

Ask Jon Eakes

FEIN MultiMaster - a tool in a category by itself.

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This is a tool that no renovator or finish carpenter can live without. And FEIN doesn't even pay me to say that (although I do get some free blades).

The FEIN MultiMaster was originally developed in Germany as an auto body tool designed to cut, shape and sand sheet metal and plastic. By the time it got to North America they had begun to add some wood cutting blades and in the last couple of years it has become an indispensable renovation tool. They have added fast cutting blades with Japanese style teeth, bi-metal blades for going through both wood and nails. They have straight blades, round blades, segmented blades (round blades flat on one side for working up against walls or other stops), knife type scraping blades, carbide grinders, sandpaper, even hook blades for taking out caulking between boat deck boards. None of these blades spin around, they simply oscillate back and fourth about 3 degrees and barely look like they are moving, but they cut so well and with so much control. It is like surgery in woodworking.

Enough of glowing about it. What I want to do here is capture amazing things it can do on video and put them here along with the tips of how to use it. I even invite you to send me your favourite problem solving with your FEIN tool. Yes, this will be the You Tube for FEIN MultiMaster groupies like me. Just to get this started, check out my cutting vinyl siding video: End Dam Jig.

The tool is not cheap and the blades are not cheap, but talk to anyone who uses it and they will tell you it is worth while. You can special order it at Home Hardware stores or find it on the web. For more details check out www.MultiMaster.info, but their web site really doesn't do the tool justice. Better yet, bookmark this page and come back often.

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