Subject: Sears Craftsman Tool Quality?
Posted by GarMan on Thu, 07 Jul 2005 19:29:09 GMT
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I have no experience with Sears Craftsman and would like to know how they compare quality-wise with other national brands. I'm looking to get a portable table/bench saw this month and the brands that I have experience with (Dewalt, PorterCable, Bosch) are all out of my price range.I've narrowed by choices down to three models, all similar in price and spec: 10" saw with stand and table extensions from Skil, Delta, and Craftsman. There's a $50 spread between the cheapest (Skil) and most expensive (Craftsman). Any thoughts or recommendations on these brands would be appreciated.Gar.

Subject: Re: Sears Craftsman Tool Quality?
Posted by BillEpstein on Thu, 07 Jul 2005 19:48:46 GMT
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Which models? The smallest Skil is not bad at all for 100 bucks.What really counts with all these little saws is the fence. Go to each dealer and move the fences around and then measure from the fence to the front and then the rear of the blade. Repeat and repeat to check the adjustability.My Ryobi=on-wheels has an amazingly good fence. As do all the Ryobi's except the hundred buck one.The other biggie is whether it will turn a full thick (1/8") blade in maple or more importantly, a 3/4" dado blade in MDF. And it needn't do that all day long.

Subject: Model Numbers
Posted by GarMan on Thu, 07 Jul 2005 20:12:51 GMT
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Here are the models:Craftsman 10 in. Table Saw with Dust Collection System and Casters Mfr. model #24883
http://www.sears.com/sr/javasr/product.do?BV_UseBVCookie=Yes&vertical=TOOL&pid=0092488
3000&subcat=Table+SawsDelta Tools 10 in. Table Saw with Stand Mfr. model #TS220LS
http://www.sears.com/sr/javasr/product.do?BV_UseBVCookie=Yes&vertical=TOOL&pid=0092351
6000&subcat=Table+SawsSkil 10 In. Tabletop Saw Inc.Model
3400-12http://www.homedepot.com/prel80/HDUS/EN_US/diy_main/pg_diy.jsp?CNTTYPE=PROD
_META&CNTKEY=SuperFeatures2/Miscellaneous/PM_Affiliate_Landing_Page_2005&BV_Sessio
nID=@@@@1350436674.1120770602@@@@&BV_EngineID=ccecaddfdkfjhifcgelceffdfgidgjk.0
&cm_ven=CJ&cm_cat=46157&cm_ite=Homepage&cm_pla=46157&aid=10368102&pid=46157&si
d=ebs133356635sbe&cj=1Strange to see the Porter and Delta brands on the same item at HD. Here in Canada, the two brands are kept separate.

Subject: Re: Features for $100
Posted by BillEpstein on Thu, 07 Jul 2005 22:19:17 GMT
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"What is the Sears?"They all have 15 amp DD motors, fairly flat tables and accuruate T-slots. Skil have notoriusly bad fences, Deltas are cheesy and Sears has a reputation at the point of sale.Do try the fence then get the Sears.

Subject: Re: Features for $100
Posted by GarMan on Fri, 08 Jul 2005 12:15:50 GMT
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Guess I'll go visit some stores this weekend with my combo square in hand.

Subject: Re: Features for $100
Posted by colinhester on Fri, 08 Jul 2005 19:43:59 GMT
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GarMan, Have you ever considered buying used? There are a lot of weekend warriors out there that over buy. In the last two weeks I've seen a high-end Grizzly and Jet in the local "Trading Post" go for about 75% off retail. If I can get my wife to make some room in the garage, that's certainly the way I'm going. Also might look for a woodworker's club nearby and see if someone is wanting to upgrade saws.....ColinPS. You might look on Amazon and see if you can find the company that sells bolt-on tops for contractor saws. This gives you the ability to increase work area and add upgrade fences at a fraction of the cost. I'm sorry I don't have the company's name in front of me, but I would be more than happy to look, if you wish.....

Subject: Re: Features for $100
Posted by GarMan on Sun, 10 Jul 2005 17:55:48 GMT
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I've been keeping my eyes out for several weeks and the saw that come up tend to fall into two categories: i) contractor or cabinet saws which I don't have space for, and ii) small bench saws with not accessories.The pricing for the small bench saws are very good at first look, but when you add the cost of aftermarket items like a stand, decent fence, side and rear extension, I might as well buy a new saw that comes bundled with all these things.All this is moot now. I just bought a Craftsman Job-Site saw yesterday at Sears with a one day $250 discount. Regular price $699.

Everything I was looking for and then some. Big saw, but comes with a collapsable stand with wheels. 4.4 hp, side and rear extension, and rear dust port. Pick it up on Wed.Gar.