



The jigsaw needed a hand to guide it steadily through the softwood

Ryobi 12V pack

Ryobi have pulled a blinder with this excellent pack of three tools and a working light! DIY and home woodworking have never been easier to get on with...

AT A GLANCE

- Lightweight yet powerful
- Long charge times
- Ryobi One battery system

THE NUMBERS

- Drill – Voltage: 12V
Speed: 0-550 RPM
(no load speed)
Weight: 1.8 lbs
- Hybrid saw –
Voltage: 12V
Speed: 1,850 SPM
(no load speed)
Weight: 2 lbs.
- Circular saw –
Voltage: 12V
Speed: 2,000 RPM (no load
speed) Depth of cut: @
90° 1⁵/₁₆ in. @ 45° 3/4 in.
Weight: 3.4 lbs.
- Torch – Voltage: 12V
Weight: .4 lbs

WHERE TO BUY

- Contact: Ryobi
- Tel: 01628 894 400
- Website: www.ryobipower.co.uk

5 STAR RATING

- VALUE FOR MONEY ★★★★★
- PERFORMANCE ★★★★★
- BUILD QUALITY ★★★★★

We showcased the Ryobi 12V four pack a couple of issues ago, but wanted a little time to put each of the tools through their paces before we gave a clear verdict. In case you missed it before, this is the brand spanking new range of excitingly-coloured, 12v Li-Ion cordless tools running under the company's excellent One idea: one type of battery interchangeable across a whole range. Held together in a neat and well-made case, we have a torch, drill, circular saw and reciprocating saw.

Light work

The torch is an excellent little guy, easily posable and stable with a 180° rotating head. Ryobi call it a working light, and if your workshop is a little dingy, especially during the current dull weather, you'll really feel the benefit.



Everything comes neatly packed into a light but durable carrying case: handy indeed

LSD-120 cordless drill

Ryobi have long excelled at no-fuss tools, and this one is no exception. With a keyless chuck, you can grab the required bit from your magnetic tray and snap it in quickly and easily. A variable speed switch means you'll be applying no more and no less power than you need: I found it sensitive enough to make minute turns, but odds are you'll be squeezing the trigger all the way most of the time.

Forward and reverse, with a lock in the middle to prevent unexpected starts, are appreciated features, along with an electric brake. This is all standard stuff, sure, but let's not forget the highly reasonable price we're working with here.

CS 120 CIRCULAR SAW

Probably the jewel in the crown, this pint-sized saw is an excellent example of quality on a budget. With a depth of

cut from 0 to 24mm, many project cuts will be possible, and it's nice to be able to grab this saw rather than needing to laboriously set up your heavy duty equivalent. The bevel adjustment knob ranges from 45° to 90°.

The blade wrench is stored helpfully on board, and a spindle lock makes for easy changes. You can measure 70mm on the right and 19mm on the left of the blade with the 'width of cut scale', which is more than amicable for project work, and can be confident making your accurate cuts.

Finally, the lock-off button provides added safety: no unexpected starts to spoil the day!

In use, we were impressed with the accuracy of the saw, and would happily use this model again for light application. There's enough power to make short work of softwoods without resistance. Bevels were easy to sort, too.

CR120 jigsaw

The reciprocating saw is a neat little package that is capable of working with soft metal cutting as well as wood. A quick-release blade clamp means you're ready to go in a jiffy and, holding the unit with a firm grip, you can exert a little pressure with the back of your palm onto the long trigger (unlocked at your discretion).

For scrollsaw applications this little unit does a good job and is very comfortable to use with a guiding hand placed at the top of the unit. There's an initial learning curve in



We were able to drill confidently and quickly



...and made short work of softwood here

judging where the blade is (visibility is always tricky with jigsaws), but once you get used to this particular model it feels natural.

The verdict

Four well built tools that are of a good quality and are provided with a decent case and two powerful batteries, along with the charger. As we say it's a deal typical of Ryobi, and in today's market it's nice to feel like you're getting real value for money. Heartily recommended for the home woodworker. ■



The multi-purpose charger



The poseable torch is bright and powerful