

TREND PLUG CUTTER

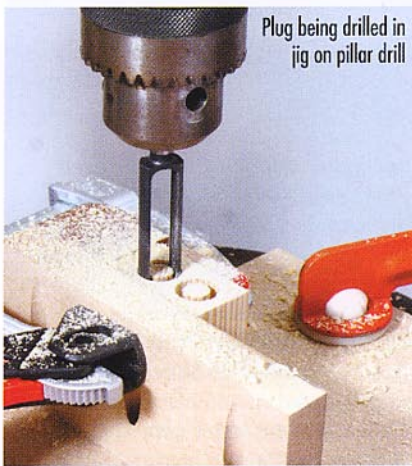
For those occasions when you need to cover a hole with a plug in a timber of your own choice, Trend offer a plug cutter that cuts $\frac{3}{8}$ in (9.5mm) plugs.

IN USE

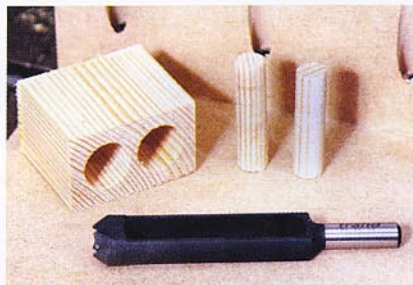
When drilling, hold the material in a jig, then remove the plug by cutting across the timber with a hand saw or bandsaw.

The plug is then glued into the pocket hole and, when the glue is dry, the protruding end is removed with a hand saw and the plug sanded flat.

With fine-grained hardwoods the grain of the sanded plug is far less conspicuous than the example in the picture.



Plug being drilled in jig on pillar drill



Plugs after drilling



T-joint with plugs: one projecting, one sanded smooth

PRICE AND WHERE TO BUY

Price: the plug cutter, part no. PH/PC/95, costs £17.62 inc VAT

From: Trend Machinery and Cutting Tools Ltd

Tel: 0800 487363 **Website:** www.trendmachinery.co.uk

PRICE: £22.77

Trend pocket hole plug cutter

Trend's pocket hole plug cutter is designed to cut accurate 9.5mm (3/8in) diameter plugs to fill the angular holes drilled with their pocket hole jig.

The cutter is made from tool steel and has a complex cutting edge geometry which cuts very cleanly. The design of the tool allows you to cut plugs up to 52mm long.

Using the cutter

For functional plugs, you need to do the cutting into end grain, and a solid support and drill stand or drill press is essential for this to ensure they'll be a tight fit. You clamp the selected timber against a solidly fixed vertical face.

If you're a heavy user of pocket hole fixings, it'll be well worth your while making up

a solid fence from plywood or MDF that you can clamp up to the drill press table.

The drilling operation separates out a cylinder of long-grain timber within the stock you're using, but you need another step to create the plugs. You can separate them by cross-

cutting with a handsaw, but a bandsaw is a very convenient alternative. The instructions warn against using a circular saw or saw bench, as the rotating blade can fire out the plugs like projectiles. I used a bandsaw for this test.



Verdict

Accurate, well-designed tooling – an excellent accessory for pocket hole jointing work.

Contact: Trend
0800 487363

www.trendmachinery.co.uk

Performance ★★★★★

Value for money ★★★★★



Glue the plugs into their pre-drilled holes



Cut off the excess when the glue has dried



The finished plugs reveal a neat, oval cross-section