

# Routing with Denis

## Course RW8: Fundamentals of table routing

An indispensable piece of machinery in a furniture factory or joinery shop is a spindle moulder. A ¼" or ½" router can be mounted underneath a router table (either homemade or purchased) to give the home workshop a scaled down version of this machine.



A router table solves the two major problems of hand-held routing: the inherent instability of a hand-held router and problems of clamping or otherwise holding the workpiece. It is not unusual to find that 70% or more of your routing is done on the router table.

The following topics will be discussed and or demonstrated on this course:

- Hand-held or table routing – some guidelines
- Router table safety
- Checking the router table setup
- Router speeds
- Using bits with bearings and the use of a starting pin
- Using the fence, micro adjustment of the fence
- Rules for routing direction and bit speeds
- Routing small pieces
- Controlling the workpiece – feather boards and other aids
- Stopped (blind) cuts
- Cross-grain routing – the use of pushblocks and sleds
- Dealing with dust

## Course details

All of the demonstrations and hands-on exercises are done on my shop-built table. It is possible that some of the applications I teach are not repeatable on low-end commercial tables.

**Level:** Intermediate

**Date and time:** This multi-student, half-day course is held on a Saturday morning (09h00 to 13h00)  
See my website for scheduled dates  
A one-on-one session can be arranged for a weekday morning or afternoon

**Venue:** 44 Talisman Avenue, Bedfordview, Gauteng (26°10' 43,0" S, 28°7' 38,5" E)

**Course fee:** See my website for the course fee

**Prerequisite:** Prior attendance at course RW0 or practical experience with a router

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