LEIGH D4R PRO

\$595

Spacing: Variable Stock width (max.): 24 in.



Stock thickness: $\frac{1}{8}$ in. to 1 in. for through-dovetails (pins board can be $\frac{1}{4}$ in.); $\frac{1}{8}$ in. to 1 in. for half-blinds

IH DELEM

Half-blind depth: 3/16 in. to 3/4 in.

The D4R Pro is Leigh's flagship jig. Like the other Leigh jigs in this test, it represents a different world of quality, from its clear, comprehensive instructions to its ingenious engineering, impeccable manufacturing, and unmatched capabilities.

Because the sliding fingers are offset on each side of the template, you simply clamp the workpiece in place, align the sliding fingers by eye, and the pins and tails will mesh perfectly when you flip the template to machine the other half of the joint. Aligning the fingers lets you play with the array and settle on the best layout in minutes. Precise indicators ensure that you are aligning the template correctly in every position, with icons to remind you which way it flips for each task. One thing to note is that the bushing is eccentric, which lets you pivot it to adjust the joint fit 0.002 in. at a time. But you must keep the router in the same orientation to get perfect joints.

Cutting the two parts of a half-blind dovetail joint separately lets you vary the spacing and go up to ¾ in. deep, much deeper than other manufacturers' jigs. You need larger accessory bits for this—and for routing through-dovetails on the thickest stock but the added capabilities are well worth the cost.

For both through-dovetails and half-blinds, the D4R produced better results and more consistent joints than any jig in the test other than the Leigh RTJ400 router-table jig, which has fixed template fingers.



Magic fingers. All you need is a center mark to design the array of pins (left). You can trust your eyes from there, and even if the symmetry is off, the design of the template ensures a perfect match between pins and tails when you flip it (below).





Short learning curve. Icons tell you which way the template goes on the jig, and precise guide lines dial in its position for any stock thickness.



Clever engineering. For half-blinds in one pass, a rod slides through the template fingers to stop the bushing's rearward travel in the right spot.