

New to the market, this Professional multi-tool from Bosch benefits from the innovative Starlock SDS system, which helps to make it even more quick, secure and convenient to use

# Bosch GOP 40-30 Professional multi-tool featuring the Starlock SDS system

FROM £120

If ever there was a tool to come riding over the hills to save a tricky on-site situation like the Seventh Cavalry, it has to be the increasingly popular multi-cutter (aka the multi-tool). Originally developed for the health industry to safely remove plaster casts, it features a cutter blade which oscillates on such a short stroke (1.5° each side) that when it comes into contact with human tissue, it will only vibrate and not break the skin. Since the expiry of Fein's original patent in recent years, every manufacturer in town now has one on their books, and the Bosch Pro machine is as good an example as you will find anywhere.

### Simple to use

As power tools go, the multi-tool is one of the simplest in working operation: just one switch turns it on or off, and it has an easy variable-speed to suit the job in hand. That said, though, a huge

variety of cutters, grinders and abrasive attachments means that its functionality is impressively enormous and makes it the versatile machine that every user knows it to be. The Bosch version is solidly built and feels somehow natural in the hand, nicely balanced and ready to go. Anyone (like me) who has been used to changing cutters with an Allen key (and the attendant fuss when it gets mislaid) will be delighted to learn that with this model and its new SDS innovation,



it's possible to fit a new cutter in only seconds. It really is impressive. First, the old blade can be swiftly jettisoned with a pull on the ejector lever (and without having to touch it too if it's red-hot), then a new cutter literally just snaps into place in a matter of moments. Oh, and the cutters themselves are made in Switzerland, which is a further indication of the best quality on this machine.

### Speedy effectiveness

Simple though it is, in times of need the multi-cutter is the only tool for the job and most trades won't go to site without one – whether they're dedicated woodworkers or not. I've been used to referring to my old multi-tool as the 'awkward saw' as it's generally called for whenever things are looking a bit dicey and normal methods can't be applied. So, when I took this new Bosch Pro version along to my latest fitting job, part of me was hoping it wouldn't be called into action. As it turned out it remained unused in its (very spacious) L-Boxx until practically the last minute when I noticed a protruding wedge on top of the giant wardrobe unit at the back. Giving silent thanks when I saw that the power lead was of a generous length (the extension lead having been packed onto the van already), I was further impressed with both the speedy effectiveness of the tool and especially the (previously unnoticed) worklight, which nicely pierced the under-ceiling gloom in the large bedroom.

### In summary

All in all, the Bosch GOP 40-30 is a top quality tool, and one which is further enhanced by the quick-change SDS cutter system. **MC**

### THE STARLOCK SYSTEM

As co-inventors of the SDS drill and chuck system in 1975 (which comes from Stecken Drehen Sicher or Insert Twist Secure, now Anglicised to Special Drill System) Bosch have a proven track record of innovation and improvement and have recently teamed up with Fein to develop a similar quick-change system for the multi-tool. This has been dubbed the Starlock system and is as quick, secure and convenient as you'd like it. As well as facilitating a rapid tool-free cutter change on the latest Bosch and Fein machines, the special cutters are backwards compatible with a large number of OMTs (other manufacturers' tools).

### New corded & cordless multi-tools available

- GOP 55-36 Professional
- GOP 40-30 Professional
- GOP 30-28 Professional
- GOP 18V-28 Professional
- GOP 10.8V-28 Professional

Prices start from £94, see [www.bosch-professional.com](http://www.bosch-professional.com)

### SPECIFICATION

NET WEIGHT	1.5kg
OSCILLATION RATE	8,000-20,000/min
OSCILLATION STROKE	3.0°
POWER	400W
CABLE LENGTH	4m
OSCILLATION ANGLE ON LEFT & RIGHT	1.5°
TOOL LENGTH	284mm

### VERDICT

This new range of multi-tools featuring the Starlock SDS system is great and the model I tried, the GOP 40-30 Professional, was a top performer and difficult to fault

**PROS** ■ Smooth and powerful  
■ Starlock cutters

**CONS** ■ None

**VALUE FOR MONEY PERFORMANCE**



### FURTHER INFORMATION

- Bosch Professional
- 03447 360 109
- [www.bosch-professional.com](http://www.bosch-professional.com)



Just a few of the many different cutters and blades available



Close-up of the cleverly designed SDS lever – so simple to use



... by snapping it in



The worklight in action; note short oscillation stroke



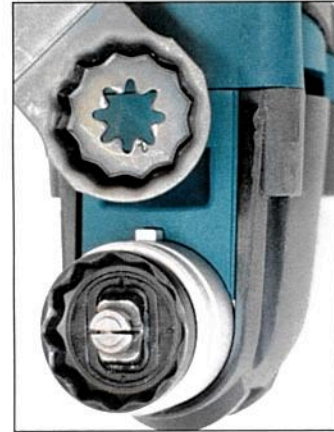
... and a new one fitted...



... and the sprung jaws keep it firmly in place



The old cutter is removed by simply pulling the SDS lever...



The 12-pointed star ensures maximum contact between cutter and tool...