has six wings with tungsten tips, and is ideal for skimming a wide bevel. The jig is simple to make from MDF, at about 23°, with the two dowels guiding it around a curved edge. Obviously you could make it adjustable if you wanted to use it for other jobs

