

Wealden Tenon Cutter

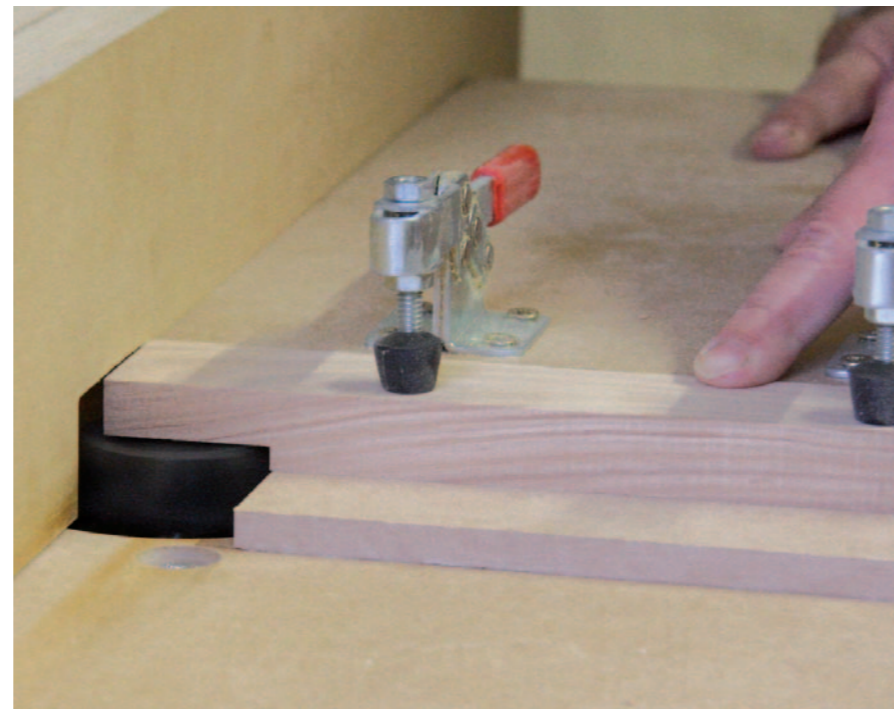
Steve Prescott has changed his way of cutting tenons now he has a new solid block from Wealden

I bought this Wealden Tenon Cutter (T2437) to cut the tenons on the kitchen dresser I was making last issue. It is 50mm diameter, and in theory the four skewed cutters are just over 20mm long, but whether or not you can cut the full depth depends on the thickness of your router table top and the stroke of your router. Ideally you need a router with a plunge that takes the nose of the collet to the router base or beyond.

Essentially this cutter, which costs £45, converts your router table into a miniature spindle moulder. It won't cut both cheeks of a tenon at the same time, but it produces really clean shoulders. All you have to do is make yourself a sled to hold the workpiece and run that against the fence, with the rail held down with toggle clamps. Effectively you are using the end of the rail against the fence as your register.

The blades on the Tenon Cutter are skewed to shear-cut the shoulders. It works superbly and is extremely good value because you can cut the tenon in one pass, which is difficult with standard cutters.

Details Wealden T24371/2: 50mm diameter; four blades; 1/2inx48mm shank; £44.95; wealdentool.com, 0800 328 4183.



Plunge Depth of cut may be an issue if you have a thick router table or poor plunge stroke on your router



Cleaner We've found CMT's Formula 2050 to be superb for cleaning cutters. You will need to make a sled to cut tenons (below)



Skewed The four blades are alternately skewed to cut the shoulders of the tenon with a shearing action for a better finish

