

## DeWalt DW 745 table saw

**F**or me, a table saw needs to be solid and stable when ripping. The budget saws can be pretty terrifying to use to be frank and leave a lot to be desired in some areas. The fence is usually the main worry.

DeWalt's DW745 is far and away removed from those budget machines, however. You can tell it has style, class and build quality as soon as you lift it from its box. It's a sort of hybrid saw, designed for both the workshop and the building site, and for the latter it has a steel roll cage around the ABS plastic base to protect it from knocks and buffeting in the back of the van.

In the workshop, it doesn't take up too much room, the top measures 700 x 577mm and there is an optional fold-down stand available if you lack the room to sit it on its own permanent cabinet. I mentioned fences being the problem on budget machines, but here the fence is top drawer and easy to clip in place, locking at the front and back of the saw for a rigid fit that doesn't move under load.

What sells it more is the rack and pinion adjustment. You simply wind the knob on the front and the fence moves on clogged arms so you don't need an auxiliary side table for wider rips keeping the size at a minimum, only increasing when the rip fence needs to be extended for wider rips. It won't rip a full sheet in half, but at 410mm maximum cut, it's very good for a compact saw. It does have a split fence as well, so the facing slides back for safe ripping of timber.

The downside is that it's brush motored, meaning it's noisier than a normal workshop induction-motored saw, but it has power enough to rip deep stock successfully, and that's what is important.

It's also very stable through the cut, so it doesn't rattle and vibrate like the cheaper saws. Fit it with a finer blade than the supplied


24-tooth one and you can come close to the finish of a good induction powered cabinet saw. The supplied one made short work of the test stock, but left a definite sawn edge that needs work with a plane.

The top is cast alloy, finished with a slick, non-stick surface to help the workpieces run smoothly over it. There're also two mitre slots for small crosscutting work using the supplied adjustable mitre gauge.

A couple of ridged scallops either side of the table act as hand holds, and at only 22kg, it is pretty easy to lift up and move around if you need to. You can also bolt it down through the holes in the base for a permanent fixture as well.

Adjusting the saw for height and angle involves two wheels. One is used in conjunction with a locking lever to set the bevel, the other is used to wind the blade up and down. Both work freely so setting is simple enough. You also have the option to set to 48° and also to minus 3° for out of square

corners, or to feather an edge for a tight butting fit.

If I had the space, I'd likely go for a proper cabinet saw with induction motor, but for decent performance from a compact sized saw, and with a great fence to boot, the DW745 ticks the boxes for the smaller workshop. 

### **Good** The Woodworking Verdict

- + Great fence, easy to transport
- Brush motor means it's rather noisy

**Rating** ★★★★★

**Typical price:** £470

**Weight:** 22kg

**Motor:** 1700W

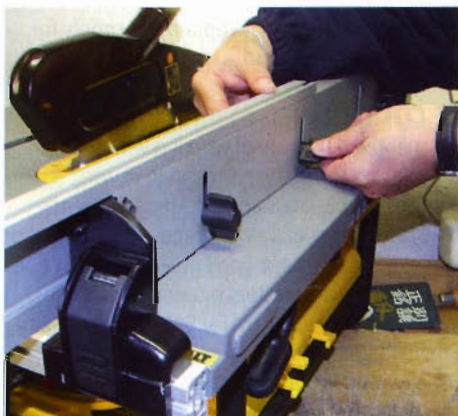
**Speed:** 3800rpm

**Max rip capacity:** 410mm

**Max depth of cut @ 90°:** 77mm

**Max depth of cut @ 45°:** 57mm

**Web:** www.dewalt.co.uk



▲ Pic.1 The fence has a sliding front face for safe ripping of timber



▲ Pic.2 To tilt the blade you unlock the lever. The wheel raises or lowers the blade



▲ Pic.3 You alter the fence position with this excellent rack and pinion wheel