III Vice Review



Stonfo 516 Flytec Lever vice £200

III By Robbie Winram



The extras you get include a G-clamp, spare jaws, material spring and parachute tool.

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HE Italians are good at making beautiful things - and their fly-tying equipment is no exception. Just take a look at the Stonfo 516 vice for example.

You get a lot of vice and accessories, both in terms of quality and design, for the price. The vice has a stainless steel shaft and arm and tooled brass fittings combined with three interchangeable hardened steel jaws. The jaw sizes are suitable to cover hooks ranging

from tiny size 28s through to mighty 4/o saltwater hooks, and are very easy to change by simply relaxing the lever and unscrewing the jaws.

Included with the package is a quality pedestal base weighing 2lb 13oz, fitted with small silicone rubber feet so it isn't going to move around on the worktop. The base has been covered with a composite sheath and has two indented trays for holding hooks or beads. The shaft simply drops into the base and clamps tight

with a knurled nut. A flat face has been milled into the bottom of the shaft to stop it slipping around.

The vice also comes with a brass and alloy G-clamp fitting (suitable for table tops up to 50mm thick). It is also equipped with a bobbin cradle that converts into a gallows tool for tying parachute-style hackles, a spring material clip which attaches around the barrel of the vice, an Allen key for fine adjustments around the vice, and an instruction leaflet with easy-

to-follow setting-up diagrams.

The vice has a true in-line 360° rotary action, which means the hook shank revolves in the same plane, offering proper rotary tying. To help you get your hook centered properly in the jaws there is a centering gauge which clips on the arm.

The vice jaws are operated by a lever and as the jaws clamp down onto the hook they draw back into the barrel, giving a very tight and secure grip. You need just fingertip pressure to operate the lever.