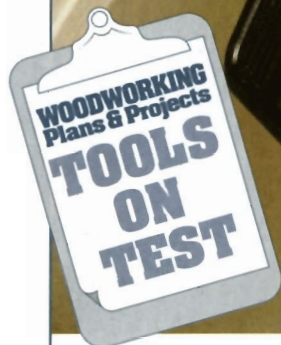


DeWalt DCF885C2 18v cordless impact driver

Matt Long drives
the point home



PHOTOGRAPHS BY GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY

AT A GLANCE

In the box:

- Two x DCB181 XR 18v 1.5Ah Li-ion batteries
- DCB105 XR multi voltage charger
- Heavy-duty carry case

THE NUMBERS

- Voltage: 18v
- Bit holder: 6.35mm (1/4in)
- Power output: 250 Watts
- No load speed: 2,800rpm
- Impacts per minute: 3,200ipm
- Max torque: 155Nm
- Max. bolt capacity: M12
- Naked weight: 1.30kg
- Length: 141mm
- Height: 217mm
- Price: £276.95 inc VAT

PROS & CONS

- ✓ Tough
- ✓ Well thought out
- ✓ Great accessories
- ✗ One for the pros?

WHERE TO BUY

- www.dewalt.co.uk

5 STAR RATING

- Value for money: ★★★★★
- Performance: ★★★★★
- Build quality: ★★★★★

is one of the best things about this new range. The box is airtight, has a valve to release any vacuum build up, and fits into DeWalt's modular Tough System carrying trolley, and is as hard as nails.

So, on paper at least, this tool has an awful lot going for it. But how does it actually operate?

The verdict

The build quality, usability and features on this kit are great. I can't really test for longevity, but I'm sure it will be fine.

This drill is pricey, but I would say if you are going to go DeWalt only, then the flexible charging system, allied to the great Tough System toolbox, means you can't really go wrong.

It's trade-rated kit, and the price shows it, but if you want an impact driver as part of a total tool system, then this is the right choice for you.

It is light, has all the features you need, and guess what? Does the job really well. ■

DeWalt have just bought out their new XR range of tools—the XR relating to the battery technology—and DeWalt says it's ultra compact and lightweight.

The machine should have a very good shelf life, given its all-metal gear box, and usual DeWalt build quality. The front housing is aluminium, and that will give increased heat dispersion, increasing the motor's life.

The bit changing is the usual drop-in method for impact drivers.

The driver also has an LED worklight with delayed switch-off, which lets it function as a torch, too. And there's a steel belt clip and magnetic bit holder.

One of the handy things about this XR range, is that the intelligent charger can be used with DeWalt's

10.8v, 14.4v, and 18v batteries... the latter two being catered for here with the 1.5 and 3Ah configurations.

The charge time is said to be 30 minutes, too, so you'll never be without your powertool as this kit comes with two batteries.

The smart charger recognizes and charges each battery type at it's optimal level, say DeWalt.

The electronics have also been tweaked to extend battery life, and for performance to drop a tad just before the battery dies, so you know it's time to change to a charged unit.

The pack also comes in DeWalt's new Tough System carry case, which