

Trend GB/5 sub base

Converts your router to take American bushes


When I tested the Leigh Super Jig in GW197:80, I noted that it came with a special guide bush, designed for an American-style base. Finding that I needed a suitable base to use the bush, it seemed feasible to find an alternative that could be easily fitted to an existing router, rather than try to track down a suitable router. Of course, Trend is all things router, so it's good for finding compatible elements.

At 7mm thick, the Trend sub base has two holes to mount it to the router, so you may find that you need to re-drill it. It does have TBC (Trend Base Configuration) which is based around old Elu base designs, so routers such as a few DeWalts and the like will work without any trouble; there's a full compatibility chart in their catalogue.

To ensure concentricity with the collet, a conical setup pin is provided. You simply push it through the base into the collet and let the cone tighten into the cutter opening, then tighten the screws. Any guide bushes now

fitted will remain perfectly central to the collet. The opening for the guide bush is a perfect fit for the American bush system, with no sloppiness – you simply push the bush through and screw the locking collar on the other side.

While a router's original base can be used to good effect when running along guide battens or straight edges, relying on the round part of the base can lead to errors if there are discrepancies. With this 170mm diameter round base, you can work any part of its circumference and get the same results once it's set up using the cone, which is handy if you are constrained inside a template with the sub base as the guide.

Although there are other GB/5 sub bases in the Trend range suitable for specific routers, this one, being designed for the tool-free two part American bushes is only suitable for a select few routers, but if you have one of them, or don't mind re-drilling it to suit, the US system is great. 



Good The Woodworking Verdict

- + Easy swap over of bushes
- Limited range of direct fit routers

Rating ★★★★★

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