

# Owner's Manual







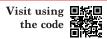
#### **CAUTION**

POWER TOOLS CAN BE DANGEROUS AND MISUSE CAN CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH. ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW ALL POWER TOOL INSTRUCTIONS. DO NOT USE WITH WOOD THAT CONTAINS NAILS, SCREWS OR OTHER OBJECTS. TRUE TRAC IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR INJURY, ACCIDENTS, OR MISUSE.

Our goal is to provide exceptional service and excellent products. If at any time you have an issue, give us a call at 1.937.544.6855 or email directly to jacob@truetracsaw.com.



A video version of these instructions can be found at our website: truetracsaw.com/pages/installation-how-to-videos



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Thank you for purchasing a TrueTrac System!

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#### Instruction Overview

- 1 Align the Saw Adapter Plate to the blade of your circular saw with the supplied Set-Up Jig for proper spacing Page 5, step 3-5
- 2 Once aligned, securely clamp your saw to the Saw Adapter Plate and drill the required clearance holes for the mounting hardware. Anywhere flat is fair game Page 6, step 6-8
- 3 Install and trim the Zero Clearance Block (ZCB) or optional Dust Collection Nozzle (DCN) to your saw Page 7, step 1-4
- 4 Trim the Anti-Chip Strip on your True Trac guide rail Page 8, step 1-5
  - You will need to slightly lift the front edge of your saw to place the ZCB or DCN on top of the untrimmed anti-chip strip, as they will overlap and hit one another until they are trimmed. This overlap helps prevent the AC strip from vibrating & shattering during the trimming operation.
- 5 Go make something!



#### Items Provided -

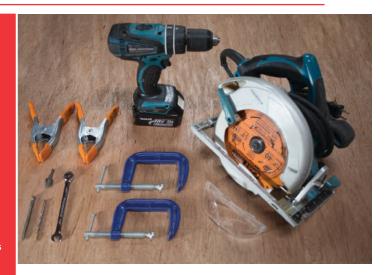
- 1. One (1) Hardware packet (6 bolts, 6 nuts)
- 2. One (1) Universal Saw Adapter Plate
- 3. One (1) Set-up jig
- 4. One (1) Zero Clearance Block with two (2) mounting bolts
- 5. Four (4) brass inserts installed into Universal Saw Adapter Plate

Self-aligning connectors and hex wrench are included with kits containing multiple pieces of track for longer capacities.



#### **Tools Required**

- 1. Circular saw
- 2. Powered hand drill
- 3. Safety rated eye protection
- 4. 5/32" metal rated drill bit, at least 2" long
- 5. 6" drill bit extension (optional)
- 6. Phillips driver bit or Phillips screw driver
- 7. 11/32" or 9mm combination wrench
- 8. Two (2) or three (3) spring clamps
- 9. Two (2) C-style clamps
- 10. One (1) 3/8" countersink (optional)
- 11. Flashlight / copy paper (used to check for gaps)
- 12. Flat and stable work surface



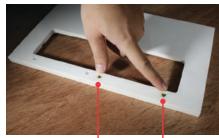
-1

Ensure your saw is in an un-powered state, either by unplugging the cord or removing the battery.



2

The Saw Adapter Plate now has 4 predrilled holes and two notches that have been milled into the bottom face. The notch is so that the optional Dust Collection Nozzle (DCN) can slot into that area as a locating feature, and there are two separate notches to facilitate use on either a left or right bladed saw.



The pre-drilled holes should have four 10-32 threaded brass inserts already installed in them.

These pre-drilled holes are **NOT** for mounting your saw.





The Zero Clearance Block (ZCB) and DCN are mounted to the Saw Adapter Plate with these brass inserts and share the same bolt pattern. The ZCB will be replaced by the DCN if the Dust Collection Nozzle is in use.

Using two spring clamps, temporarily fasten the adapter plate to the base of your saw.

- a. Align the Saw Adapter Plate to both the front edge of the existing metal saw base plate and along the narrow portion outside your saw blade
- b. Please note that the Saw Adapter
  Plate may not line up with the existing
  metal base once adjusted with the
  provided Set-Up Jig. Aligning in this
  manner is just a good place to start.



4

Locate the black set-up jig included with your kit. This jig has two holes drilled and countersunk that match the spacing of the inner two brass inserts of the Saw Adapter Plate.

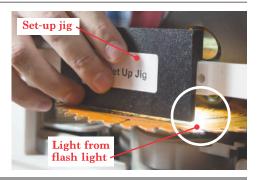
a. Place the thick edge against the outside lip of the Saw Adapter Plate and bolt the set-up jig to the inserts with the provided 5/8" length 10-32 flat head bolts (later used for the ZCB)



5

Use a flashlight or piece of copy paper to highlight gaps between the set-up jig and the body of the saw blade

- a. Be careful to rest the jig on the body of the blade, and not on a tooth
- Adjust as necessary to eliminate gaps between the set-up jig and blade.



#### **General Notes**

- Ensure the set-up jig is resting on the Universal Adapter Plate, and NOT the saw base plate.
- If the Adapter Plate and the saw base plate are not parallel after adjustments
  to remove the gaps, this is okay Some saw base plates are not exactly parallel
  to the saw blade, while the universal adapter plate should be parallel to the
  blade itself.

6

Add in C-style clamps for a more secure fastening method.

- a. It never hurts to double check the adapter plate placement with the set- up jig and flashlight after attaching the C-style clamps
  - -- Something might have shifted slightly.



7

Once secured with C-clamps, the easiest location for the first hole is usually to the rear of the blade, on the motor side of your saw.

The second hole should be diagonal to the first. This will lock the adapter plate placement on your saw and allow you to move the C-clamps for the remaining holes

a. Locate other suitable locations on each corner of the metal saw base plate to place your mounting hardware.

Avoid structural ribs



Find flat spots where available

Ω

After locating the first two suitable locations, with a powered hand drill use the 5/32" drill bit to drill through both the universal saw adapter plate and your saw's metal base plate.

a. Wear proper safety protection or PPE while performing this task!



#### **General Note**

On battery powered saws or saws that have very small metal base plates a minimum of three (3) screws may be used. The ZCB or DCN will bolt directly to the Saw Adapter Plate.

9

If a suitable position happens to be in one of the thinner, flat areas of the adapter plate (as shown here), this is acceptable as long as the bolt is properly countersunk.

- a. Drilling through the beveled/angled edges is not acceptable, and will impede track function.
- b. You may also place hardware in the center "key" that rides between the rises on the track, but be sure to not over tighten these as it will spread the center key and prevent the adapter plate from sliding properly.

Installing and Trimming the Zero Clearance Block (ZCB) or Dust Collection Nozzle (DCN)

1

After installing the Saw Adapter Plate to your saw, retract/raise the saw to its shallowest depth of cut so you can install the ZCB or optional DCN.

 a. Either of the above items will bolt onto the Saw Adapter Plate with the previously installed brass inserts & provided hardware.



#### General Note

If you need to use your saw off of the track system (i.e. free-handed) you can simply unscrew the Zero

Clearance Block or Dust Collection Nozzle from the threaded inserts and reinstall later when you've completed your free-hand cuts! The adapter plate has plenty of surface area to be stable during your cuts.

2

After installing the ZCB or DCN, it needs to be trimmed to your saw and blade combination.

- a. On a scrap piece of lumber, slowly and carefully plunge your saw down into the ZCB/DCN to trim it.
- b. You shouldn't trim through the entire length of either item There will be a portion of each in front of your blade.



3

The finished product after trimming the ZCB should look something like the photo to the right.

- a. There's only roughly I/I6th of an inch that will be trimmed from the ZCB.
- b. If your saw does not trim the ZCB, double check the spacing from the body of the blade to the outside of the saw adapter plate. It should be 1.5 inches.



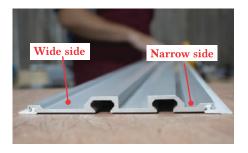
#### Installing and Trimming the Anti-Chip Strips on the Track

Determine which side of the track & anti-chip strips you will be trimming.

1

The physical track has a wide side and a narrow side.

- a. The wide side is for normal 90-degree cuts.
- b. The narrow side is for-beveled cuts, when the saw is tilted relative to the base.



For clarification, to the right is an example of a beveled cut when the blade is on the narrow side of the track.



3

After determining which side of the track and anti-chip strip you will be trimming, place your scrap piece of wood on a flat and stable work surface and place your track on top of the work piece.

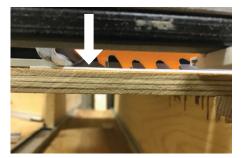
(Our "Expandable Track Table" is useful in this situation.)



4

Place your saw on the track and set the depth of cut on your saw to 1/32" of an inch below the anti-chip strip.

 This shallow depth of cut helps to prevent the blade from bending the anti-chip strip upwards and shattering while being trimmed.



#### **IMPORTANT!**

Make sure to fully support the Anti-Chip Strip on a scrap piece of lumber while trimming with your saw.

5

The easiest way to trim the anti-chip strips is to pull the strip being trimmed out of the track by about Ift. This gives an area of bare track where you can place the saw without the blade touching anything. Once situated on the bare section of track, bring your saw to full RPM and proceed to SLOWLY trim the fully supported section of anti-chip strip. Stop before reaching the portion hanging out of the track.

#### LET THE BLADE COME TO A FULL STOP BEFORE LIFTING YOUR SAW.

Remove your saw, slide the strip back into the track, and place your saw back onto the track in an area that has been trimmed, and repeat as necessary to trim the full length of anti-chip strip.

If your Anti-Chip Strips shatter, chip out, or otherwise do something weird please give us a call and we'll take care of it!

As much as we'd like to say everything is always perfect, it never is. Sometimes the strips have small micro air-bubbles, stress concentrations, or are just feeling particularly brittle that day and will chip or shatter during trimming. We'll cover the defective ones under warranty, free of charge.

**Note:** If you don't plan on doing very many 45 degree beveled cuts, simply leave the Anti-Chip Strip on the narrow side of the track untrimmed - This gives you an integrated spare if you use two styles/thicknesses of blades, or multiple saws. It can always be trimmed at a later date.

#### WARNING

THE ANTI-CHIP STRIP CAN BE VERY SHARP AFTER IT IS CUT TO 45 DEGREES.

It is a good idea to dull the edges with sandpaper after you trim the anti-chip strip meant for beveled cuts.



A video version of these instructions can be found at our website: truetracsaw.com/pages/installation-how-to-videos

Visit using the code



# True Trac Accessory Showcase

Expandable Track Table



**Dust Collecton Nozzle** 



Router Dado Jig



Simple Square



**Carrying Case** 



Toggle Clamps



Always available online at truetracsaw.com

#### Expandable Track Table

The True Trac Expandable Table is a versatile addition to your shop - A simple 2 ft x 4 ft base sets up quickly on saw horses and the sliding sacrificial support array is capable of fully supporting an entire 4ft x 8ft sheet of plywood or other smaller material during cutting. System easily dismantles for shelf or wall-based storage.



1

Choose a good flat 24" x 48" piece of 3/4" plywood for the table bottom. Any warp or bow will translate to the top cutting surface.

2

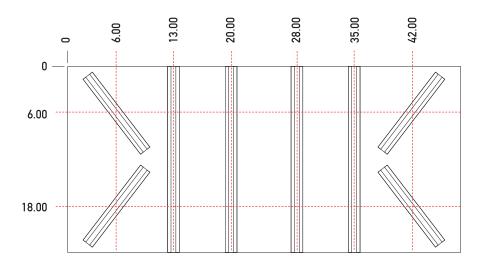
There are 4 corner tracks; each corner track has a 12" bottom piece and a 24" top piece. Measure to the center (6") of the bottom piece and pre-drill a 3/16" hole through the bottom piece taking time to center your drill bit using the small center groove as a reference. Measure 6" in on each corner of the plywood (6" from side 6" from bottom and top). Fasten bottom piece of track by positioning the center of the bottom piece at the 6" junction using a washer head screw. Do not over tighten as the corner track needs to pivot.

3

There are 4 center tracks; each center track has 24" top and a 24" bottom piece. Position the 2 outside center tracks 13" from the edge of the plywood. Fasten the bottom piece using the washer heads screws. Fasten the 2 remaining center tracks spaced between the 2 outside center tracks using the washer head screws. Pre-drill the aluminum track pieces taking time to center your drill bit using the small center groove as a reference.

Z

Fasten 24" long pieces of 1"x 4" to the top pieces of track using 3 washer head screws per track. We recommend screws placed 2" from the end, and one screw in the center. Again, pre-drill the aluminum track pieces taking time to center your drill bit using the center groove as a reference.



#### **Items Provided**

- 8 24" Top Extrusions
- 4 24" Bottom Extrusions
- 4 12" Bottom Corner Extrusions
- 40 3/4" Washer Head Screws

#### <sub>I)</sub> Note

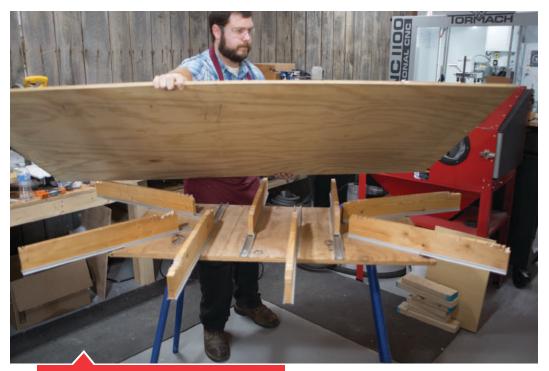
Four (4) corner pieces to be attached with one (I) screw to facilitate rotation, hole/screw location is at the intersection of dotted lines for these pieces

Four (4) center pieces are to have three (3) screws each, one (1) located at 2", one at 12", and one at 22" from the referenced zero line.

#### **Tools Required**

- 1. One (I) 4ft long, 2ft wide, 3/4 inch thick plywood base (flat, not warped)
- 2. Eight (8) 2 ft length standard pine IX4's (for sacrificial risers)
  - Take male extrusions with you when selecting lumber to ensure proper fit. Actual lumber thickness = 3/4 inch
- Two (2) Saw horses for legs to support base Other options: Folding table legs, work bench, tailgate, etc.

#### Expandable Track Table



The Track Table easily expands to hold entire sheets of 4ft x 8ft plywood or other large materials, while maintaining a small shop footprint.

Sacrificial supports allow for hassle free cutting while maintaining full support of both the main work piece as well as the drop piece!



Easily support smaller dimensional lumber for precise trimming or custom fit tapers!







A video demonstration is available at our website: truetracsaw.com/products/expandable-table

Visit using the code



#### **Dust Collection Nozzle**



Easily add dust collection to any circular saw! After trimming, the Dust Collection Nozzle encapsulates the exit point of the blade teeth from the workpiece and forces air flow directly across the blade gullets. This in effects 'blows' the dust out of the gullet and into the nozzle itself.

System captures 70%-75% of dust created, virtually eliminating fine dust haze and getting the majority of larger wood chips created.

\*This is a Pro-Series Accessory Only, will not work with the E-Series track.



Dust Collection Nozzle is easily interchangeable with the ZCB, as both items use the same threaded brass inserts and hole pattern!



A video demonstration can be found at our website: truetracsaw.com/products/dust-collection

Visit using the code

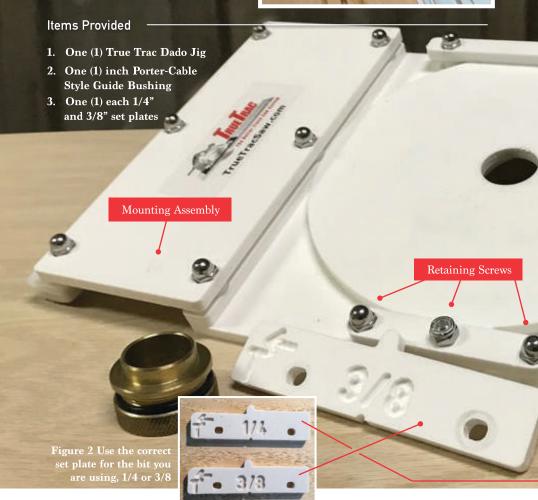


#### Router Dado Jig

#### **Tools Required**

- True Trac Pro-Series track section of your choice
   Pro-Series - Original track beyold:
  - Pro-Series = Original track, beveled edges, dovetail connectors
- 2. Phillips screw driver / Driver bit
- 3. Flat head screw driver for adjusting fit on track
- 4. Sample of desired wood for use in dado groove





The True Trac Dado Jig along with the True Trac system and your router is the simplest way to make perfect fitting dados and grooves every time.

The system uses a pivoting baseplate and a router. One side of the movement is limited by a fixed stop and the other side is controlled by an adjustable set plate.

A perfect dado is easily made by using the set plate of the Dado Jig to actually measure the material you would like to use in the dado groove. Any thickness variation found in dimensional lumber, plywood, or material you plane yourself is accounted for with this action.

The set plate also allows for fine adjustments - Test cuts in scrap are always a must with any dado system to verify the desired fit, and the Dado Jig makes those adjustments a breeze. Simply loosen the left knob, leaving the right knob tight, and pivot the set plate closer or further from the pivot plate. Moving it closer provides a tighter dado, further provides a looser fitting dado.

The travel of the True Trac Dado Jig is constrained between the fixed stop and set plate so that no matter how many passes are used to clean out the cut, the final product is a precise fitting dado custom fit for your projects.



#### Fitting the True Trac Dado Jig to Track

-1

The True Trac Dado Jig works from the narrow side of the TrueTrac extrusion, as shown.

2

To remove any perpendicular play between the Dado Jig and section of track, loosen the three bolts on the spreader bar that fits into the center groove of the TrueTrac guide.



The Dado Jig on the track.

3

Place the Dado Jig into the track section, and pull to one end.

4

Utilize a flat-bladed screw driver to spread the bar inside the track groove to remove any play.

a. Re-tighten the bolt, slide the Dado Jig to the other end of the track, and repeat the process there. Remove and tighten the middle bolt once adjustments are satisfactory.



#### Using Your Router & The True Trac Dado Jig

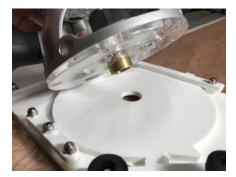
The True Trac Dado Jig works well with virtually any router with a circular base plate up to 6-1/2" in diameter – Most 2-1/2 HP routers or less fall into this category.

A router may be mounted directly to the pivot plate of the Dado Jig or you can use the provided I" OD style bushing for easy use elsewhere.

#### Using the Provided 1" OD Bushing -

Install the two-piece bushing into the plastic base plate of your router.

Place the bushing into the opening of the Dado Jig pivot plate.

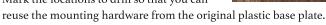


#### Mounting Your Router Directly to the Pivot Plate

Remove the pivot plate from the Dado Jig assembly by removing the center nylon locking nut and bolt the plate pivots around and rotate out of the assembly.

Remove the plastic base from your router and use the provided bushing or other method to center it on the pivot plate.

Mark the locations to drill so that you can



Drill the mounting holes and carefully countersink the bottom side so the screw heads are below the surface of the pivot plate.

#### Setting Material Thickness / Dado Widths —

Select the appropriate set plate for your bit diameter – Generally you'll use a I/4" diameter bit for I/4" - I/2" grooves, and I/4" diameter for I/2" – I' grooves.

Install the set plate and ensure the pivot plate is pressed firmly against the hard stop, away from the set plate.

2

Insert a sample of wood along the flat portion of the pivot plate, gently resting it against the small tab that sticks out.

3

Gently but firmly press the set plate against the wood sample, squeezing the sample between the pivot plate and set plate.

4

Lock down the knob directly below the pivot plate first (A), and then the second knob (B).

#### Adjusting Dado Tightness / Compensating for Spindle Run-out

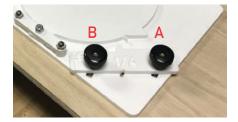
**Pro-Tip:** When measuring the sample wood, adjust and tighten knob (A) normally. Before tightening (B), press it as close as possible to the pivot plate. This will create a dado so tight the sample will not fit. After initial cut, loosen (B) and gently back the set plate away to gradually open the dado with additional passes before moving the track. This allows for precise custom fit dados without attempting to glue saw dust back in!

1

If adjustments are required after making a test cut, loosen only knob (B) of the set plate. This allows the set plate to pivot around (A).

2

Swinging the set plate closer to the pivot plate will produce a tighter dado, swinging away will produce a looser dado.



#### Aligning & Cutting a Dado

router bit, run-out dependent.

There are two methods for aligning where you want to create your dado groove - These are best explained in the demonstration video, but below are the two methods:

Use the alignment tab on the pivot plate of the Dado Jig – There are three steps that roughly correspond to the left edge of your



2

The second method for aligning the Dado Jig with where you want your dado is to measure from the edge of a test dado groove closest to the track over to the edge of the track extrusion itself (not the antichip strip).

This offset measurement will allow for precise placement of the track for every dado made with that particular router bit.



If you have any problems, please let us know so we can take care of it. If the product meets your expectations, please share your feedback with other customers via a product review!



A video demonstration can be found at our website: truetracsaw.com/products/truetrac-dado-jig

Visit using the code



#### Simple Square

#### **Tools Required**

- 1 5/32" hex key for shoulder bolts (not provided)
- 2 I/8" hex key for locking set screws (not provided)
- 3 90-degree reference square (speed square, machinist square, etc)
- 4 Flat and stable work surface
- TrueTrac Pro-Series track section of your choice
   Pro-Series = Original track, beveled edges, dovetail connectors



\*This is a Pro-Series Accessory Only, will not work with the E-Series track.

#### Simple Square Assembly Instructions

An accessory that offers a quick way to perform 90-degree cross cuts has been a customer requested item for many years.

The hold-up on the product was simply the cost associated with machining our design. So, we made the leap and purchased a moderate sized CNC Mill (Tormach 1100) and have since started to manufacture more of our smaller components in-house.

#### Thank you for purchasing a True Trac Simple Square!

All the best, Richard, Darlene, and Jacob Rhodes



-1

Install the 12" connectors to the Simple Square with the provided shoulder bolts - Barely finger tighten the bolts at this point





2

Remove the Anti-Chip Strip from the narrow side of the track section being used.



3

Slide the assembled Simple Square and Connectors into the track section being used

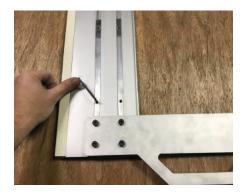
 a. Generally, back edge of the SS will be flush to the end of the track section, but feel free to move it around to suit your project.



4

Tighten the four set screws that were installed in the 12" long connectors.

a. This aligns the connectors to the track section



5

Use a 90-degree reference square against the front face of the Simple Square and the edge of the track section being used.



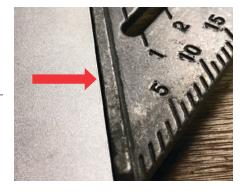
6

Ensure no gaps exist -

a. Having the four shoulder bolts relatively loose allows for adjustment to match the edge of the track

7

Tighten the shoulder bolts in an "X" pattern once the gaps are removed and double check with your reference square once tightened



8

Reinstall the removed anti-chip strip

 a. There should be enough of a gap that it slides in without issue, although there will probably be some that are tight enough to be annoying.



9

You're ready to go!



If you have any problems, please let us know so we can take care of it. If the product meets your expectations, please share your feedback via a product review!

Reviews can be left on the individual product pages below the product description section.



A video version of these instructions can be found at our website: truetracsaw.com/products/simple-square

Visit using the code



#### Standard Router Plate

The Universal Standard Router Plate was our original router adapter plate for the True Trac System. If you're looking for a simple way to handle straight line routing with any bit size or style, this is the router adapter for you. The Dado Jig is different, as it has a pivoting top plate specifically for measuring and cutting dado grooves. The Standard Router Plate mounts directly to the bottom of your router base.



- 1 Install a 1/4" diameter straight bit in your router & insert into a pre-drilled hole Your router is now centered on the plate.
- 2 Use a marker to outline the base of the router for reference.
- **3** Remove the plastic base plate from router base (usually 3 screws).
- 4 Place plastic base plate from router onto the marked circle on the True Trac Router Adapter Plate.
- 5 Mark holes or clamp in place to use as a template for drilling mounting holes. Countersink underside so hardware sits flush.
- **6** Leave the original base plate off of your router and attach the router to the Router Adapter Plate with original hardware.

# Toggle Clamps

Also available for the E-Series style of track



A pair of modified toggle clamps slide into the underside of the track and allow for easy repetitive clamping on material up to I inch in thickness.

### 4 Foot Extension Kit



# **Cantilever Clamps**

Also available for the E-Series style of track



A pair of modified cantilever style clamps with a simple tightening knob allows for clamping on material up to 2.5 inches in thickness.

## Carrying/Storage Case



Protect and easily carry your True Trac System with this convenient padded storage and carrying case! Includes detachable shoulder strap and a front zipping pocket large enough for a 24" track section or other accessories!



# Thank you for purchasing a True Trac product!

Our goal is to provide quality products you'll love and back them with exceptional service worth telling your friends about! How'd we do?

We encourage you to share your experience and feedback in a review directly on any specific Product page of our website. Doing so helps other online shoppers and means the world to family owned businesses like ours!

If the product you receive does not meet or exceed your expectations, please allow us the opportunity to make it right. Contact us directly at I.(937).544.6855 or email jacob@truetracsaw.com for the fastest solution or a hassle free return.

All the best,
 Richard, Darlene, and Jacob Rhodes

