Router Table safety instruction notes

Although a fairly small machine there is significant potential for injury if the cutters are not guarded or the work is incorrectly fed.

- 1. Structure of Router Table
 - a. Large flat table (hence the name
 - b. Bit guard
 - c. Fences
 - d. Special jigs
- 2. PPE and extraction.
 - a. No loose clothing
 - b. No gloves
 - c. Safety glasses or visor at all times.
 - d. Dust extraction always to be used.
 - e. Dust mask if prolonged cutting of fibrous materials MDF etc.
- 3. Adjustments
 - a. Do not lift the table at any time unless performing maintenance with power isolated.
 - b. Select the appropriate bit for the moulding to be created. The table is fitted with a $\frac{1}{2}$ " router. If using $\frac{1}{4}$ " bits the reducing collet must be used.
 - c. When fitting a cutter ensure at least 2/3 of the shank is inserted into the collet.
 - d. Do not try to increase the bit's depth of cut by inserting less of the shank in the collet.
 - e. Ensure the collet is fully tightened using the machines spindle lock and appropriate size spanner.
 - f. Set the speed control to a suitable speed for the size of the bit being used. The following is a rough guide to speeds

Bit Diameter	Maximum Speed
Up to 1"	24,000 rpm
1" to 2"	18,000 rpm
2" to 2½"	16,000 rpm
2½" to 3½"	12,000 rpm

- g. Adjust bit height & fence position to suit required cut
- h. Keep hands clear of the bit use appropriate guide blocks and/or push sticks
- i. Adjust bit guard c. 12mm, ½ inch above work piece
- j. Set hold-down devices and feather boards to appropriate positions to prevent kickback.
- 4. Keep work piece clear of the bit, start the machine and LISTEN
 - a. Rumbling, whining or vibration indicates a problem

Now we're ready to start cutting

- 5. Follow basic safety rules
 - a. Turn on extractor before powering up the machine
 - b. Keep hands clear of bit at all times Use push sticks and guide blocks as required. Ensure these are to hand before starting the machine.
 - c. Allow the machine to reach full speed before starting cut

d. Feed the work into the cutter in an appropriate direction.



- e. Feed work piece at steady rate do not force. Any signs/smells of friction or burning stop the machine without withdrawing the work piece.
- f. When cutting round or irregular shaped stock use appropriate jigs to devices.
- 6. Useful functions of the machine
 - a. Edge mouldings
 - b. Tenons
 - c. Grooves/slots
 - d. Combine different bits in multiple passes to create complex mouldings.
- 7. The Right Way to Rout a Wide Groove



Start with the inside edge. To avoid a climb cut, consider the second cut when positioning the fence for the first

Push the fence back, then rout the rest. By routing the outer side, the bit continues to push the work against the fence.