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TOOL BOX

Our Favorite Router Accessories

AW Editors Separate the Best From the Rest

hat's the best Tool Box treatment for an issue that features a new take on the ultimate router table? Router accessories, of course. On these pages, you'll find the personal favorites of AW staff members-aftermarket items that we're particularly fond of. Some enhance precision, while others increase your router's capabilities or make it easier to perform certain operations. We decided to leave out router bits and router-table fences, since both of these categories deserve to be treated on their own. So what's left? Have a look-you're bound to find some gems among these editors' picks.

In each write-up, we've listed the source where we obtained the item. See the "Sources" box on page 76 for a list of other mail-order suppliers that sell a broad selection of router accessories.



The right stuff. Staff members put their heads and routers together to come up with a selection of favorite accessories for this special Tool Box. From left: Dave Sellers, Andy Rae, Ellis Walentine, Tim Snyder, Paul Anthony.

Precision Guide Makes Edge Cuts Easier

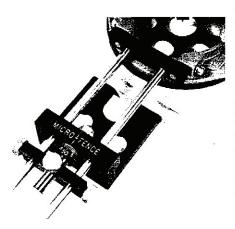
If you've ever been frustrated with conventional router edge guides that are hard to set up, you'll appreciate the precision of Micro Fence. It's the only aftermarket edge guide that lets you actually measure how you adjust the fence, so repetitive test cuts are a thing of the past.

Some standard edge guides have screwtype adjustments, but they lack fine threads for precise adjustments, and they don't tell you how far you're moving the fence. Micro Fence has a built-in micrometer screw that allows you to adjust the fence position in increments as fine as 0.001 in. (One full turn of the micrometer screw equals 0.050 in.) Numbers on the micrometer dial are clear and easy to read.

Micro Fence is great for cutting dadoes in two passes to fit odd-sized plywood, and it lets you return to previous settings or reproduce cuts after the setups have been broken down. It makes exact spacing in fluting, reeding and veining opera-

MICRO FENCE





tions easy. You can also fine-tune hinge or lock mortises for a better fit.

Micro Fence is precision-machined from solid aluminum with stainless steel rails, lead screw and brass lock screws. With the standard low-profile maple fence attached, I was able to rout the face of ³/₄-in.-thick stock clamped to a benchtop. A deep-profile maple fence works best for mortising applications. Optional half-round inserts attached to the fence let you rout parallel to curved edges.

The unit comes in sizes to fit routers from Porter-Cable, Bosch, Makita, Elu, Black & Decker and DeWalt. The optional package includes 12-in. guide rails, deep profile fence and half-round inserts. An optional conversion kit for laminate trimmers is also available. (Price: \$98; with optional package, \$125) Micro Fence, Dept. AWT, 11100 Cumpston St., #35, North Hollywood, CA 91601, (800) 480-MICRO. Circle #623