

# **MISTRAL INSTALLATION ADVICE**

## **(3) ROUTING**

### **General Advice**

#### **Safety**

- Use appropriate safety equipment such as eye protection while performing any routing tasks.
- Always use effective extraction to remove debris from the working environment.
- Use a chip catcher and any other router accessories to aid with the control of debris.

#### **Tooling**

- Ensure that the router bits you use are sharp and chip-free.
- Ensure that the bearings on the router are sound to prevent router chatter.

#### **Performing the Operation**

- Check measurements repeatedly to avoid costly and time-consuming errors.
- Always allow slow or soft start tools to obtain full speed before beginning the cut.
- Perform the routing operation at a constant pace and at the speed recommended by the router bit manufacturer.
- Use speed-cramps to hold the worktop in place whilst performing routing operations.
- Ensure all pieces, including offcuts, are adequately supported.

#### **Trimming**

When trimming to create finished ends or smooth faces for jointing always consider the following:

- The use of a router guide or straight edge is vital to ensure that the trim is accurate.
- Measure the required length and set the guide accordingly.
- Use the appropriate clamps to ensure there is no movement of the guide during the routing process.
- Mirror routing can be used to create faces for both sides of a joint.

### **Other Routing Operations**

Cut-outs, worktop profiling and shaping, as well as detailing tasks such as creating drainer grooves all use a router. While each of these operations has an infosheet to describe how they should be performed, here are some general tips that are relevant to all and should always be considered when performing router operations:

- All jigs used should be smooth and damage free to ensure good profile matching.
- Jigs should be securely fixed with clamps to ensure no movement during the operation.
- Utilise two sizes of guide bush to allow for a final trim once the cut-out or shape has been formed to get the best finish.
- Always consider if a sacrificial piece of MDF can be used to assist in debris control.

