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Grizzly track saw modifications

(04-10-2018, 03:53 PM)jteneyck Wrote: ... The only advantage I see in a track saw is the pressing-free feature of the guide rail and dust collection... You simply haven't looked hard enough. What about the ability to crash anywhere along the track? What about the additional safety of a completely closed blade? The tree is good. (04-10-2018, 06:24 PM)ez-duzit Wrote: You have simply not searched enough. What about the ability to crash anywhere along the track? What about the additional safety of a completely closed blade? You can sink the saw with a circular saw anywhere along the guide. It's not that different. John Another option if you have tight funds, another track saw option is grizzly/Shop Fox/Scheppach/Wen track saw. They're all the same saws, just different colors. I'm sure they're not the same quality level as Makita, DeWalt or Festool, but fit many budgets, such as my amateur budget. And a quick search on YouTube shows people who make some simple improvements to these sawmills to improve usability and dust collection. I've done well for over 35 years with a good straight shop guide and a good circular saw and a GOOD blade, and with my current configuration I can share my pen badge and make ready-made cuts. However, yesterday I picked up my new Wen track, and most of the decision was dust collection. When I use CS and guide outdoors, it doesn't matter how the saw dust is made, the leaf blower takes care of the mess. But on a rainy day or in wintertime, I can't work in a shop without covering everything with sawdust. There hasn't even been time to set it up and test it, it's a weekend project and hopefully this weekend... I got the whole trap of the \$400 Mr. Skittle budgeted. \$171 for saw set door, then another order for Freud blade, two 55 Shop Fox tracks, track connectors and DeWalt track quick mounts. The Wen saw also has two 27.5 tracks that are good for shorter jobs, and track access machines make one track of 55, the others are for the saw only. I'm going to add a 90-degree shoeshine to one of these tracks against rapid square cross-section. Wen Track Saw @ Home Depot (also available from Amazon and Walmart online) Shop Fox 55 follows Freud Blade DeWalt presses Mike* standard disclaimer, gets nothing from any listed company, just passing on what I recently ordered... (04-10-2018, 10:36 AM)mr_skittle Wrote: Why the hell do these things cost so much? Because people pay for it. However, I am in camp that they are much nicer than any homemade solution. There are rubber strips under them on the track, so you don't have to squeeze it. Put it on the board and go into town. I don't regret buying a cog saw, and neither do a friend who bought one after using mine. There's no such thing as stupid questions, just stupid questions. I've looked at some discount saws. I've also seen some hacks to make Grizzly (etc.) work better. Menards has a Masterforce brand that can be purchased for less than \$200. It's a kind of mini that can cut only an inch deep. On top of that, I couldn't find a lot of opinions on it. jlancian has a good point to consider. Do I really need a wireless model? The wired version is \$100 less. On the other hand, I've been needing cordless circular saws for years. I can imagine that the cog saw is used without a track for some applications. If I looked at Bosch, the decision would be much easier as I already have some cordless Bosch tools with which I could exchange batteries. I don't have Makita tools, but I wouldn't resist getting ahead somewhat because I can save by buying bare tools if I already have batteries and a charger. I wouldn't buy that cordless one. But if you need this function, you have answered your own question. I started with a complete assumption. Thanks to years of hard work, careful planning and perseverance, I still have most of it left. (04-13-2018, 02:30)mr_skittle: I have watched some discount saw. I've also seen some hacks to make Grizzly (etc.) work better. Menards has a Masterforce brand that can be purchased for less than \$200. It's a kind of mini that can cut only an inch deep. On top of that, I couldn't find a lot of opinions on it. jlancian has a good point to consider. Do I really need a wireless model? The wired version is \$100 less. On the other hand, I've been needing cordless circular saws for years. I can imagine that the cog saw is used without a track for some applications. If I looked at Bosch, the decision would be much easier as I already have some cordless Bosch tools with which I could exchange batteries. I don't have Makita tools, but I wouldn't resist getting ahead somewhat because I can save by buying bare tools if I already have batteries and a charger. Why would you need a cordless chainsaw? FWIW, I have a Milwaukee wireless circular saw that I use for outbuilding projects and break plywood boards in my garage, later only use because I'm too lazy to get an extension cord and pull my wired saw upstairs. Anyway, I think a wireless saw can cut about 50 to 25 feet with 3/4 plywood charge, and it's on a 3 ah battery, and it's relatively easy to swamp down. My wired saw runs all day and has at least twice the power. At \$100 less in the wired version, it would be brainless if I really needed a track saw at all. John, I have wireless makita. I absolutely love it. Currently, there's only \$400 in stock at home, and you'll still get 2 extra 5ah batteries and 55 rails. A total of 4 batteries. \$500 in November. November. Makita and I still think it's worth it. It's amazing how great it is for me anyway to break sheets in the driveway instead of trying to turn them awkwardly in my garage with 7' ceilings. For \$400 with 2 free batteries, now's the time. The only thing I would add is to use a dust bag if you want to be completely cordless, without a dust bag it really shoots the dust off. And psa for others. Makita's cog is \$400 at home. But also makitas 36v wireless miter saw is now \$400, the circular saw is \$250 and the piston saw is \$250 and you get 2 extra batteries with each tool provided the checkout has a separate one I've heard. So, 4 batteries per tool. One factor with Makita (and other) cog saws that no one has mentioned. Most people have enough track to cut 4'. Check the costs to cut 8' on the additional tracks. Maybe there's platinum or something in that aluminum press. The side fan, in which the base can be adjusted in the direction of the blade and equipped with a high-quality blade operated with direct controls, can produce quite a high-quality cut. If the bottom points one way and the blade points in the other, the quality of the cut quality suffers, and for the same reason a table saw with a tuned fence does not produce a smooth cut. Kreg offers a track system for any existing circular leather. About \$90 at Home Depot. 01-04-2014, 18:12 #1 Got the Grizzly Track sawmill. I've checked all the mods that people have done to make it better. I fixed the depth stop adjustment and it's really smooth now. Grizzly sells glide tapes to the tracks. They're really cheap. Easier just to add 2 more to the track at the extremes of the base of the saw than to remove the old ones and move them. I'm trying to fine-tune the softer springs before I cut the current one. Has anyone found one? I think this is a good saw for the price. Thanks to Bruce Trotec Speedy 300 80w, Corel X8, PhotoGrav, Shopbot Desktop Max karalla, Vac, indexer, Aspire AirWolf 3D printer AW3D HD2x Google Sponsor Google Sponsor 01-04-2014, 20:04 PM #2 I cut 1/2 of my spring. Now it's one-handed. 01-04-2014, 22:48 #3 I actually tried softer springs, but found that the saw was uncomfortably slow to retreat. Even though I had a bow outside, I also noticed that the flip of the plunge was really stiff. It was so rigid that it took significant extra pressure for the plunge to work. I took a turn and found that the mating parts were a little out of pace. I cleared the alignment by drilling a bit of the right size through the work, removing a small piece of material so I could slide into the turnstile manually. After regrouping everything, the plunge was much easier to use. I reinserted the original spring and was surprised at how much easier it is for the saw to plunge. I can crash now. with your hand, even if the handle is in a strange, awkward angle to start Plunge. I usually start the plunge with two hands with a saw, then finish the cut with one hand on the handle and the other holding the vac hose. Modi was a bit of a hassle, but not technically difficult. Otherwise, I'm very happy with my Griz cog saw. I use it all the time and am always surprised by the quality of the surgery I get when I use it. **Update** Check out our Grizzly Track Saw review! If you're like most enthusiasts of woodworkers, you've been craving one of those fancy cog saws for a while. It all started with Festool and their TS55. They brought us the accuracy of the panelling tap with the versatility of the compact twirling circular tap. For many small trading professionals, this development was huge. But it came with a pretty steep price tag: currently \$550 for a sawmill and guide. A couple of years ago, both DeWalt and Makita came forward with their offerings. I even had the opportunity to do a little side by side deWalt test that you might want to check out. Both sawmills made the first splash simply because they represented the first real competition for Festool's flagship product. A couple of years later, the reception of these tools feels lukewarm at best, judging by the general forum/blog chat or lack thereof. While festool deals are cheaper around \$430 to \$500, I don't think the price difference is enough to motivate most fence watchers. And the general consensus seems to be that if you're going to spend nearly \$500, why not spend a few bucks more on a version made by a company that lives and breathes this system? Grizzly's coming, so why give a about Grizzly getting into a track saw game? Because it's \$230! If you happen to be a strict fence manager, consider this a vaselic schmear to help you decide one way or another. Unfortunately, the product is not out yet and I cannot offer any in-depth analysis or comparison. But I have a unit on order and I'll report back as soon as possible. At this point, all we can do is speculate and raise interesting questions. I had a few questions of my own and decided to contact Grizzly directly for answers. I sum up their answer below. Availability They accept orders now, but the product does not leave until mid-March to the end of March 2013. There are undoubtedly many comparisons of festool comparisons to the Festool line. The saw appears to be in the same tinting motion and the track looks almost identical. Is any of the accessories and components (presses, stripes, etc.) compatible with the Festool saw? And vice versa, does the Festool sawmill work on grizzly tracks? Their reply stated that they do not confid in measures to ensure compatibility with other brands and cannot say for sure whether they work together Way. Low cost = Poor quality? Grizzly Track comes on the market about 60% less than the cost of the Festool sawmill. How was this done? Are companies such as Festool, DeWalt and Makita simply over-priced, or are there areas where money can be saved without sacrificing quality? Maybe a low-power saw? Thinner metal on the track? In my woodworker circle, Grizzly has a reputation for being a big buck bang on stationary power tools. It is clear that this is a very different beast, but this price difference is even more significant than usual. People are left wondering if the quality is of par quality. Grizzly says there are some differences between their sawmill and competition, but one of the primary pricing factors is the elimination of middlemen. However, they feel that comparing their saw to Festool is a bit like comparing a Toyota to a Lexus. Both will get you in and out of the store, but there are key differences. They do not use their tool to take away business from these other manufacturers. Instead, they hope to offer an alternative to those who previously could not afford or could not afford a cog saw. In this way, almost everyone has a chainsaw in their tool arsenal. Personally, I can't wait to get my hands on one of these bad guys. A lot of people know I'm attached to the green Koolaid, but you should also know that I'm honest and fair. So, it should be interesting to see how this tool takes a little scrutiny. I have no doubt that it will be lacking in some key areas. The Toyota/Lexus analogy makes that abundantly clear. The real question we have to answer is whether quality changes are worth the cost savings and whether this sawmill really fills this ni file. If it can make clean, tearless cuts on any sheet, it could be a winner. Winner.