





65 HOT PRODUCTS for 2015

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DUST COLLECTION FEATURE

- Introduction to Cyclones
- Know Your Tools: Cyclones
- Top 10: Dust Collection Tips

CANADIAN QUOTES:

Jean-Claude & Talar Préfontaine p.10

Finer Details: Louis Cube Design in Veneer p.22

Intro to Trim Work p.16

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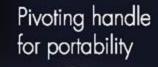
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- AC Duplex Outlet



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Tablets are everywhere these days. Making a stand for your, or someone else's, tablet will make it that much easier to use. BY ROB BROWN







editor's letter

ith another holiday season rushing towards us, it's time for us woodworkers to plan our attack. Holidays bring enough stress without trying to add three coats of finish to a project late on the 24th. We have three projects in this issue that make great gifts, and the nice thing is that they're not too difficult to complete. The first is a project that a young child will love - brightly coloured spinning tops. They are very easy to turn and can be customized with colour and texture.



rbrown@canadianwoodworking.com

The second project is for an adult: scroll sawed fridge magnets. Made from exotic wood offcuts, these magnets can also be customized for the end user. Nature, geometry and words can all be used to create the perfect, small kitchen helper. The final project is for kids or adults: a tablet stand. With the recent rise of the tablet, a stand makes a useful and stylish addition to a very popular piece of technology. If none of these projects tickle your fancy, then visit our website. We have literally hundreds of free plans, and many of them make wonderful gifts.

In our regular columns we cover a lot of ground. In our Home Improvement column, our web editor, Carl Duguay, introduces the topic of trim work. He also introduces cyclone dust collectors with a full-length article, as well as a Know Your Tools column. I give you some tips on improving your dust collection in our Top 10 column. If you want to get serious about dust collection these three articles are for you. In our Finer Details column, Jeremy Pringle showcases his technique for making a Louis Cube design in veneer. In our Community column, I share with you some of the hand tools that were made recently in our "Canadians Building Together: Hand Tools" event. You can view all the tools, and read about how they were made in the "Building Together Events" subsection on our online forum. Canadian Quotes shines the spotlight on an Albertan couple who make stunning pieces of furniture. And as always, Don Wilkinson will give you a good laugh to round out the issue.

Rob Brown



Issue #99

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letters

One More Great Item

I read with great interest Rob Brown's recent article "Ten Items You Didn't Know Were Great Woodworking Tools". I already employed eight of the 10 ideas in my own shop, as well as one that Rob didn't include – a deck of cards. Enclosed is a photo of my tabletop router table after adjusting the alignment of the fences to be perfectly coplanar. The playing cards are very useful as shims for many different purposes.

I enjoy every issue of Canadian Woodworking and Home Improvement and look forward to more useful and informative articles in the future.

Garry S Cape St. Mary's, Nova Scotia



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Thanks for the Offer

Paul,

It was nice seeing you at the Woodstock show. I would like to take you up on the free club notice portion of your great publication. Together, the Grand Valley Woodcarvers and The Owl's Nest Club are holding an annual woodcarving show in March, in conjunction with the Canadian National Wildfowl Carving Championships and the Ontario Woodcarving Competition.

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Sincerely Michael Flynn

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- Max. cutting height: 6"
- Blade size: 92¹/₂"-93¹/₂" L (¹/₈"-³/₄" W)
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- Approx. shipping weight: 354 lbs.

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- Motor: 2 HP, 110V/220V, prewired to 220V, single-phase, TEFC, 20A/10A
- Precision-ground cast
- iron table size: 17" sq.
- Table tilt: 45° R, 10° L
- Cutting capacity/throat: 161/4"
- Max. cutting height: 121/8" Blade size: 131¹/₂" L (¹/₈"-1" W)
- Blade speeds: 1700 & 3500 FPM
- Quick-release blade tension lever
- Approx. shipping weight: 346 lbs.

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15" PLANERS

- Motor: 3 HP, 240V, single-phase, 15A
- Max. cutting: Width 15"; Depth 1/6"
- Feed rate: 16 & 30 FPM
- Cutterhead: Dia. 3"; Speed: 4800 RPM
- Power feed rollers: solid serrated steel Precision-ground table size: 15" x 20"
- Overall dimensions: 42" L x 32½" W x 45%" H
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8" X 72" JOINTERS

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- Precision-ground cast iron table size: 9" x 721/2"
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- Max. rabbeting depth: ½"
- Cutterhead dia.: 3"
- Cutterhead speed: 4800 RPM
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Tool Reviews

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Sliding Miter Saw

Portamate PM-3500 Power Tool Mobile Base

Kreg System Organizer





View these reviews and more at: canadianwoodworking.com/**reviews**

Woods to Know

Cabreuva (Santos Mahogany)

View these woods and more at: canadianwoodworking.com/woods-know



Free Plan

Chopsticks (Dec/Jan 2010)



View this plan and more at: canadianwoodworking.com/free-plans

Best Build

Check out the Best Build sub-forum in the SHOP RELATED DISCUSSIONS section of our forum for our latest "Best Build" thread — an 1,850 sq.ft. shop. This month's winner, Igor Vasilenko, receives a Veritas Mk.II Honing Guide from Lee Valley.



To find out more about this project, go to: **forum.canadianwoodworking.com** or simply go to **CanadianWoodworking.com** and click **FORUM**.





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Jerome Sidley Mallet Walnut, cherry, maple, rawhide Elmvale, ON

Jason
Van de Burgt
Knife
Walnut, maple
Fergus, ON

Canadians Building Together: Hand Tools

Here are images of some of the hand tools that were built during our recent "Canadians Building Together: Hand Tools" event during the month of August, 2015. For more details about the event, and information on how these and many other tools were built, visit the "Woodworking" sub-forum on our website.

BY ROB BROWN





Matthew Rae Coping Saw Quartersawn beech Philadelphia, PA



Pete Binkley Mallet Maple, ipe St Mary's, ON

Igor Vasilenko Chisel Plane Maple, chisel Martintown, ON

Mark Kornell Chamfer Plane

Padauk, brass Kelowna, BC



ROB BROWN rbrown@ canadianwoodworking.com



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RELATED FORUM THREADS: Read about how these, and other tools, were made in the "Building Together Events" sub-section of our "Woodworking" area on our forum.

Canadianquotes

Jean-Claude & Talar Préfontaine

...on sharp knives, their backyard garden and the joys of not working 18 hours a day

BY ROB BROWN

Hosta Box – Made of nogal, wenge, claro walnut and various natural veneers. The inspiration came from an outing to Reader Rock Garden in Calgary when the Hosta plants were in bloom. (Photo by Jean-Claude Préfontaine)





Jean-Claude Préfontaine, 59 years old Talar Préfontaine, 57 years old Préfontaine Handcrafted Furniture www.Préfontainefurniture.ca Location & size of studio – Calgary, Alberta Furniture studio 1000 sq. ft. Marquetry studio 150 sq. ft.

Education – We both graduated with BScs in geography from McGill University

How long have you been building furniture?

Jean-Claude: 14 years as a hobbyist, 31 years professionally

Talar: 31 years of furniture design and marquetry.

What sort of furniture do you specialize in? Talar: We have built many styles, from studio pieces to historical ones, as our clients have requested.

Tell us a couple interesting things about your personal life.

Jean-Claude: When I was 20 years old I bicycled from Sherbrooke, Quebec to Vancouver in 42 days to take a six-week ESL immersion course at UBC.

If you were not a furniture maker, what would you be?

Jean-Claude: Dead from a daredevil stunt gone wrong, otherwise a landscaper.

Talar: Some other type of artisan – stained glass, quilting or baking.

In order, what are the three most important items in your shop apron?

Jean-Claude: Caliper, striking knife, special glue burnished chisel

Talar: OLFA art knife, metal ruler, masking tape

Do you prefer hand tools or power tools? Jean-Claude: Hand tools for the feel in the hand and power tools for their efficacy. Talar: Hand tools

Figured wood or straight grain?

Jean-Claude: Figured grain captivates me.
Talar: Figured veneer – especially with light
and dark areas that can be used for modelling form and showing shadows since I don't
use sand shading.

quotes

Talar: I have three stations in my studio – a work surface/desk, an 18-drawer storage unit for small to medium sheets of veneer and a table for the laptop where I store the photos for marquetry subjects.



Jean-Claude: I built my 1000 sq. ft. shop when I moved out of a rented shop 24 years ago. It has a 10' 4" tall ceiling, which is great for standing lumber. It has two large windows that look out on my garden and is well lit with warm fluorescent lighting.



Talar: I start my workday around 10:30, take a break in the afternoon to do some household chores and go back to work in the evening. I like to work late – I do my best work after 11 p.m. While doing marquetry, I listen to CBC radio archives – this helps me feel connected to the world, otherwise the studio can be a lonely place.



Jean-Claude: In my prime I was working 16 to 18 hours a day, five and even six days a week. Now that I'm getting older, assuming there is no deadline quickly approaching, I find myself taking the morning at a leisurely pace.



Talar: There are not that many tools used in marquetry, but my favourite is an OLFA art knife. Since the blade tips can break or become dull very quickly, I really appreciate my diamond file. My favourite technique is to use the window method of marquetry.

Talar: I have always been interested in plants and I find plenty of inspiration in our garden.



Talar: Because we work together, it is difficult to achieve a proper work/life balance.



Talar: To a certain extent the local area does influence us. We try to incorporate marquetry subjects which are found locally such as our "Flowers of the Rockies" series or the "Landscapes of Alberta" plates.



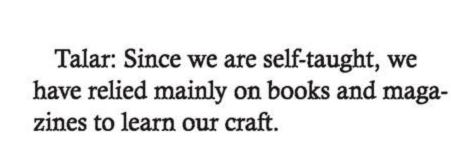
Talar: I am tired of furniture that is too curvy or sinuous, especially for legs. I suspect I have been influenced by today's minimalism. As a style, I dislike post-modernism. In retrospect, many of these works look like caricatures.



Jean-Claude: I believe if we had a national juried exhibition that could draw furniture makers from coast to coast, taking place perhaps every two years in a different province each time, it would help familiarize the public to the work of our Canadian furniture artisan.



Talar: Favourite Canadian makers: Michael Fortune, Adrian Ferrazzutti, Robert Diemert, Reed Hansuld. Favourite International makers: Matthew Werner, Kristina Madsen, Silas Kopf and David Linley.



spent several years in Africa.

(Photo by Chris Thomas)

Jean-Claude: There is a fork in the road for studio furniture makers right now. Some are adopting a more robotic approach with CNC machinery and laser-cutting tools. Others are staying closer to the artisanal way of furniture making. To me the artisanal process will always have a more personal appeal.

Sideboard - This teak and tigerwood sideboard

was commissioned by a client who wanted a piece

for displaying carvings. The character was to be

organic with an African flavour, as the client had



Talar: The Studio Movement has become better established over the past decades, and its practitioners are blurring the line between art and craft.



Jean-Claude: What I dislike the most is the gluing-up stage and the quoting process. That's when something can go wrong and often with no recourse.

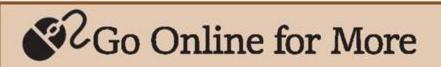


Talar: The marquetry I am the most proud of was also the most difficult to execute. It is a 24" x 36" portrait of our long-time clients who have commissioned more than two dozen pieces of furniture over the 20 years we have known them. I'm

happy to report that they were pleased with the results.



ROB BROWN rbrown@ canadianwoodworking.com



SLIDESHOWS: Canadian Quotes: Reed Hansuld (Dec/Jan 2014), Jean-Claude & Talar Préfontaine RELATED ARTICLES: Canadian Quotes (Oct/Nov 2015)

Top 10 Dust Collection Tips

Unless you're using only hand tools, and don't sand any of your surfaces, you're creating dust in your workshop. Dust is a carcinogen when it's inside your lungs. The smaller the particle, the deeper it can go in your lungs, and the more damage it can do in the long run. Don't take a chance with your health. Follow these tips to ensure your dust collection is up to this important, and often overlooked, task.

BY ROB BROWN

How much suction? Size your dust collector's CFM (cubic feet per minute) rating for existing and future machinery. If two machines will be used at the same time you should add the two CFM requirements together to determine your overall requirements. Also keep in mind that manufacturer's numbers are intended for perfect scientific conditions, which woodworkers don't work in. Err on the side of too much CFM.

Shorter is better — Try to reduce the overall length of ducts by placing the collector nearest to the center of the area. The longer the ducts, the more friction and turbulence is caused, reducing the effectiveness of your collector.

Wider hoses and ducts are best — Avoid narrow collection hoses/ducts; less than 4" isn't going to provide much suction at all. Narrow ducts cause friction and reduce suction at the source of the dust.

Use blast gates — In order to close off areas or machines not in use, the blast gate can be closed. This allows you to have multiple arms of dust collection ducts and direct the suction to where it's needed.



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RELATED ARTICLES: Cyclone Dust Collectors (DecJan 2016), Top 10 Easy Gift Projects (DecJan 2015)

Protect against static electricity — Grounded wires wrapped around the ducts will reduce the chance of shock and combustion.

Clean machines — Check machines periodically to ensure larger pieces of wood are not blocking airflow, and reducing the suction near the dust source. Table saws commonly have strips of wood fall into the dust storage area, but some other machines may also have this problem.

Clean clogs — Ensure no ducts/hoses are clogged, as any obstruction will effect the airflow in the ducts, and reduce suction. Corners are especially vulnerable to this type of blockage.

Maybe use more, smaller collectors — Consider smaller dust collection units dedicated to distant machines. If your space is large, having two dust collectors may help to increase suction, compared to using a long run of ducting.

Use auto on/off devices — By using a remote/automatic device that automatically turns on the dust collector every time you turn on a machine you will never be without dust collection.

10 Use a dust mask — Don't be afraid to use a dust mask, especially when you're creating lots of fine dust; i.e., sanding.

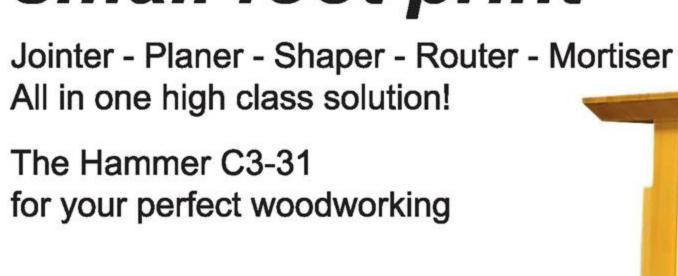


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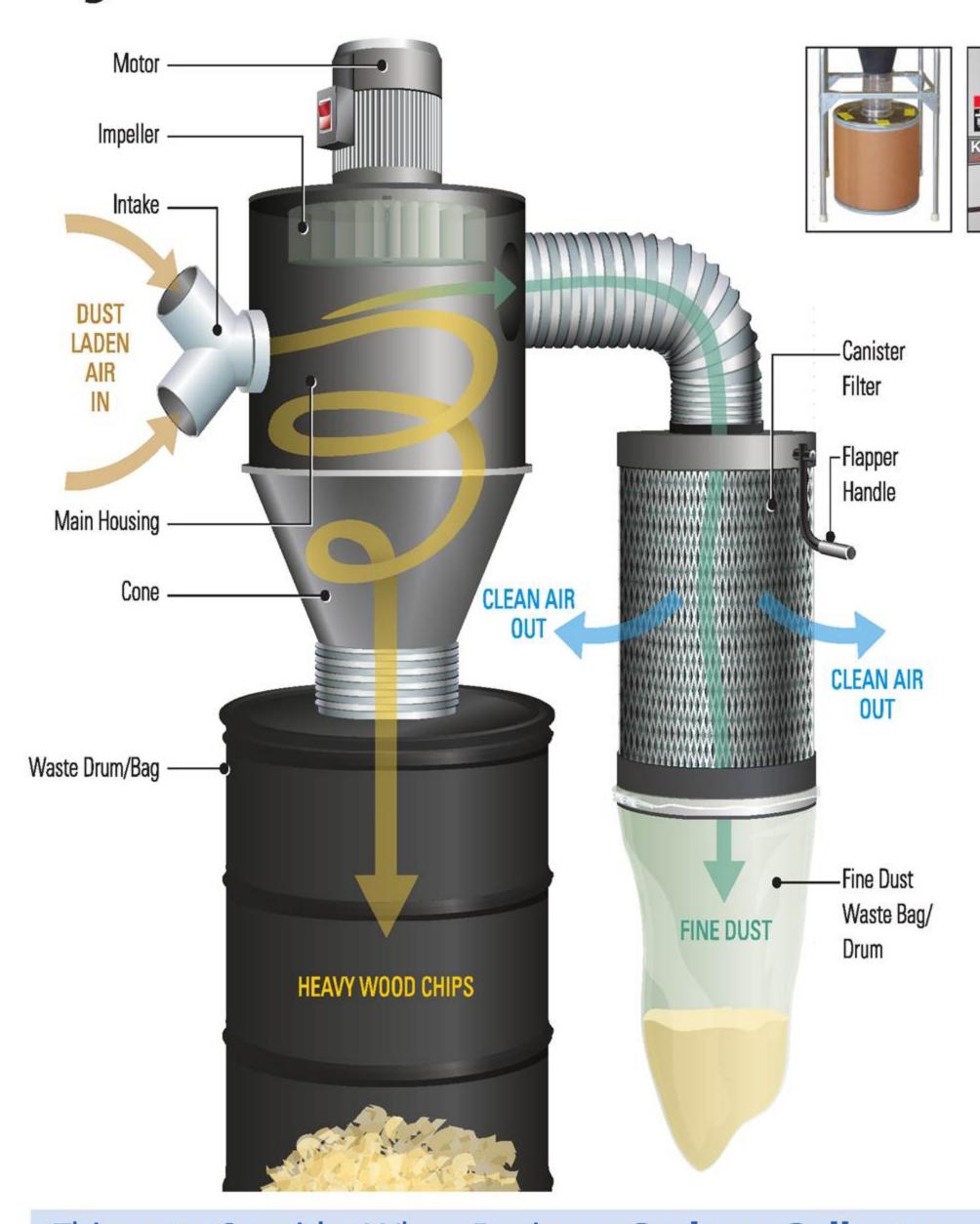
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Cyclone Dust Collectors



BY CARL DUGUAY

Cyclone collectors are more efficient at handling wood chips and dust than singlestage collectors. They work by drawing dust-laden air into the collector, where cyclonic action causes the heavy wood chips to spiral down a funnel into a waste container, while the lighter dust particles are drawn through an impeller into a filter canister. Clean air is vented out through the filter into the shop, and the fine dust settles into a waste bin. If the cyclone collector is equipped with a HEPA filter, it will remove dust particles down to 0.3 micron.

Price: \$1,200 and up Water lift: At least 8" CFM: 700 to 1,200 Amperage: 11 to 20 Warranty: 1 to 5 years

Things to Consider When Buying a Cyclone Collector

Customize your system

Individual machine CFM requirements, shop layout, and knowing which machines will be on at the same time will enable you to determine the optimal CFM and static pressure best suited for your shop.

Strong motor

The most likely component to fail on a dust collector is the motor. All things being equal, choose the collector with a longer motor warranty.

The finest dust

A 1-micron filter is typically standard a HEPA filter provides much better protection for your lungs.

Cyclone capacity

A larger dust capacity means a longer time between emptying.

Enough power

Ensure you have the right circuit in your shop to handle the motor amperage, as some collectors require a 20 amp circuit.

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Learn about the terms, tools, materials, and equipment necessary for installing or replacing interior trimwork.

BY CARL DUGUAY

here are many reasons why you might want to consider adding or upgrading trim in your home. Adding trim judiciously to the inside of your home is a great way to enhance the appearance of just about any room. Crown moulding, in particular, along with built-up baseboards, can soften the look of a room, while adding character – and even a touch of glamour.

You get a lot of bang for your buck – the materials used in trimwork are relatively inexpensive compared to other home

improvement projects. Most trim can be competently installed by the average DIYer, generally in less time than it takes to complete other projects.

Trim isn't only decorative; it's also functional, helping to protect walls from dings and dents, whether it's kids at play, repositioning furniture, or vacuuming the floors.

Besides adding aesthetic value to your home, it's likely to have a positive effect on your home's resale value, and how quickly it sells.

Plan for Success

As with most home improvement projects, there is a lot to be gained in planning before you begin to work. Haphazardly selected trim that is poorly installed is sure to look worse than no trim at all.

Select a trim style that matches the design and character of your home, or what you envision that look to be. In homes with 8-foot ceilings, trim in the 4" to 6" width range generally looks best. Before ordering stock, measure out the linear feet of trim that you need, and add at least 10% for waste. You'll find the job goes easier if you list or sketch out where each piece of trim goes, the length of each piece, and the type of joints you'll need to make.

Building supply centers can often order from a wider range of styles than they typically stock on their racks. Don't exclude local millwork shops – while you can expect to pay more (though prices may only be marginally higher), they typically offer higher quality trim in unique styles.

There are only a few key joints used in trimwork – take the time to practice the joints you aren't familiar with. Assemble the tools you'll need before you begin the work.

Begin with the easiest trimwork (baseboards) before moving on to the more exacting work (crown moulding). Start in rooms that are less important: storage room, laundry room, basement, closets – where you can practice your technique and build confidence. And, if you begin to feel frustrated or tired, stop. There isn't any prize for getting it all done in one fell swoop.

Material Choices

Solid Wood — There are four basic types of material to choose from. Solid wood is the traditional choice, the king of trim, and is priced accordingly. Because it is less dimensionally stable than other materials it needs to be more carefully installed.

Fibreboard — If you plan to paint the trim, then mediumor high-density fibreboard (MDF, HDF) is a good choice, except in bathrooms, kitchens, and rooms subject to fluctuating moisture levels. It generates a lot more dust than solid wood, and it is more fragile to handle and install.

Finger-Jointed Solid — An alternative to MDF is finger-jointed trim. It is more impact resistant than MDF and typically comes in longer lengths. However, be careful when selecting stock as quality can vary considerably.



Composite – There are also composite trim materials. Polyurethane (particularly the 'architectural grade') is just as durable as MDF, but lighter in weight, and is well suited for curved installations. It comes in a wider range of styles and is easy to cut and install. Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and vinyl are economy materials, and come in a more limited range of styles. PVC is less dimensionally stable than polyurethane, while vinyl tends to have a more institutional look. Polystyrene is superlight, making it the easiest trim to cut and install (with caulking), but it's the least durable trim.

Remember, if using solid wood or finger-jointed boards, make sure you let the wood acclimatize for at least a week or so before using it. While composite materials shrink significantly less than solid wood, it's still a good idea to let them breathe for a few days before installation.

Tool Up

Basic tools for the job include a hammer, tape measure, try or combination square, level, coping saw, chalk line, sand paper, caulking gun, nails and glue. For cutting trim, the best tool to use is a compound mitre saw. If trimming a single room you can always rent the saw. Otherwise you can use a table saw or a handsaw and mitre box.

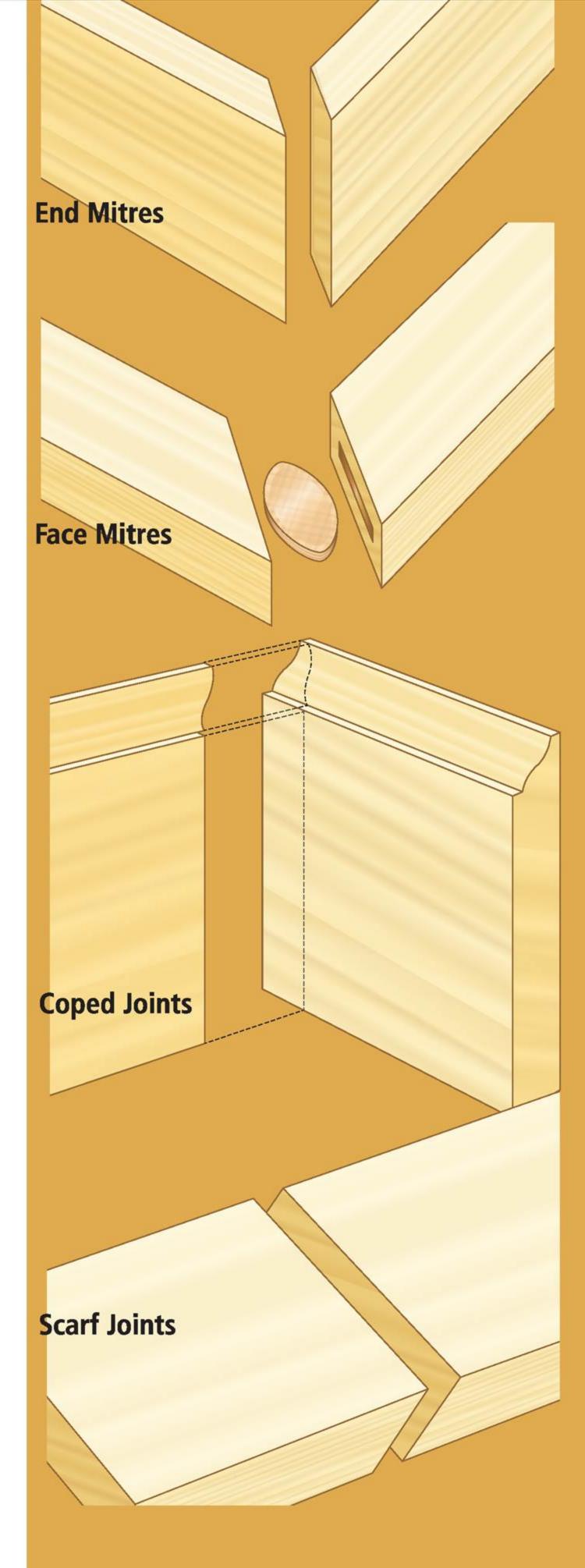
I reinforce mitre joints on solid wood trim whenever possible. A biscuit joiner works well for this application. For installing the trim, you'll find a brad or finish nailer makes the job go a whole lot quicker and easier. Otherwise, hand-nail the trim in place. You'll also want to glue all the joints together, and after the trim is installed, caulk the seams between the trim and wall.

Four Joints You Need to Practice

The key to a professional look are clean, tight joints. The three most common joints you'll find in trimwork are end mitres (for outside corners), face mitres, and coped joints (for inside corners). Mitres are relatively easy to make, particularly with a mitre saw. When joining multiple lengths of trim along long walls you'll also cut scarf joints, which are mitre cuts made at 45°.

Yes, coped joints are somewhat more difficult to make (particularly in composite materials) but certainly not beyond the skill of the average DIYer. Typically, only one trim board needs to be coped - the other trim board rests flush against the wall. For this you'll need a coping saw and patience. Practice on scrap stock before you begin your trim job. You can also cut the coped joint before cutting the piece of trim to length. If you make a mess of the coped joint you can simply cut an inch or so of material off and start over.

If trimwork is new to you, or if joinery was never your strength, grab a few pieces of wood and start practicing these joints. Using 3/4" - 1" thick stock works great, as it's at least as thick as most of the trim you will be using. It's generally easier to hide your mistakes when using thinner wood, so by using stock that's thicker than average your mistakes will be highlighted for you to see, and in turn learn from, before you start working on the real thing. Any practice you put into these joints will also pay off in your furniture making, as joint accuracy is also crucial then.



From Floor to Ceiling

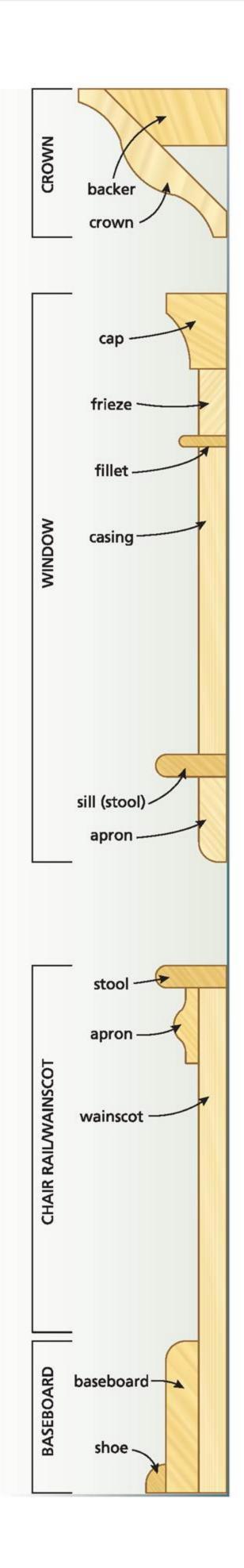
Baseboards — The easiest trim to install starts at the bottom of the wall. Baseboards cover the gap between the flooring and the wall, and serve to protect the wall from damage. Visually, they serve to anchor the wall to the floor. The simplest install is just the baseboard. However, a more refined look includes a shoe, installed in front of the baseboard, and a cap, installed over top the baseboard. Composite baseboards sometimes incorporate all three elements into a single piece of trim.

Chair rail/Wainscot — While you can install a chair rail by itself, it's often incorporated into wainscot. The chair rail, like the baseboard, protects the wall from damage (traditionally from chairs). It also visually breaks the tall expanse of walls. It can be particularly effective in homes with high ceilings.

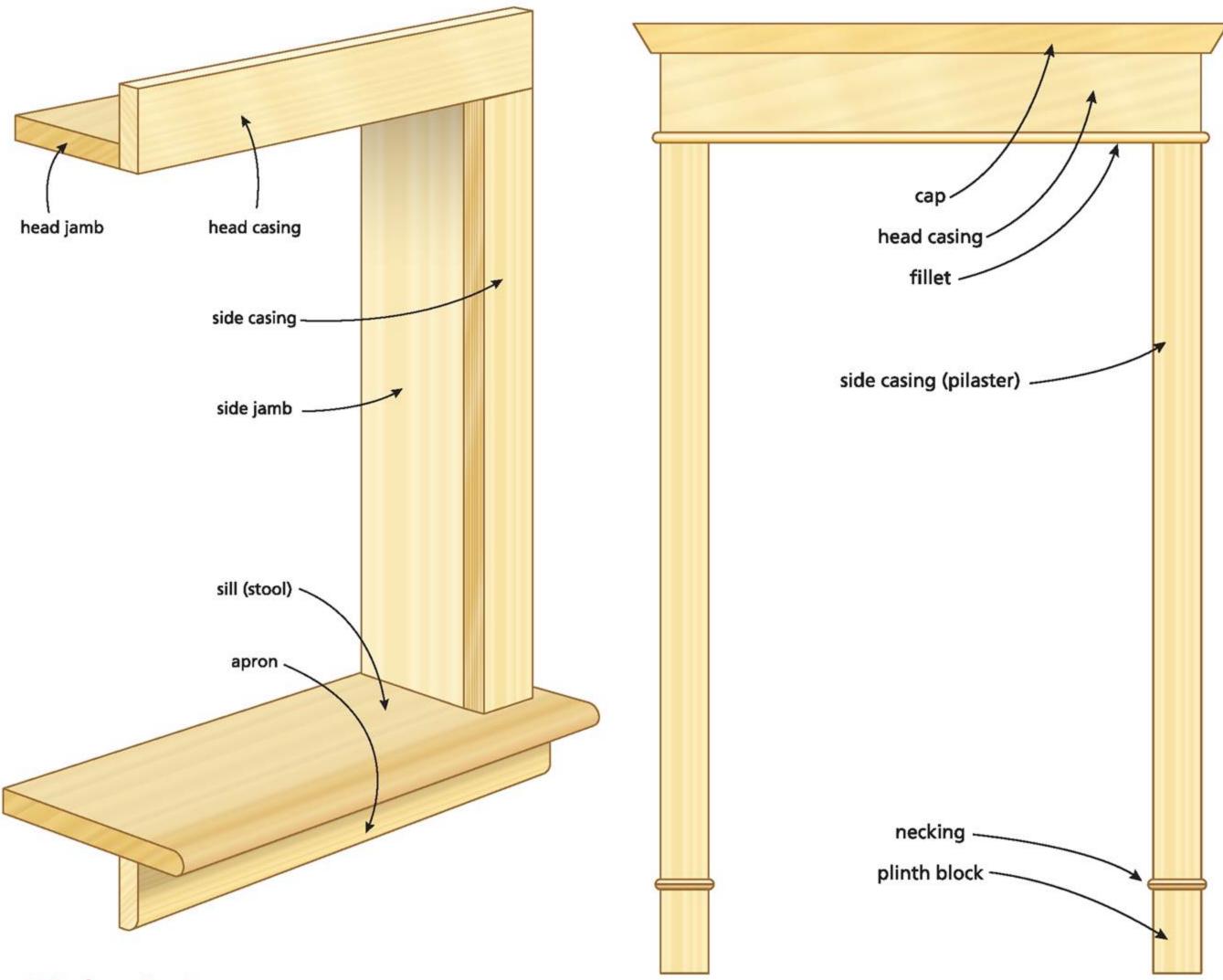
Wainscot covers the section of wall from the baseboard to the chair rail. It can be installed for practical reasons (over damaged plaster or gyprock walls) or, more commonly, for its aesthetic appeal. The wainscot panels can be made of solid wood, cabinet grade plywood, beadboard, or composite materials.

Crown Moulding — Where baseboards anchor the floor to the wall, crown moulding anchors the wall to the ceiling. The curved profile of crown moulding takes away the abrupt, sharp angle where the ceiling and wall meet.

Installing crown moulding is more demanding than other trimwork, in part because you're working on a ladder, over your head. Also, unlike baseboards, any inconsistencies in the moulding are much more apparent. And it can be awkward to install long sections of moulding, so having a helper is quite useful. Perhaps you've tackled the installation of other trimwork in your home, yet feel uncomfortable with the thought of doing the crown work. There's no shame in hiring a contractor to finish the job for you.







Window Casings - The best time to replace window casings is when you're upgrading your windows. Fortunately, removing casings isn't overly onerous. In some cases you can significantly enhance the appearance of a room by replacing the head and side casings, along with the apron, while retaining the head and side jams, and sill. Regardless, this is a more time-consuming job that is best taken on during mild weather and when you're not pressed for time.

Door Casings - As with windows, you might think to upgrade door casings only when replacing doors. However, if you'll be installing new baseboard and crown moulding in a room, changing door casings can have a dramatic impact on the look of the room. And, as with window casings, it's not overly difficult.

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New Kreg Organizer and System

Kreg Tool Company is proud to announce the launch of two great new products: the Kreg System Organizer, and the Kreg Jig K5 Master System.

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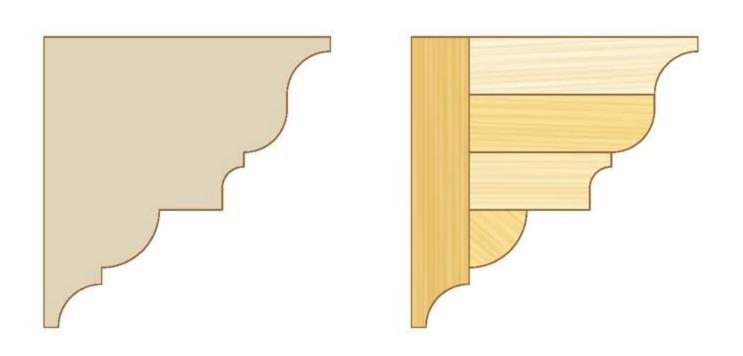
The Kreg Jig K5 Master System (Item# K5MS – US\$169.99) combines the Kreg Jig with premium accessories. The Master System includes the fully-featured Kreg Jig K5, plus a 3" Automaxx auto-adjusting clamp, a base, and three downloadable project plans. For more information visit www.kregtool.com

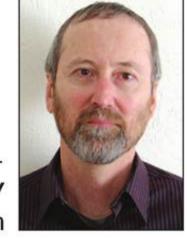


Built-up Moulding — In some instances, particularly in older homes, finding crown moulding to match existing ornate moulding can be difficult or costly. The solution may lay in creating matching moulding by building it up with off-the-shelf or shop-made mouldings. You can use this same approach to create your own unique trim for window and door casings. Sometimes specific looks can only be achieved by using this built-up approach. And as woodworkers we have the tools and skills to create the mouldings ourselves with basic tooling like routers, router tables and table saws. If you really want to get ornate you can add texture, or other small details, to the moulding to help differentiate it from store-bought trim.

Conclusion

If you're looking for a way to really jazz up any room in your home, consider upgrading the trimwork. The key to success is pacing yourself, tackling one section at a time and making precisely cut joints. If you'll be installing a fair amount of trim, consider investing in a compound mitre saw – it will make the job a lot easier and you'll have a great power tool that will be highly useful for a lot of other woodworking projects.

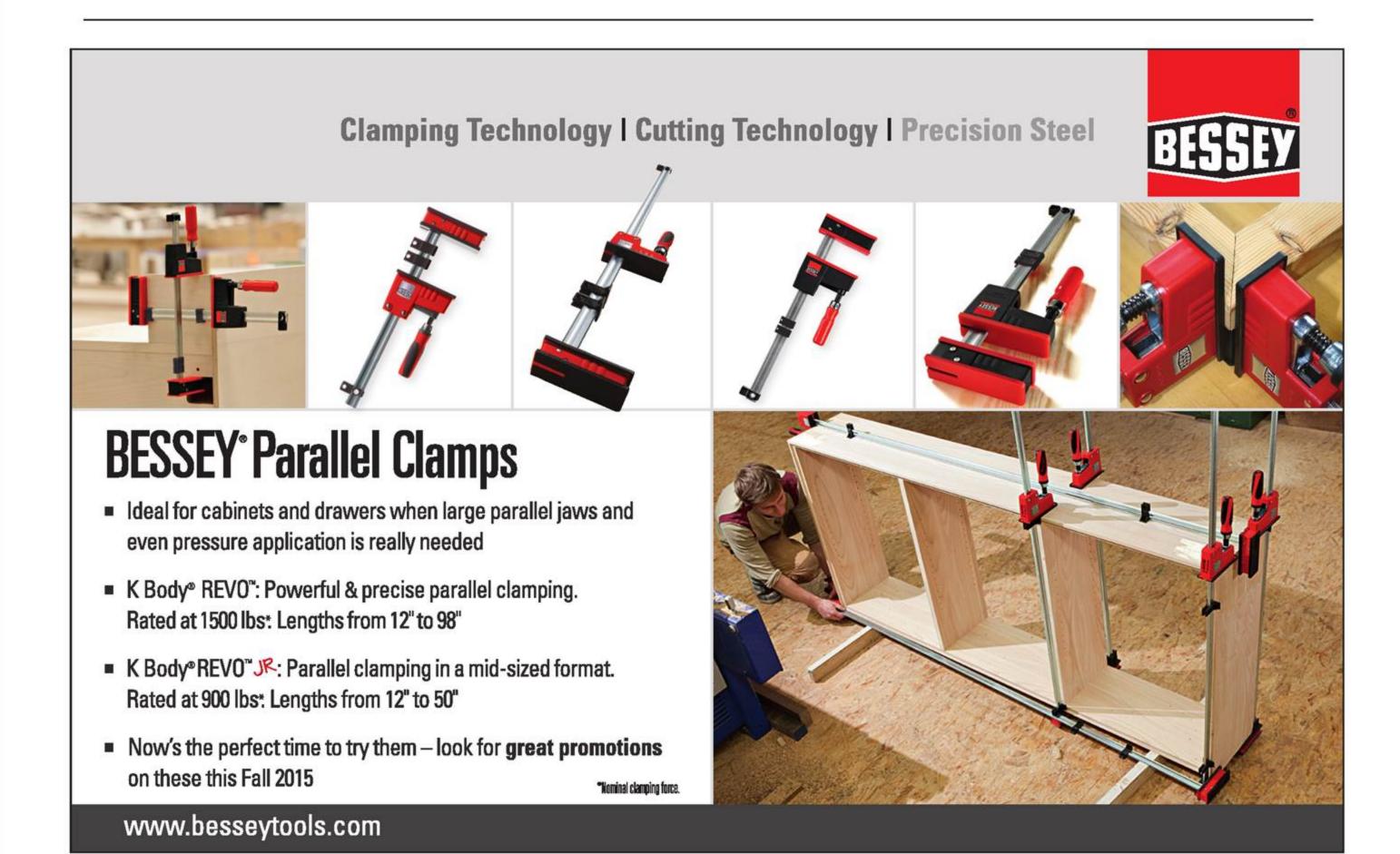




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Making a Louis Cube Design



This type of design is quite easy to create, as long as you have the proper jigs and can work fairly accurately.

BY JEREMY PRINGLE

arquetry is the use of geometrical shapes to create a design. The Louis cube is named after King Louis XIV, as the pattern was very popular and widely used during his 72 years as the King of France. Comprised of parallelograms, the pattern can easily take on a 3D effect, which you can find yourself staring at for long periods of time. I have found that using the three domestic hardwoods (cherry, walnut and maple) has the most striking effect; however, using a single species can also have a very interesting effect.

The key to this whole process is getting the jigs and the process set up just right, in a way that works for you.

Parallelogram layout

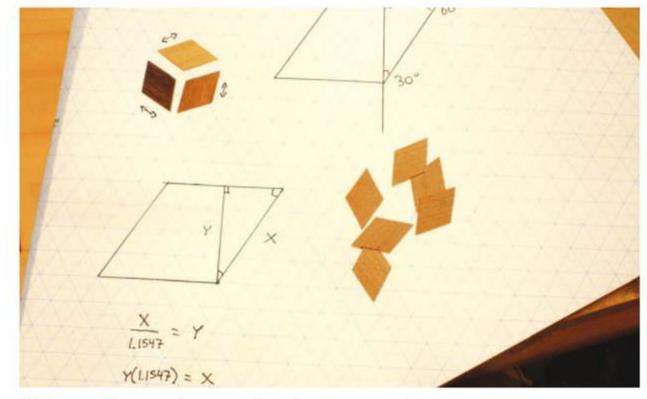
I used isometric paper to layout a parallelogram that would be the main building block for this design. If you draw, then dissect, the parallelogram, you can make a 30-60-90 right angle triangle and work from it. Using that triangle you can make any size parallelogram you want. Another easy way to figure out the correct size is to multiply the length of the long side of a right angle triangle by 1.1547 to find the length of the hypotenuse. For example, I used a 15mm wide rule as my cutting width (Y), so I used my razor-saw to cut the second kerf in the jig just over 17mm (X) away from the veneer stop.

Three jigs

Shooting board: A shooting board and a plane or hard-backed sanding block to joint all the edges of the veneer so they are smooth and square, giving you seamless joints.

Cutting board: A piece of MDF with a jointed fence glued to one side. The jointed veneer gets pushed up against the fence when it is being cut to size with a steel rule as cutting guide.

Mitre jig: I made a small mitre jig using some small scraps and a piece of MDF. To make your own for this project, use a dovetail-saw to make the first kerf, as a small piece of veneer will fit in the kerf perfectly to be used as stop. The other slot should be cut with the saw that you intend to use. I use a razor-saw.



Oh no, Geometery! — Pringle uses one of two options to create the correct parallelogram. In the method pictured at the top of this image, once you create a 30-60-90 triangle you can transfer the angle to the opposite side and ensure the four sides are of equal length. The lower example is to draw two lines that meet each other at a 90° angle. Multiply the length of one line segment ("Y" in photo) by 1.1547 to determine the required length of the hypotenuse ("X" in photo). The resulting triangle gives you the correct angle to transfer to the opposite side, creating the parallelogram with four sides of equal length.





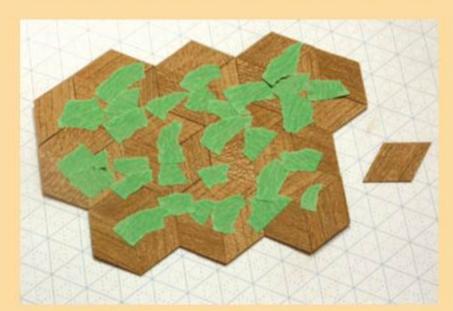
Cut to Size – Using the mitre jig, Pringle cuts the strips of veneer to correct length, at the correct angle. Notice the piece of veneer in one of the kerfs, which acts as a stop, making repeated cuts simple.

Three Jigs – The jig towards the left (supporting the knife and 6" metal rule) has a hardwood edge that allows the veneer to fit underneath it. Veneer is pressed up against the inner edge of the jig and is cut with the knife to obtain strips of specific width. Next, the jig on the bottom of the pile is used to sand/joint the edges of the veneer strips straight. The small mitre box jig is used to cut the strips of veneer into individual parallelograms.

Process

Using the shooting board and either a hand plane set up to take a very, very small cut, or a shooting sander (I prefer the sander, as figured veneer rarely planes perfectly) shoot one edge of a piece of veneer along the grain. Push the veneer up against the cutting board fence and put your cutting guide on top. Using a sharp knife and multiple light passes, cut the veneer to width. Joint the freshly cut edge as well, just to make sure that the edge is perfectly square.

Using a razor-saw and the jig, you can now cut the strips of veneer to the proper length and into parallelograms. Use a piece of 400 grit sandpaper to gently sand



Initial Taping - As the assembled sheet of parallelograms sometimes needs adjustment to get the overall shape and angles perfect, it's best to use low-tack green tape first. The green tape goes on the underside of the finished sheet of veneer.

off the tiny chips left from the saw. Once three pieces are cut, double check to make sure they form a perfect cube. If not, diagnose and make adjustments accordingly.

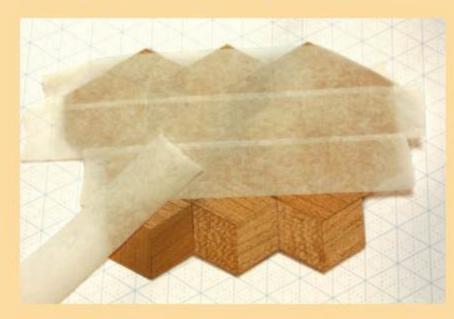
When I assemble the pattern, I like to use either isometric paper or graph paper as a background as it helps me keep things aligned.

Assemble the pattern with the glue side up (finished surface down). Use green masking tape at this step, as it does not stick that well and will allow you to make adjustments if required.

Once that pattern is the required size, flip it over and use veneer tape on the show side. The veneer tape will shrink as it dries pulling the pattern together and closing up any tiny gaps, but it will also curl your design. While the tape is drying, put something heavy and flat on top of it to so it stays flat. Once the tape is dry, carefully remove all the green tape.

Glue, smooth and finish

The pattern will need to be glued to a substrate. Almost anything can be used, plywood, MDF, or my choice:



Final Taping - Once the overall shape and angles are acceptable, flip the sheet right side up and apply veneer tape across all the joints, before removing the green tape.

quarter-sawn softwood panels. Once the substrate is sized, glue up both sides of the panel at the same time using glue and a press. I use liquid hide glue. Use wax paper in between the work piece and the cauls, so squeeze-out does not stick everything together. A veneer press is ideal, but clamps and cauls will work fine, especially for smaller surfaces. A vacuum bag is great, if you have access to one.

Give the glue 24 hours in the press to cure. Any joinery or grooves that need to be made should be made now while the veneer tape is still attached.

To remove the veneer tape, use a damp cloth and a card scraper. Lightly wet the tape with the cloth, and the adhesive will reactivate and can be removed easily. Careful though - too much water and you could reactivate the glue and lift the panel. Ensure all the tape is off before scraping the surface smooth. I have found a thin card scraper with a small 3-5° burr works best.

Once your project is complete, use the finish of your choice, and watch as your family and friends are mesmerized.

> JEREMY PRINGLE jerbreep@gmail.com





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HotProducts2015

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Why It's Hot: The spindle comes with a hex head spindle to facilitate clamping. This feature is not to



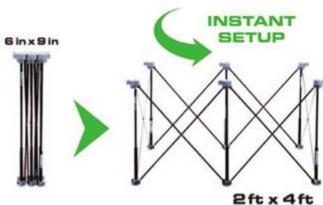
augment clamping force but rather, to make it easier for highly repetitive clamping functions or for those with wrist strength issues.

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www.easyradiantworks.com

Kreg **System** Organizer

The Kreg System Organizer stores your Kreg Jig and the other components of your Kreg Joinery system, such as Kreg clamps, drill and driver bits, drill guide blocks, Kreg Screws, and more in one compact, organized place. Custom molded inserts protect all of your Kreg gear, but still allow flexibility depending on which Kreg Jig and accessories you own.

Why It's Hot: The System Organizer holds a Kreg Jig K3, K4, or K5, plus many more Kreg Joinery accessories. Inserts secure



everything, but still allow versatility so that no section goes to waste, regardless of which model of Kreg Jig you own.

\$49.99

www.kregtools.com

DEWALT 20V Max XR Cordless 16 gauge Angled Finish Nailer

EWALT introduces the DCN660, Dits most advanced, light-weight, compact, and highly anticipated 20V MAX Cordless 16 GA Angled Finish Nailer with EXTREME RUNTIME (XR), powered by a Lithium Ion battery. With its efficient brushless motor, this cordless finish nailer is designed to be the primary finish nailer for Contractor's, Remodelers, Trim and Finish Carpenters, and Cabinet Makers and Installers.

Why It's Hot: Features of the DCN660 include tool-free jam release, tool-free depth adjustment, and tool-free stall release. It features a simple tool-free selectable trigger



system that allows its actuation mode to be changed from sequential fire to bump for fast pace work.

\$499 for the Kit \$409 for unit only.

www.dewalt.com

DEWALT Random Orbit

Sander

This new sander is part of DEWALT's Perform & Protect line of power tools, designed to provide a high level of one or more of the following: control, dust containment, or low vibration - without sacrificing performance. To minimize vibration, a separate counterweight provides user with comfort and control.

Why It's Hot: The shortest and one of the lightest 5" random orbit sanders in its class at 140mm in height and only 2.9 lbs., the DWE6423K is a powerful 3 amp



tool, delivering 8,000 to 12,000 OPM on a 3/32" orbit. With the decreased height, users get closer to the sanding surface making sanding projects easier.

\$109

www.dewalt.com

Stanley **Bluetooth Laser Distance Measurer**

This new lightweight and compact Laser Distance Measurer - model STHT77343 - with Bluetooth, syncs the TLM99s to smart phones and tablets via the STANLEY Floor Plan App. It makes job estimates quick and easy, instantly calculating square footage, volume, and distance. STANLEY Floor Plan is available for download through iTunes or Google Play store.

Why It's Hot: The multi-functional TLM99s fits in a pocket and is a great tool for builders, remodelers, real estate agents,



contractors, landscapers, painters, and do-it-yourselfers.

The TLM99s is available at home centres across Canada for \$149.

www.stanleytools.com

Minwax **Wood Finishing Cloths**

These finishing cloths offer you the convenience of a one step stain and finish system. The package consists of eight premoistened cloths impregnated with stain - enough to cover 50 square feet - along with plastic gloves to keep your hands clean. Recoat after 1 hour for an even deeper color and sheen. Clean up with soap and water.

Why It's Hot: They're perfect when you only need to stain a small project. Easy to use and economical. No mixing, no brushes, dries quickly, easy clean up, and available in five popular colours: natural oak, maple, chestnut, dark mahogany, and walnut.

www.minwax.com



Task **Quickdraw TQ270**

Task Quickdraw is the quickest & most accurate measuring and marking instrument available on the market. The Rollmark wheel, perfectly calibrated to the Tru-View sight, lays down a crisp graphite line. Each graphite load makes over 1000 marks and there are 10 refills included. Now you can measure and mark with one hand and be perfectly accurate every time!

Why It's Hot: With Task Quickdraw, users no longer need a pencil and the unique sighting device above the tape blade ensures accurate marks. Task Tools has a product video on their website:



task-tools.com/quickdraw. It's not a tape measure, it's Task Quickdraw! www.task-tools.com/ quickdraw

KREG **DIY Project Kit**

The DIY Project Kit combines three must-have tools to create custom home-organizing products: the Kreg Rip-Cut, the Kreg Jig R3, and the Kreg Shelf Pin Jig. With this kit, a drill



and a circular saw, you can create high-quality projects for your home easily and economically.

Why It's Hot: It's simply the ultimate do-it-yourself, home-improvement kit that will have you building custom home-organizing projects in no time! Price offer for a limited time: \$99.99

www.elitetools.ca

SuperMax **Drum Sander** with **Open Stand**

mpeccable for the small shops or woodworking enthusiast, the SuperMax 19-38 Drum Sander reduces the tedious job of sanding by hand, speeds up the process and consistency. It also has the INTELLISAND Technology that automatically adjusts conveyor speed based on load for the maximum results.

Why It's Hot: The 19-38 Drum Sander was awarded 5 out of 5 stars by WOOD magazine, and received the Editor's Pick award from American Woodworker magazine.



MSRP: \$1 849.00 (Shown with optional accessories and supplies)

www.elitetools.ca

Fein MultiMaster 350 Q

Introducing the next generation, the new FEIN MultiMaster FMM 350 Q

Made in Germany, state-of-the-art design featuring a unique anti-vibration system for minimum physical strain and safe working.

Powerful 350 Watt motor with high copper content for continuous use and maximum power, combined with outstanding noise insulation, low weight, and easy handling.

Why It's Hot:

- Up to 35% more power!
- Up to 50% less operating noise!
- Up to 70% less vibration!
- Dare to compare!



Sold in sets starting at \$199. www.fein.ca

Diablo **Pergo Laminate** Flooring Saw Blades

The new Diablo Pergo Blades are the first blades specially designed for cutting all makes of laminate flooring. Cutting life is extended because of polycrystalline diamond (PCD) tipped teeth, Triple Chip Grind (TCG) tooth design, and low tooth count with anti-kickback design. The anti-vibration design provides smooth, effortless cuts and the perma-SHIELD coating combats drag.

Why It's Hot: This is the only blade approved by Pergo for cutting their material. Laminate flooring contains aluminum oxide, which is



extremely abrasive to carbide blades. Diablo's specially formulated carbide tip is resistant to aluminum oxide, allowing it to deliver 75 times the cutting life compared to other blades.

From \$149 - \$199 www.diablotools.com/ Pergoblade

Laguna Revo 18|36 Lathe

aguna Tools is leading the Revo-Llution! This new generation lathe features a steel bed, electronic variable speed, triple spindle indexing with lock, and headstock and tailstock handles situated on the back to eliminate interruption to workflow. The Revo 18|36 also features a tall profile tool-rest, onboard storage in the tailstock, and an optional 20" multi-function extension.

Why It's Hot: The Revo 18|36 Lathe features a brand new design that will excite any serious bowl turner! From the ergonomic angled control panel, to the smooth traveling cast iron headstock, to the



cone-shaped headstock for easier access, it harnesses the strength of a lathe and takes it years beyond the competition.

Find Canadian dealers:

www.lagunatools.com/ Dealer-Locator

King Canada 12" x 18" Variable **Speed Benchtop Lathe**

With a 1 HP, 7 Amp motor, the KWL-1218VS provides ample power for all your small scale turning needs. It features precise spindle speed digital readout; variable speed from 450 - 3,800 RPM, with reverse switch; 24 indexing positions with



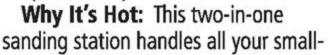
spindle lock; a work light with 18" flex shaft; and a heavy cast iron bed. An optional bed extension increases spindle capacity to 44". Includes faceplate, tool 6" & 12" rests, and spur and live centres.

Why It's Hot: This benchtop lathe saves shop space and money, yet enables you to turn a wide range of projects, including bowls, platters, pens, drawer pulls, chair spindles, coffee table legs, tool handles, and a host of toy parts and craft items.

www.kingcanada.com

King Canada 1" x 42" **Belt and 8" Disc Sander**

The KC-703C features a powerful 1/2 HP motor with a 5.8 Amp current draw. Solid cast-iron body and tables and steel base adds stability and minimizes vibration. The tables tilt from 0° to 45° for bevel work. A single knob enables you to track the belt and adjust tension. Dual 1-3/4" and 2" dust ports easily connect to a shop vac for optimal dust extraction.



parts finishing including sanding, surfacing, grinding, sharpening, cleaning, and deburring on wood, metal, and plastics.

www.kingcanada.com

Flexcut **Beginner 3-Blade Craft Carver Set**

☐ lexcut's Beginner Craft Carver Set is a convenient and economical way to get started in the rewarding and honored craft of woodcarving. The set includes a palm tool handle, three interchangeable carving blades, and a bass wood blank for carving a cowboy boot for a first project. The set comes with a stepby-step DVD along with an easy to read manual and project guide.

Why It's Hot: The Starter Set makes a perfect holiday gift. It enables new carvers to achieve impressive results with their very first project.



SK110 MSRP: \$39.95

www.flexcut.com

Flexcut Knives

☐ lexcut knives are precision made for maximum performance. Their highcarbon steel blades have durable points, hold an edge extremely well and are easily maintained by simple stropping. Each knife is expertly handsharpened and tested before shipping, so it's ready to use right out of the package. Comfortable, curved ash handles allow for long periods of carving without hand fatigue. In addition to those pictured, a wide range of knives are available to handle every task from roughing in to fine detail carving.

Why they're Hot: Flexcut knives are versatile, well-engineered tools, 100% North American made, assembled and sourced. The top pick of pro carvers, hobbyists and woodworkers around the world.

www.flexcut.com



Flexcut **Carvin' Jack**

The 6-Blade Carvin' Jack is the world's first folding multi-tool for woodcarving. It's equipped with 2 scorps, straight gouge, a hook knife, chisel, and a detail knife. You also get a slip strop, a bar of Flexcut Gold polishing compound to keep your blades sharp, and a leather belt-mounted sheath that looks good with jeans or even your better pants.

Why It's Hot: The only tool like it in the world - A woodcarving set in your pocket.

JKN91

MSRP: \$152.95 www.flexcut.com



Amana Tool **ZrN Coated CNC Bits**

mana Tool's broad line Amana Tool's broad IIII of ZrN coated 2D/3D Solid Carbide Spiral CNC bits cannot be beat.

Bits are specially designed for profiling and carving in plastic, foam, aluminum, & wood and other materials.

Collection includes ball nose, flat bottom, straight or tapered Spiral Up-Cut bits.

Amana's ZrN bits are sold individually (46280 - tapered ballnose, costs \$44.70) and in sets. (8 pc set #AMS-136, costs \$309.68)

Why It's Hot: Proprietary ZrN coating along with a high grade of solid carbide and superior grinding provides high resistance to wear, sharper cutting edges, extended tool life and less friction & heat buildup. Also allows for super precise detail work. Perfect for many applications.

www.amanatool.com

General International 12" x 17" Variable Speed Maxi-Lathe VS+

C turdy build with a full Cast-iron head, tailstock, and bed. 3 variable speed ranges from 300-3600 RPM with forward/ reverse switch, ideal for turning and sanding operations. Maximum distance between centers of 17



5/16" with 12" swing and a 180° pivoting head for outboard turning.

Why It's Hot: A mini-lathe with all the features and performance needed for serious turning. Precision electronic speed controller with digital display allows turners to dial in the exact spindle speed they need for their most demanding projects.

Retail Price: \$829.99 www.general.ca

General International 17" Variable Speed Drill Press

C table cast-iron head, table, and base, and > precision bearings for smooth vibrationfree performance. Featuring a 17" swing and a 3 1/8" spindle travel, the 75-165 is equipped with an industrial quality 3/4 HP 120V motor, standard 5/8" keyed chuck 3 1/8" polished steel column, built-in laser pointer, safety switch with lock-out key, and see-through flip-up chuck guard.

Why It's Hot: Simple easy to use hand lever controlled mechanical variable speed from 280 to 2100 rpm with digital speed display allows user to always be drilling at the correct speed without the need for expensive electronics.

Retail Price: \$679.99 www.general.ca



Milescraft AccuDrillMate

Milescraft AccuDrillMate is per-fect for straight or angled drilling on the edge of a board or on round stock. Works with standard or masonry drill bits, forstner bits, spade bits and much more. All metal construction delivers control and accuracy. The guide base features self-centering channels on top and bottom and an angular readout from 90° to 45°.

Why It's Hot: Milescraft AccuDrillMate is just the tool to provide you the precision and ease of drilling straight holes all of the time. You will get the precision of a drill press, with the ease of a hand drill.



MSRP: \$41.99 www.milescraft.com

Milescraft **Drive90PLUS**

Milescraft Drive90PLUS allows you to drive screws into tight spaces using your drill or impact driver. The new and improved design is compact and tough, making this the ideal right angle accessory. The gears are enhanced for durability and longer life. The magnetic ¼" hex socket accepts most standard hex accessories, such as bits, spade bits, and nut drivers.

Why It's Hot: Impact ready, with a compact ergonomic design; lets you

access those hard to reach areas. Robust, yet lightweight construction confidently handles all your confined drilling needs. Easily drive over 800 screws!! MSRP: \$23.99

www.milescraft.com



General International 1 1/2 HP **Portable 2-stage Dust Collector**

C teel support frame and collection drum both mounted on smooth rolling Casters for complete mobility within the shop. Collects and separates large

chips into the included 30 gallon collection drum with fine dust filtered by a 1 micron high efficiency canister. Special design quickremove lid mechanism for fast, tool-free drum cleaning. Convenient remote controller also included.

Why It's Hot: 2-stage cyclonic dust collection technology in a portable unit that's practical for most small shops. The 10-805CF has a deliberately simple design for easy trouble-free maintenance and is equipped with crank handle/internal shaker for messfree canister filter cleaning.

Retail Price: \$1599.99 www.general.ca



General International MDF Router Table **Kit with Phenolic Router Plate**

This 24" x 32" x 1 1/4" MDF router table is mounted to a sturdy tubular steel stand with mobility kit, adjustable leveling feet and easy access on/off safety switch with lock-out key. The deluxe 32" fence has adjustable scales and 2 1/4" dust port. A standard sized 9 1/4" x 11 3/4" phenolic router plate is included.

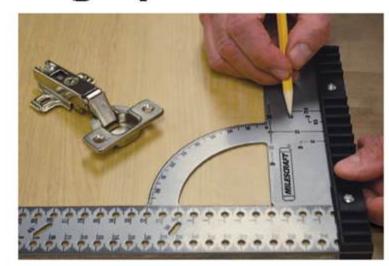
Why It's Hot: Featuring the heft, stability, and all of the primary features needed for serious table top routing applications, the 40-200MEP is designed to be a welcome addition for a majority of



home and professional workshops. Retail Price: \$709.99 www.general.ca

Milescraft FramingSquares

Milescraft FramingSquares are ideal in referencing measurements for many projects, such as shelf pins, parallel lines, hinges, etc. These FramingSquares come in both imperial and metric sizes. Imperial sizes available are 8"x12" and 11"x20". Metric sizes available are



200mmx300mm and 280mmx500mm. Incorporated into the design, are 30°, 45°, and 60° quick angle finders, for easy marking.

Why It's Hot: Removable edge guide feature allows for easy, accurate measurement all the time. Has built in layout and marking holes for European concealed hinges. Multi use product for a great value!

MSRP: \$11.99-\$17.99

www.milescraft.com

Grizzly 10" Hybrid Table Saw

This hybrid is a selec-I tive blend of the best features of the contractor-style table saw and cabinet style table saw. Like the cabinet saw, it has an enclosed cabinet with 4" dust port, and plenty of power with its 2 HP motor. Like the contractor-style saw, it's still light enough to move around and it's easy on the budget.

Why It's Hot: The G0771 saw features heavy-duty cast-iron trunnions that mount to the cabinet and an innovative quick-release blade



guard and riving knife system that can be changed in seconds.

Cost: Reg. \$795. Sale \$675 USD

www.grizzly.com

Grizzly G1071 Oscillating
Spindle Sander

This sander's big 25" x 25" table makes cabinet doors and other large projects a breeze to edge sand - and the wide variety of interchangeable spindles turns custom work into "child's" play.

Why It's Hot: The wide variety of interchangeable spindles turns custom work into "child's" play. The spindle sander will satisfy the needs of both the professional and serious hobbyist. The large cast iron table tilts 45° left and 15° right and Includes ten spindle sizes: 1/4" x 5", 3/8" x 6", 1/2" x 6", 5/8" x 6",



1" x 9", 1-1/2" x 9", 2" x 9", 3" x 9", 4" x 9".

Cost: \$775 USD

www.grizzly.com

Abranet ACE – AC Series

branet Ace is developed to achieve Houtstanding results on tougher and most demanding sanding applications.

Why It's Hot: Because of its optimized net construction and ceramic grains, Abranet Ace offers superior cut and performance for hard wood (such as beech and oak) and fast cutting on various solid surface materials. Abranet Ace also is excellent when used on primer sanding applications, creating



an optimal balance of performance and life span.

Removal of dust particles eliminates loading and pilling problems, therefore the product retains its original aggressive sanding performance for far longer. Available in 3", 5" and 6" and in Grit range P80-P1000

www.mirka.com

Grizzly **Planer**

or the ultimate in portability, the Model G0790 is Grizzly's most compact planer. Weighing in at just 65 lbs., this 12-1/2" planer handles stock up to 4-1/2" thick at a feed rate of 26 FPM.

Why It's Hot: Solid construction, a powerful 2 HP motor, and a small footprint make this an excellent choice for off-site projects or small shops.

Cost: \$285 USD www.grizzly.com



Grizzly G1023RLW 10" 3 HP 240V Cabinet Left-Tilting Table Saw

The new line of "G1023R" series table saws feature a new riving knife system, serpentine-belt power transfer that runs quieter & smoother, encapsulated dust collection around the underside of the blade, and an improved quickrelease blade guard.

Why It's Hot: We've included a built-in router table that doubles as a table extension wing. The router table includes support legs & universal T-track router clamping system, & the Shop Fox Classic Fence for the table saw doubles as a router table fence.



Cost: \$1,375 USD www.grizzly.com

Mirka **DEROS**

nequaled Performance. Brushless DC Power.

The MIRKA DEROS (Direct Electric Random Orbital Sander) – not only the first ever electric sanding machine with a brushless motor and no external power supply, it is also light, powerful, ultra-reliable and offers far superior performance to conventional electric and pneumatic sanders.

Why It's Hot: Mirka DEROS has a soft start function, a built in electronic motor brake and a smooth, easy to operate lever to control motor speed. Its performance is



comparable to a conventional 500W electric machine and that ensures it maintains a constant speed even under heavy load.

Available in 5" (5 mm orbit), 6" (2.5 mm orbit) and 6" (5.0 mm orbit).

www.mirka.com

Oneida **V-1500 HEPA Dust Collector**

This dust collector has a 1.5 HP U.S. I made Baldor motor and generates approx. 949 CFM @ 1.8" S.P. It is 87" high x 47" wide x 32.5" deep. It comes with a 95 sq. ft. HEPA filter and included internal silencer - one of their quietest systems at 75 dBa @ 10 ft.

Why It's Hot: Constructed from molded, static conductive, industrial resin to be lighter, more efficient and deliver higher CFM with the same strength and quality for which Oneida Air Systems has always been known. The systems are ETL certified, have HEPA filtration, are made in America and come in 2 / 3 and 5 HP models.

www.oneida-air.com



Rockwell 20V MaxLithium **Brushless Hammer Drill**

The Rockwell 20V MaxLithium Brushless I Hammer Drill features two no-load drilling speed selections of 0-600 and 0-2000 rpm. In hammer mode, its blows-per-minute rate is 0-7500 and 0-24,860. The hammer drill's maximum torque is 531 in./lbs. Its 1/2-in. metal chuck has 18+1 clutch positions. Includes two, 2.0 Ah MaxLithium batteries, a one-hour charger and soft carrying bag for storage.

Why It's Hot: Rockwell's 20V brushless motors feature 10 times the motor life and 25 percent more power than comparable, conventional brushed motors. Battery run time increases by up to 50 percent per charge versus standard brushed motors. Only available at Canadian Tire - 20 year warranty.

www.rockwelltools.com

Accusquare **Rip Fence Table Saw Accessory**

Deing able to cut material D safely and precisely on your table saw is essential for fast and accurate woodworking. The Accusquare M-1050 premium rip fence is precision manufactured from extruded aluminum right here in Canada. Once installed, you will never need to align an Accusquare fence again.

Why It's Hot: The M-1050 provides a rip capacity of 10" left and 50" right of the blade. The 2-1/2"



high fence has T-slots on the top and sides. Comes with a full 90-day satisfaction return policy, and a lifetime warranty.

www.mulecab.com

Rockwell 20V Brushless **Drill-Driver**

ockwell's 20V MaxLithium Brushless Drill-Driver (RK2852K2) is compact and lightweight (3.4 lbs.). The two-speed gearbox has no-load speeds of 0-600 and 0-2000. Its maximum torque is 531 in./lbs. The 1/2 in. metal chuck has 18+1 clutch positions to handle a variety of drilling and driving jobs. Includes two, 2.0 Ah MaxLithium batteries, a one-hour charger, a double-ended bit and soft bag.

Why It's Hot: Rockwell's 20V brushless motors feature 10 times the motor life and 25 percent more power than comparable, conventional brushed motors. Battery run time increases by up to 50 percent per charge versus standard brushed motors. Only available at Canadian Tire - 20 year warranty.

www.rockwelltools.com

Rockwell **20V MaxLithium Brushless 3-speed Impact Driver**

ockwell's new 20V MaxLithium Brushless ↑3-speed Impact Driver (RK2868K2) has three speed/torque options at the push of a button. The 3-speed brushless impact driver has a 1/4 in. chuck and accepts 1/4 in. hex-shanked bits. The driver has speed ranges of 0-1300/2100/2900 no-load rpm and 0-1600/2900/3200 impacts per minute (ipm). Twenty year warranty and free batteries for 20 years after registering.

Why It's Hot: Press a button to match torque and application from 530 in./lbs. for driving screws to 930 and 1550 in. lb. settings to sink 3.5 in. lag screws into hardwoods. It drives screws hard and fast in the densest materials. Only available at Canadian Tire.

www.rockwelltools.com



Damstom **BLACK Edition**

Panel Clamp

The D300 is a panel clamp invented and manufactured in Canada. Designed to laminate wooden pieces from 3/4" to 4 1/2" thick, and up to 38" wide, the two parallel rails keep panels flat at each clamping point for perfect results. The electrostatic finish over the steel rails is durable and prevents glue from sticking.

Why It's Hot: Flat Panels guaranteed. The D300 clamp is much lighter than conventional clamps, so panels can be moved out of the way easily. Also, you won't need as many, since it



keeps panels flat, so it speeds up the process before the glue sets.

Maximum width of panel: 38 inches

Thickness: 3/4 up to 4 1/2 inches Material: Steel + Aluminum Coating: Black Powder coated Weight: 4.6 pounds Invented and made in Canada Price: 69.99\$

www.damstom.com

HotProducts2015

Steel City 55175 Combination Belt and Disc Sander

This Steel City combination 6"x48"belt and 12" disc sander comes with a powerful 1.5 HP-120V motor. Separate cast iron work tables provide solid flat surfaces for accurate operation. Other great features include a heavy duty fully enclosed stand, a graphite cover platen and dual 4" dust extraction ports.

Why It's Hot: The sanding belt portion of the Steel City 55175 can be used in the vertical or horizontal position. There is an easy to use belt tension control lever for fast belt changes and the belt sanding speed is 1570 linear feet per minute. The 12"disc sanding speed is 2000rpm.

Retail price is \$999.99 www.normand.ca



Triton TCMBS 2.5" x 16" Palm Sander

Triton's TCMBS Palm Sander features an efficient 450W/3.5A motor that produces ample power to ensure a high rate of stock removal across a broad range of materials. Lightweight and slim in design, the TCMBS fits in the palm of your hand for on the spot convenience.

Why It's Hot: Compact and lightweight design allows this sander to fit in the palm of your hand. The small diameter front roller allows sanding in confined areas



backsplash to the wall. Suggested price: \$95.99 www.tritontools.com

Steel City 8" HEAVY DUTY Slow Speed Bench Grinder model 15430

C harpening is a problem for Deginners and an art for accomplished cabinetmakers. Most bench grinders run at 3450 RPM because they are made for general grinding tasks. For delicate grinding, a slow speed is required to avoid overheating the thin edge of the tool. Steel City offers this 8"- 34 HP - 1725RPM slow speed industrial bench grinder that is built to last.

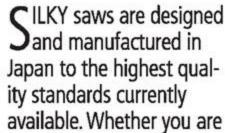
Why It's Hot: The Steel City 15430 is equipped with a wheel balancer mechanism that provides

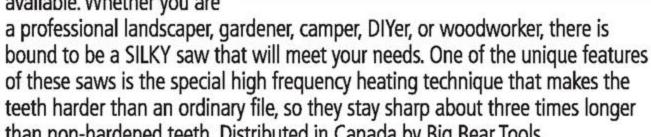


optimum balancing of the wheels thus reducing vibration. It also offers built-in dust extraction that includes 2 dust ports located on the rear inner side of each wheel guard.

Retail Price: \$249.99 www.normand.ca

SILKY Saws





Why It's Hot: Laser-cut, impulse hardened blades provide exceptional performance and an incredibly long service life. Engineered from a unique alloy steel, SILKY Saws provide the ideal combination of hardness and flexibly. Rubber compound elastomer handles are comfortable to hold, reduce vibration, and offer superior grip.

www.bigbeartools.com

than non-hardened teeth. Distributed in Canada by Big Bear Tools.

shopnews

from our supporting advertisers

Stockroom Supply Offers RIKON Power Tools

Stockroom Supply is now a dealer for high quality RIKON Power Tools - "Pro Tools for Tool Pros" - designers and manufacturers of woodworking machinery that enhance the woodworking experience. RIKON's ISO9001 certified factory utilize the systems of 6-Sigma and 5S Management. This assures consistent, top quality products allowing them to stand behind their products with a 5-year warranty. RIKON strives to have excellent quality products at a reasonable price, but also outstanding customer service and satisfaction. Shipping is available across Canada - add RIKON to your wish list.

Check out www.stockroomsupply.com for more details.



Trend **Swivel Door and Board Lifter**

Trend's new swiveling door and board lifter assists door hangers, plasterers and drywall contractors with the difficult task of lifting and alignment. It allows up and down and side to side movement for easy positioning of doors, panels and plasterboard. The heavy-duty metal construction features a non-marring footpad that allows hand freedom crucial for installation contractors.

Why It's Hot: The board lifter raises products up parallel to the ground (raises panels 2-3/8" high) and it rotates 360°. Rated for materials up to 165 pounds, ease of use



and diversity of movement makes this product indispensible to installation contractors.

ITEM# D/LIFT/B \$27 USD

www.trend-ca.com

Trend EASYSCRIBE Scribing Tool

C ome of the features that make The EASYSCRIBE indispensible for scribing operations are: thin guide plate allows access into narrow gaps and flat base ensures object surface remains in contact. It marks narrow pencil line of 1/32" width ensuring accuracy and the articulated arm allows the offset to be set precisely from 3/64" to 1-9/16" offering full flexibility. It offers a thumb wheel for fine adjustment.

Why It's Hot: a one handed scribing tool that allows the finish contractor to fit cabinets, counter tops and doors to uneven walls,



floors and door jams. Small and lightweight, the EASYSCRIBE is ideal for the contractors pouch. It is inexpensive and easy to use.

ITEM # - E/SCRIBE \$34 USD

www.trend-ca.com

Trend NEW **Skeleton Hinge Jig**

Manufactured from two piece aluminum extrusion, it is ideal for onsite construction fitting wooden doors in new or existing frames. The jig is suitable for 6'5" to 6'10" internal, external or fire doors. Comes equipped with router bit, bradawls, 16mm

guide bushing and a heavy duty carrying case. Why It's Hot: Create hinge recesses quickly and efficiently with minimum set up. With almost infinite adjustability, aperture blocks allow the setting of hinge lengths without a separate guide or excessive hardware.

For 8ft. entry doors, please view H/JIG/8FT on our website

ITEM # - H/JIG/C \$149.95 USD

www.trend-ca.com

Trend NEW Adjustable **Mortise Lock Jig**

Made of 1/2" laminate, it is infinitely adjustable for mortise lock face-plates up to 10" in length. It employs engraved site lines for face plate widths of 7/8" and 1" and mortise widths of 5/8" and 3/4". It is engraved on the bottom for 1-3/8", 1-3/4", 2" and 2-1/8" doors. Equipped with pair of preset width setting gauges and adjustable setting bar, long reach 1/2" router bit and 30mm bushing.

Why It's Hot: The mortise lock jig employs adjustable sliding inserts that allow faceplate and mortise



recesses for popular and odd sized doors to be routed quickly and efficiently.

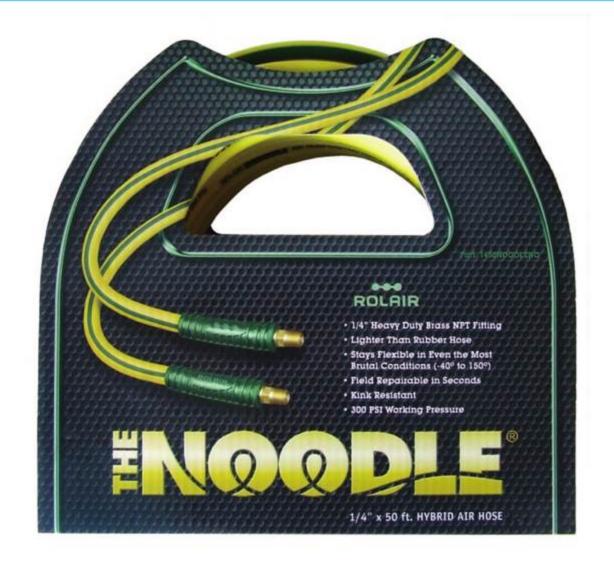
ITEM # - LOCK/JIG/B \$149.95 USD www.trend-ca.com

The Noodle from Rolair

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Festool **ETS EC Brushless Sanders:** Air Sander Performance Without Limitations

Lestool's new 5" and 6" brushless ETS EC sanders feature a compact, ergonomic, low profile and low vibration design. Built for prolonged use and extended service longevity, the new ETS EC sanders achieve performance standards of air sanders without the expense or bulk of an air system. Festool's ETS EC sander line is available in three different models: the 5" ETS EC 125/3, which has a fine 3mm sanding stroke, the 6" ETS EC 150/3 and the 6" ETS EC 150/5, with sanding strokes of 3mm and a broader 5mm. These sanders are equipped with innovative features, which include Jetstream dust extraction, extraction connection signal, electronic active vibration stop, carbide-tipped sanding brakes and much more — making them the ultimate high-demand sanding tools. www.festool.com

Why It's Hot: ETS EC sanders are equipped with the following innovative features:

- EC-TEC Brushless Motor: delivers a constant and powerful stream of performance.
- Compact, low profile design with an ergonomic grip: greater flexibility in all sanding tasks with less user fatigue.
- Active electronic vibration control system: prevents vibrations before they occur.
- Carbide-tipped pad brake and electronic control: smooth start-ups which prevent surface marring and near-immediate pad braking.
- Dust extraction efficiency is built into the design: Multi-Jetstream dust extraction on the 6" ETS EC and Jetstream dust extraction on the 5" ETS EC; seamless integration into the entire Festool sanding solutions system which includes CT dust extractors, abrasives and pads.



TS 55 REQ Track Saw

The TS 55 Plunge Cut Track Saw sets a whole new standard for portable circular saws. With its accuracy and versatility, a better comparison would be to the most advanced table saws, miter saws or panel saws available. Add in its incredible portability and unbelievable ease of use, and you have a precision-cutting solution like no other, at home in the highest-end woodworking or cabinet shop as well as an onsite remodel. With the addition of micro-adjustable depth controls and a flat housing for flush-cutting against walls or adjacent surfaces, the TS 55 REQ is Festool's most advanced, corded plunge cut saw.

Why It's Hot: The TS REQ is not your standard circular saw.

- When used with Festool guide rails, you can achieve perfectly straight and splinter-free cuts.
- Spring-loaded riving knife (splitter) keeps the cut kerf open so that the material does not pinch the blade. This reduces the chance of kickback.
- Blade changes are easier and safer using the FastFix system which locks switch and arbor simultaneously for easy arbor bolt removal.

www.festool.com



Carvex **PS/PSB 420 Jigsaws**

Lestool's Carvex Jigsaws are available in either a barrel grip or D-handle and will shatter all of your expectations. Conquer any scribe line and curve with ease thanks to the robust blade guidance system that makes blade drift and deflection a thing of the past. Carvex jigsaws feature a revolutionary base-changing system that adapts to any application, multiplying the capabilities of your jigsaw. Perfect visibility of the cut line is enhanced by the quad-LED, stroboscopic system that penetrates through darkness and dust.

Why It's Hot: Carvex PS/PSB 420 Jigsaws high performance motors and MMC electronics will consistently power through virtually any material. Smooth, perpendicular curves, splinter-free cuts, and a sharply reduced need to sand cut surfaces, Carvex features include:

- Variable speed blade speed with extremely fast max 3,800 strokes per minute.
- Tool-free base and base insert platform for expanded capabilities.
- Triple blade guidance for perfectly perpendicular cuts and splinterguards for tear-free cuts.
- Stroboscopic high-intensity LEDs for high blade visibility.
- Brushless motor technology for light weight, more power and longer service life.

www.festool.com

Dremel MM30 Multi-Max **Oscillating Tool**

The Dremel Multi-Max MM30 features a 3.3 Amp powerful motor. The convenient on-tool integrated wrench and magnetic accessory interface makes accessory changes fast and easy because it holds the accessory in place while tightening the screw. The extrawide 3.2-degree angle of oscillation improves the speed of cut and pro-

The MM30 is a solid performer. Why It's Hot: The Dremel Multi-Max MM30 features a newer, more

vides faster cutting and performance.



powerful motor. The convenient on-tool integrated wrench and magnetic accessory interface makes fast and easy accessory changes. Extrawide 3.2-degree angle of oscillation improves the speed for faster cuts.

www.dremel.com

Dremel MM40 Multi-Max **Oscillating Tool**

The Dremel Multi-Max MM40 has all of the topline features you'd expect from Dremel. High performance 3.8 Amp motor with Quick-Boost for constant speed, Quick Lock for tool-less and secure accessory changes and the innovative Quick Hold magnetic accessory interface holds the accessory in place for quick and easy changes. Extrawide 3.2-degree angle of oscillation improves the speed of cut.

Why It's Hot: The Dremel

Multi-Max MM40 features a newer, more powerful motor. This high performing tool for tough applications includes the Quick system with the magnetic flange for ease of accessory changes, constant speed throughout tough applications/ materials.

www.dremel.com

Dremel **VersaFlame Butane Torch**

The Dremel VersaFlame is a I small butane torch designed to make your work around the house and jobsite easier. The VersaFlame comes with a 9-piece kit that gives you the power to tackle many applications. The tool's precision flame allows for detailed household work. Simply switch tips and use our butane micro torch for wood burning, soldering and more.

Why It's Hot: The Dremel VersaFlame makes household projects easy such as removing paint, wood burning, soldering and even finishing



that Holiday Crème Brûlée. Its detachable base allows for hands-free operation and offers flame control and variable temperature.

www.dremel.com

RotoZip **Dust Vault**

The Dust Vault attachment from Rotozip reduces 90% of dust and debris without using a shop vacuum. The lightweight canister quickly and easily attaches to RotoZip Spiral Saws, maintaining visibility while cutting. This attachment is ideal for jobs in finished spaces that makes clean-up easy sav-



ing you time and money. The dust collects without the use of a separate vacuum.

Why It's Hot: RotoZips Dust Vault attachment reduces 90% of debris without using a shop vacuum. The lightweight canister easily attaches to RotoZip Spiral Saws, using up to 30,000 RPM's to create it's own vacuum while maintaining cutting visibility.

www.rotozip.com

Dremel Vacuum Powered **Rotary Tool**

or the first time ever, you can transform your wet/dry vacuum into a versatile turbinepowered rotary tool. The suction of the vacuum powers the tool and cleans debris at the same time. The VRT1 is ideal for keeping the workplace clean and minimizing dust. It's designed for small and dusty projects in drywall, wood, glass, ceramic, Styrofoam and much more.

Why It's Hot: The Dremel VRT1 can transform your shop vacuum into a versatile turbine powered



rotary tool. The suction of the vacuum powers and cleans debris at the same time. Perfect for small and dusty projects.

www.dremel.com

Rikon 17" Variable **Speed Drill Press**

The Rikon 30-236 hosts a powerful 1-1/2 HP TEFC motor with a 550 to 2,300 RPM speed range, adjustable on the fly. Features include a 17" swing, a full 6" quill stroke, and a generous 14" square table that tilts 45-degrees and rotates 360-degrees. Additionally, the head rotates 360-degrees, making it easy to drill into extra long stock.

Why It's Hot: This hefty fellow, weighing in at almost 190 pounds, provides vibration free drilling. You'll love the quick-release button,

which provides quick and easy depth adjustment, while a 5-year warranty is like icing on the cake.

www.rikontools.com







Turn Some SPINTOPS

Turning spintops is easy, highly productive and lots of fun. And if you're into craft shows, they're good sellers.

BY ART BETKE

woodturner needs to be able to see the finished product in a raw chunk of wood, then follow a process to achieve the reality of that vision, a process that often requires several stages and days, even months before it's done. Sometimes it's fun to be able to take a break from that method and turn something quick and easy, like spin tops.

I start by choosing the right wood. It needs to be a fine-grained material like birch, which I find in plentiful supply in my firewood stack. Maple and cherry also work well.

Anything with a coarser grain makes



Rough Wood – A piece of fine-grained wood is perfect for a spin top. Betke uses check-free and knot-free chunks of wood from his woodpile, but you can easily use lumber from your local mill.

it more difficult to get the fine edge cuts. It should also be a somewhat heavy wood so the flywheel effect will keep it spinning longer than if a light wood is used.

Turn a large dowel

I start by turning it down to a dowel with a length about 6", and just slightly bigger diameter than the finished size of about 2".

Then it's just a matter of shaping each top and cutting it from the blank. I use a speed of 1500 rpm. It's rather important to make the point as close to perfect as possible because if it's off-centered even a little bit, the spin will be affected. It's necessary to use a sharp tool to make a slow, fine cut for the final pass. The smoother the top spins, the longer it will spin, and kids will compete to see whose will last the longest. You don't want to disappoint the kids. Their parents (who pay for the tops) will be impressed by how long they spin.

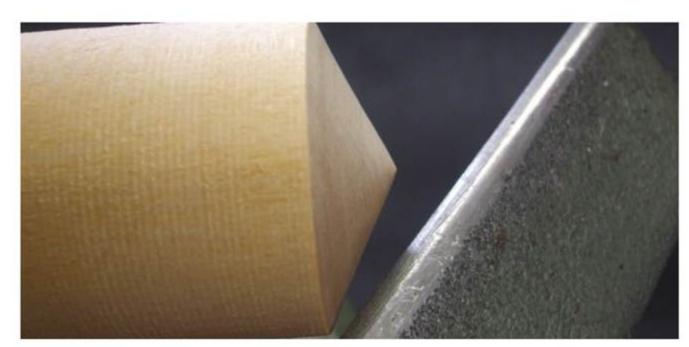
Next, the edge diameter is trimmed down to final size. This is done for each top individually to ensure the best balance. Then the top of the spin top is cut out, leaving the edge about 1/8" (3 mm) thick. I usually slope it up but it can be flat too.

Add decoration

At this stage, it's time to consider the decor. I sometimes leave a smooth surface, sometimes a series of steps. If I want to do any texturing I leave the stem thick for now, for stability.



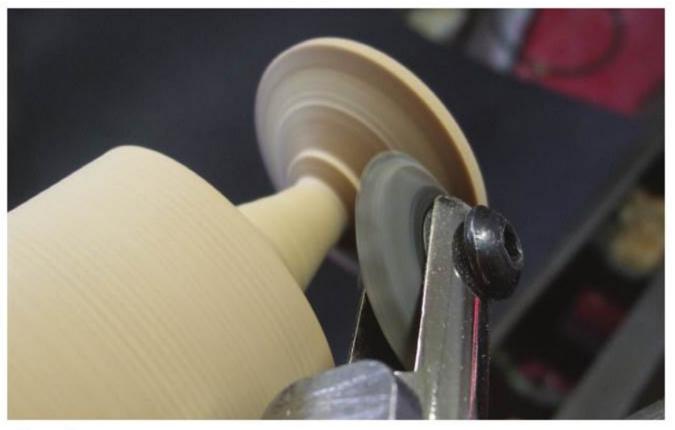
Large Dowel - The first step is to turn a cylinder just over 2" in diameter. Each top is cut from the end of this cylinder.



Nice, Even Taper - Betke is careful to cut an even taper on the end of the cylinder. This helps ensure the top spins evenly.





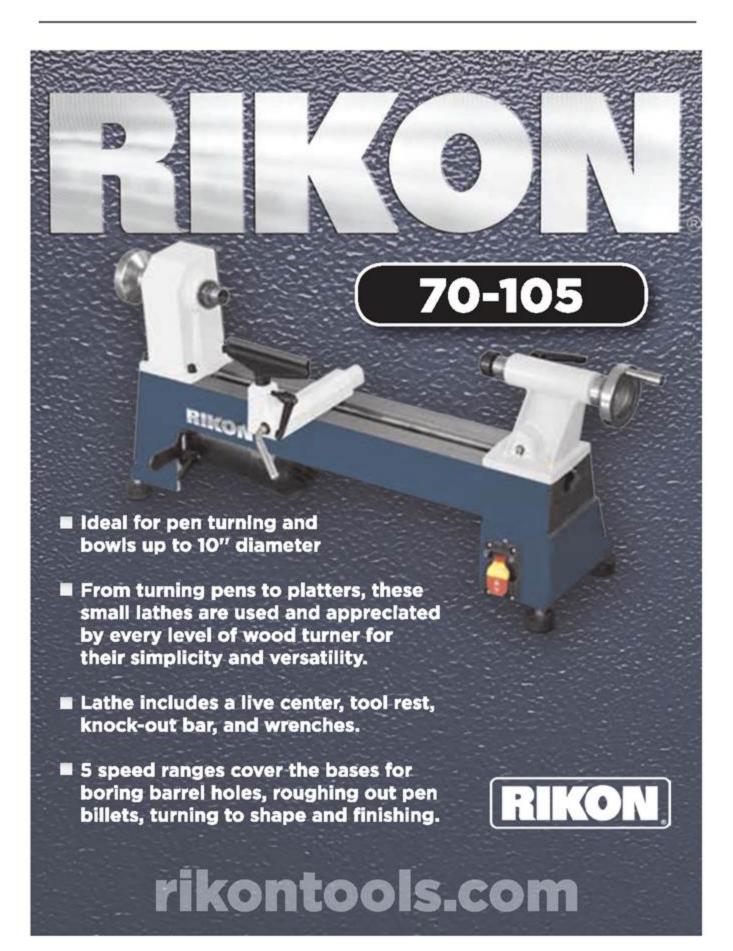


Time for Texture - Though you can skip this step, adding texture to the spin tops makes them really stand out.

For texturing I use the Sorby Spiraling tool, held vertically for a stippled effect, or slanted to obtain a spiral pattern. If the lathe is reversed and the wheel slanted the opposite way, the spiral is reversed. Because the radius of the top is small, the result will often be a repeated pattern. I never know exactly what the end result will look like.

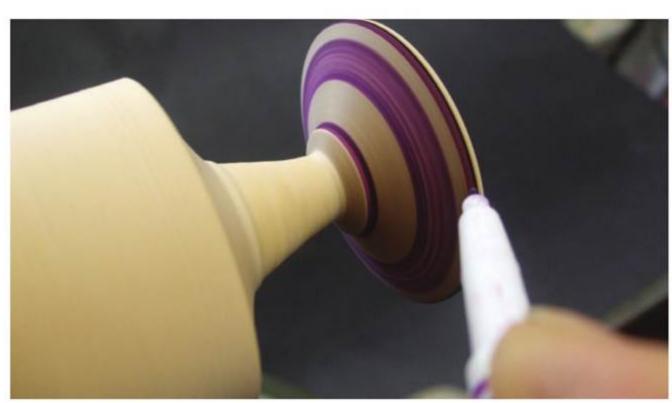
I generally like to put a groove in the edge and wire-burn it for extra effect. That allows for two colours on a small space.

There's always a bit of fuzz left by the spiraling tool so it's necessary to do a touch of sanding. I use 280 grit to do a quick pass over the whole spin top. The sanding leaves a bit of dust

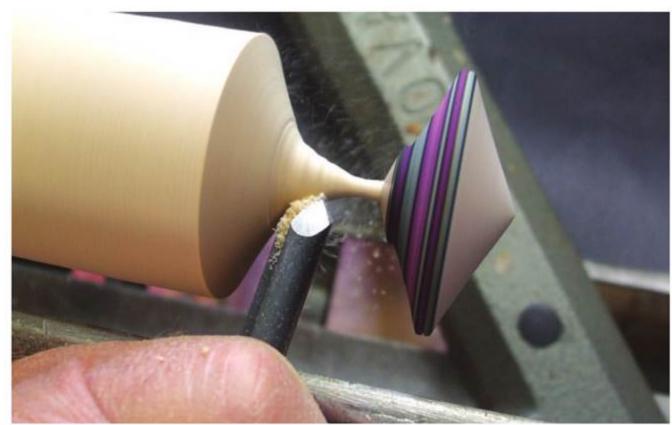




Wire-Burn Line - With a small metal wire you can add a narrow groove in the outer edge of the top. This adds to the final look of the top.



Add Colour - Adding a mixture of colours to each top creates a unique, eye-catching spin top that people will be more likely to reach for. Betke uses children's markers to add a splash of colour.



Simple Handle - Working from the spin top towards the lathe shape the handle of each top to no less than 1/8" thick.

behind and this must be removed or it will clog the tips of the felt pens that I colour with. This can be done with a cloth or blowing with compressed air.

A splash of colour

Next comes the colouring. Experimentation is the key. I just hold a fine-tipped felt pen against the top while it spins at 500 rpm. This will colour only the outer surface of the textured area, accentuating the pattern. I use whatever

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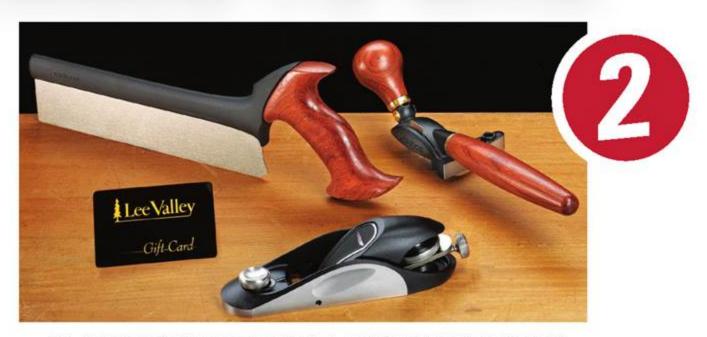
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Soft Landing – With your hand loosely around the spin top, part it off.

colour combinations I think will work. I rather like the effect achieved by black lines between different colours.

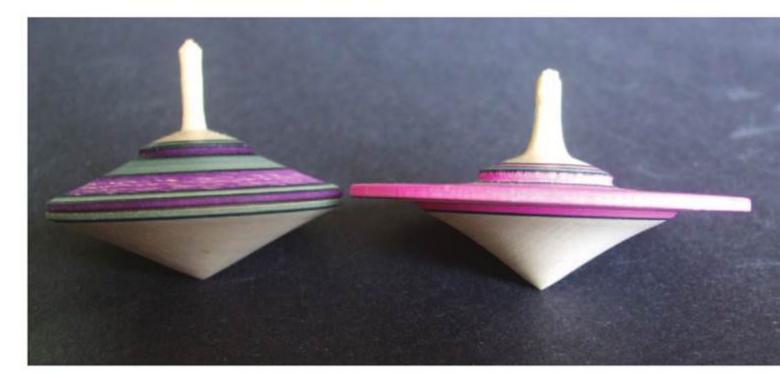
When all else is done it's time to cut the stem down to size using gentle cuts, drawing away from the top toward the stability of the dowel. The smaller the diameter of the stem, the faster the spin, but there's a limit. I like it to be not less than 1/8", maybe a bit more.

Finally, I cup my hand loosely around the top to catch it and part it off with a skew.

It takes only about five minutes per top to turn them from the dowel.

There is one final step – the top must be tested. If for some reason it doesn't spin well, it isn't for sale. Wobbling could be the result of the point being off-side, or if the wood came from nearby a knot and is denser on one side.

There are always those who think bigger is better and for them I make a jumbo top. At 2-3/4" it isn't all that much bigger, but there's quite a difference in the performance. I found that it feels quite a bit heavier and I just can't get as fast a spin with it, so I cut the thickness down at the outer portion and always cut the top surface flat to reduce the mass. It also helps to leave the stem a bit thicker.



Different Designs – Though there are thousands of designs and shapes that you can create, Betke generally makes two different versions of spin tops; a standard version (left) and a larger diameter version (right). The larger version has a bit more weight to it and performs slightly differently.

Craft sales are for adults, not children as a rule. Vendors are appreciative when parents tell the kids not to touch, but they love it when I tell them they can try out the tops. Even adults can't resist playing with them. A surprising number of them aren't able to get a good spin going so I have to fre-

ART BETKE

artbetke@shaw.ca



Art spends all his spare time woodturning in his Prince George shop in order to make money to buy more equipment so he can do more turning and buy more equipment ... and so on. You can learn more about Art at www.whimsicalwoodturnings.com



quently demonstrate and assure them that it

just takes practice.

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Valuable Scraps – Craig uses scraps of all shapes and sizes to make magnets from. Yet another reason not to throw out valuable scraps.

BY HEATHER CRAIG

waste very little in my shop. As a result I have a lot of little scraps in bins and bags just waiting for their time in the spotlight. Some of those diamonds in the rough became decorative magnets.

I just happen to have a 2" hole-saw, which determined the size of my magnets, but you could easily make a set of magnets with hole-saws of different diameter. I was able to get a 1/4" diameter by 1/10" thick rare earth magnet, with a 2.5 lb. strength from Lee Valley, though I'm sure other hardware stores or craft outlets may have something too.

Rip stock to thickness

Now I just had to work out the details. If the magnet was 1/10" thick I thought my blanks should be about 1/4" thick. I set the bandsaw to rip my scraps to 5/16" leaving me 1/16" to remove any roughness during sanding. Use push sticks for this operation, as this is far too close for comfort. It's also easiest to rip long pieces of stock to width, rather than shorter pieces, even if you only want to make one or two decorative magnets.

I then clamp the rough stock to my drill press table and cut out the blanks. Next, I sand off the rough edges with 80 grit sand paper and smooth the flat



Rip to Width – With one face flat, and one edge jointed, you can cut the wood blanks to thickness on your bandsaw. Make sure to perform the operation safely, or these small pieces can cause problems. An alternative is to cut blanks from a larger piece of wood.

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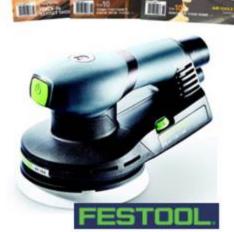
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side so the piece is 1/4" thick. Now I'm ready to adhere the pattern to the workpiece.

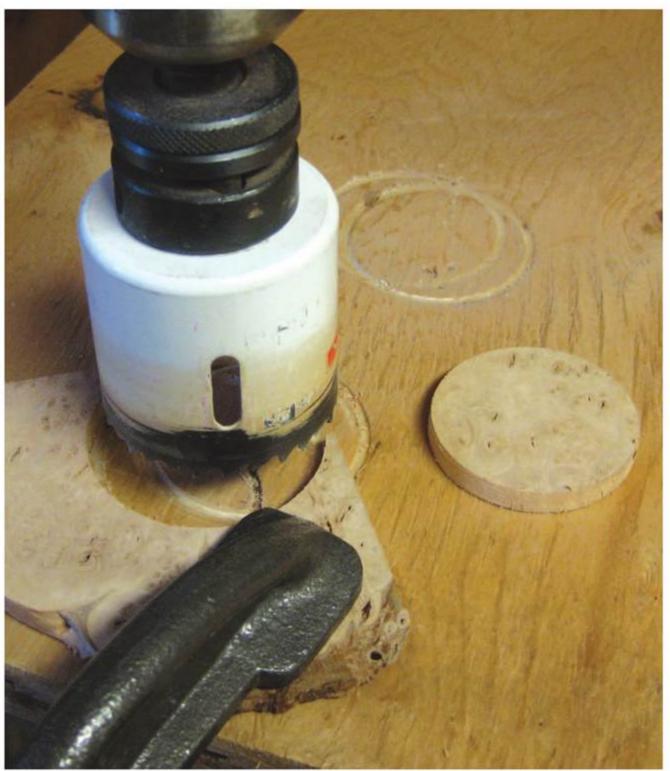
Apply the pattern

The 2" hole-saw will produce a 1-7/8" blank. Hole-saws typically leave a pilot hole in the center of the hole. If you can incorporate this hole into the design, there's no need to worry. If not, it's possible to remove the pilot bit on most hole-saws. I make a 1-7/8" circle and draw a pattern in it. When laying out the design, remember to leave a solid border around the perimeter and a large enough area to accommodate the rare earth magnet. Following the directions for a temporary bond, I use spray adhesive to attach the pattern to the blank, then let it dry. If you want to make many decorative magnets you can print out many patterns before cutting and pasting them to the wood workpieces.

Cut out the design

I typically drill 1/32" pilot holes to allow the scroll saw blade to be inserted into the workpiece. You can adjust the size to accommodate your pattern or scroll saw blade.

My favourite blade for cutting out the waste is a #3 Reverse Tooth. It is small enough that I can cut fine patterns, aggressive enough that I don't get frustrated and over-stress the blade, and the reverse tooth cuts relatively clean so I have less finish sanding. Experimenting with a blade that works for you can be done on some scrap before hand. If you find manipulating the small workpiece close to the blade is either difficult or



Keep it Secured - Drill the magnet blanks from the stock on your drill press. Make sure to clamp the blank to your drill press's table, as small pieces are impossible to grip with just your hands.



Paste Then Drill - If you're using a printed pattern you can apply it to the upper surface now. Small holes will make it possible to insert your scroll saw blade into the area where wood needs to be removed.



Cut the Pattern - With a scroll saw and sharp blade, cut the waste from the magnet base.



Drill for the Magnet - Carefully drill a shallow cavity to accept the magnet. Don't drill too deep or you will come through the front of the wood.

dangerous, you have an option. While boring the small workpieces from the larger blank, stop at least 1/16" before drilling through and removing the workpiece. The patterns will be easier to cut, and you can remove the workpiece and clean up the edges afterwards. To help remove the pattern and adhesive, brush on paint thinner and let stand 2-5 minutes before it softens and can be removed easily.

Drill for the magnets

Using a 1/4" Forstner bit I drill a cavity for the rare earth magnet on the back side. It doesn't matter which is the back side. Do not drill too deep, as this will negatively affect the ability to latch on to the desired surface. The visible surface of the rare earth magnet should be flush, or even slightly proud, of the wood.

I like to sand the wood to 180 grit, wipe with a tack cloth then put on a coat of polyurethane. Once it dries, I lightly sand it and put on another coat. A spray can may work best for you for these small pieces. Continue until you are happy with the



finish. Usually three or four coats works well, but different wood species soak up finishing material differently.

Attach the magnets

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Test the magnet before gluing. I had a magnet with poor strength but didn't find out until I had glued it to the wood. Now I check each magnet before gluing.

There are many adhesives that will hold the magnet in the cavity, and if you size the hole correctly the magnet will be fairly snug without adhesive. Two-part epoxies work great, but can be messy. Put some adhesive in a small container and use a toothpick to dab glue into the cavity. Press the magnet into the hole, wipe off any excess with a damp cloth and let it dry. Test that it is secure by adhering and removing it to and from a metal object several times.

As you can imagine, the possibilities are endless. I started with a simple pattern and worked my way to the more difficult dolphin pattern. I then ventured into abstract shapes and drew patterns on the wood based on what I saw in the grain. Incorporating the live edge adds a natural, rustic, dimension. Moral of the story: don't throw it away, save it for another day.



HEATHER CRAIG heather.c2@hotmail.com

Woodworking is relaxation therapy for Heather. She cranks up the tunes on the radio and enjoys a cup of tea while hand-finishing her projects.



If you're looking for a highly efficient, whole-shop dust collection system, then consider a cyclone collector.

BY CARL DUGUAY

anaging wood chips and dust is essential in all workshops. In smaller shops that don't use machinery to any great extent, a small shop vacuum, perhaps paired with an overhead air cleaner, might be all that's required. However, in a typical

shop equipped with the usual array of wood processing equipment – table saw, bandsaw, planer, jointer, and so on – you need a more capable dust collection system. Ideally you want a system that's effective at two things: handling large volumes of wood chips, and keeping as much of the fine dust particles out of the shop air, and your lungs.

The old standard

Most woodworkers will be familiar with single-stage dust collectors, as they've been around for eons. They're still the most popular collector for small workshops. They consist of a motor connected to an impeller (a hub with a series of blades). Wood chips and dust-laden air are drawn in through the impeller. The wood chips and heavier dust particles fall into a waste container (often a plastic bag, sometimes a canister). Air, typically laden with very fine dust particles, is vented out through a filter, which can be a fabric bag, or a rigid pleated canister, and back into your shop.

A typical single-stage collector will have an air flow capacity of about 500 cubic feet of air per minute (CFM). It works best when the ducting in a shop is very short, with minimal bends and elbows. The amount of dust that is expelled into the shop air depends on the effectiveness of the filter. Most cloth bags are rated at 30 microns (the size of dust particles they can screen out), while a typical canister filter is rated at about 1 micron. However, you really need to protect your lungs from the smallest dust particles, down to about 0.3 microns.

Cyclone collectors

Today, cyclone collectors are gaining in popularity. Unlike single-stage collectors, they treat wood chips and dust in two steps, which is why they are often referred to as two-stage collectors. The body of a cyclone collector incorporates a cylindrical funnel (aka the cone). The impeller, which typically sits on top of the collector, creates cyclonic (centrifugal) action, causing the air to spin around in the funnel. Heavy wood chips fall down the funnel into a waste container, while the lighter dust particles are drawn up through the impeller into a filter canister. As air is vented out through the filter into the shop, the fine dust particles fall into a waste bin, or are trapped in the pleats of the filter. All cyclones are equipped with canister filters - standard filters (sometimes referred to as 'high-efficiency' filters) remove dust down to 1 micron; HEPA filters remove the most insidious dust particles, down to 0.3 micron. Considering it's the smaller dust particles that cause the damage to our lungs, this is an important consideration.

This two-stage process of pre-separating the heavier material means that the filter will clog up much slower than with a single-stage collector. Less clogging helps to move more air through the collector system.





The Old Standard -

Single-stage dust collectors are a very common sight in a woodworking shop. They should only be used when the ducting is short, with minimal bends and elbows. Many of these styles of collectors don't have the ability to stop the smallest dust particles from entering the air, and getting into people's lungs.



The New Standard

 Two-stage cyclone dust collectors are becoming more popular. They deposit larger wood chips into the lower drum. Smaller dust particles move through the filter and usually into a smaller dust bag. Two-stage collectors generally have a higher CFM rating, and do a better job at removing and containing as much dust as possible.



Six 1.5 HP models

There are six cyclone brands widely available in Canada. They offer models with motors ranging from 1.5 to 10 HP. We have listed the 1.5 HP models in the chart. Any of them are capable of handling the dust extraction requirements for most small professional and avid hobbyist shops, which typically use one machine at a time. If you work in a shop that runs multiple machines at the same time, and has long ducting, then you'll want to look at larger cyclone models.

Airflow is important

For all collectors to work efficiently (not just cyclones), they need to generate a high volume of air with enough velocity to move the chips and dust from shop machines, through the ducting, and into the collector. Otherwise, the debris can pile up in the bends and elbows, or at the blast gates. This is why you want a high CFM rating for the collector.

However, as the air moves through the ducting it encounters resistance in the form of friction from the internal walls of the ductwork and the various bends and elbows. This resistance is referred to as static pressure (SP) loss, and is measured in inches of water (water lift). Once air starts moving through the ducting, static pressure begins to increase, and airflow decreases.

The CFM levels in the chart are reported at zero static pressure loss (0" of water lift), and range from a low of 775



Filter Details - The flapper handle on two-stage collectors can be used to remove some of the builtup dust on the inside of a canister filter.

CFM for the Grizzly up to 1,250 CFM for the CWI. Water lift, which is listed at zero CFM, ranges from a low of just over 7" for the Laguna, up to 10" for the Grizzly.

You might think of just choosing the collector with the highest CFM and water lift specs. However, the CFM requirements of the machinery you use, the diameter and length of your ducting, and the number and type of connections installed on the ducting, will affect the performance of your collection system. You can calculate the CFM requirements and SP loss for your existing (or planned) shop to ensure that the collector you choose will meet your needs. See the sidebar (Calculating Static Pressure Loss), or consult one of the online resources, such as air handling systems (www.airhand. com/designing).

Of course, there will be a range of other factors to consider when choosing a dust collector.

Filter efficiency is important for your health

Like cigarette smoke, sun exposure and asbestos fibers, it's the long-term effects of breathing in very fine dust that has the greatest potential detrimental impact on your health. Any dust collector, or shop vacuum for that matter, equipped with a HEPA filter, will provide the best protection from fine dust. The CWI, Grizzly, and Oneida all use HEPA filters, while the other three brands have standard canister filters. There are after-market HEPA canister filters that you can purchase, and some manufacturers can upgrade models with HEPA filters.

All the canister filters, except the Oneida, are equipped with a flapper handle that makes it easier and more effective to clean the filter than using compressed air.

There is a noticeable increase in airflow between a canister filter and a traditional cloth bag filter. This is due to the relatively large surface area of the cartridge filter.

Waste drum capacity

You can save time with a larger waste drum, though it may be a moot point if you don't generate a lot of wood chips in your shop. At 18 gallons, the CWI, King Canada, and Laguna have the smallest drums. The General and Grizzly drums are 50 percent larger, while the Oneida drum tops the

No Dust Collector? Beef Up Your Shop Vacuum

If you don't have a whole shop dust collection system, but rely on a shop vacuum (aka dust extractor) you can increase its efficiency by adding a 'pre-separator', essentially converting it into a two-stage collector. The pre-separator is just a collector drum installed between your vacuum and shop machinery. If you go this route, make sure you use a thick walled drum to prevent the drum walls from collapsing. While you could use any lid with the drum, a specially designed cyclone lid will better enhance cyclonic action in the drum. The larger wood chips are diverted into the drum, while the finer dust is sucked into your vacuum. A benefit of a pre-separator is that you won't have

to clean the vacuum filter quite as often, and your vacuum will maintain better suction for a longer period of time. Plus, you won't have to empty the vacuum waste bag nearly as often. You can assemble your own pre-separator system from bits and pieces, or purchase a ready-to-go unit such as the Oneida Dust Deputy or the Clear Vue Mini System CV06, available from Stockroom Supply.



Cyclonic Add-On - These cyclone lids from Lee Valley enhance cyclonic action in the drum. They can be placed on top of a rigid drum and used as a small cyclone system.



Small Cyclone System - The Original Dust Deputy from Oneida Air is a ready-to-go system that includes a cyclone cone, dust bucket and hose.



scales at 35 gallons. All the drums except for the Oneida are equipped with wheels, so you can roll them about. You can let the debris fall into the drum, and then empty it outdoors, or install a plastic bag into the drum, making disposal easier and cleaner.

Got space?

These collectors take up anywhere from about 8 to 16 square feet of space. The CWI, Grizzly, King Canada, and Laguna will fit into an areas 2' by 4', with a bit of room to



Waste Drum - Some dust drums have wheels to make moving the drum around easier. Quickrelease latches and drum capacity are also things to consider if you will be emptying the waste drum often.

	CWI	General International	Grizzly	King Canada	Laguna	Oneida
Model	DCP015H	10-805CF	G0703HEP	KC-6150C MCYC1.5MOBMC		V-System 1500 **
Price	\$1,629.95	\$1,599.99	\$1,911.00*	\$1,199.00	\$1,399.00	\$2,476.00*
Warranty (yrs)	5	2	1	2	1	1
Amperage	15	11	18.8	14	20	16
CFM	1,250	778	775	1,050	1,088	949
Water Lift @ 0 CFM	9"	8"	10"	8.5"	7.1"	8"
Impeller size	13-1/4"	12-3/4"	13-1/2"	13"	13"	12"
Impeller type	steel	aluminum alloy	steel	steel (turbo type)	steel	non-metallic
Drum capacity (gallons)	18	30	30	18	18	35
Filter efficiency	0.3 microns	1 micron	0.3 microns	1 micron	1 micron	0.3 microns
HEPA filter	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes (H-12)
Filter cleaner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Dust inlets	1- 6" or 2- 4"	1- 6" or 2- 4"	1- 6" w/5" reducer	1- 6" or 2- 4"	1- 6" or 2- 4"	7"
Sound level (dB @ 10')	74	84	83	75	75	73
Height	63"	69"	68"	63-3/4"	66"	87"
Space required	20" x 40"	46" x 48"	24" x 39"	21" x 46"	24" x 32"	33" x 47"
	cwimachinery. com	general.ca	grizzly.com	kingcanada.com	lagunatools.ca	oneida-air.com

Prices are net local delivery (if applicable) and taxes.

spare. They'll also comfortably reside in shops with ceilings as low as 6 feet, enabling you to tuck them under stairs, or install shelving overhead for extra storage. The General and Oneida require a larger footprint. For the Oneida you'll also need a ceiling height of just over 7'.

Power requirements

The CWI, General, King Canada and Oneida collectors can be plugged into a standard 15-amp circuit. More than likely it will have to be a dedicated circuit (not used simultaneously by any other device while the collector is running). Both the Grizzly and the Laguna require a 110 volt, 20 Amp circuit – for these make sure you either have an available circuit, or can add one to your service panel.

How loud are they?

For anyone who works in a home basement or attached garage, noise is always a concern. Current standards suggest that a noise level of around 85 dB is the threshold at which hearing protection becomes necessary to avoid long-term hearing damage. The CWI, King Canada, Laguna, and Oneida units are well below that level, at between 73 and 75 dB, at 10 feet from the collector. The General and Grizzly approach the standards at 83 and 84 dB, respectively. However, since any collector is going to be used simultaneously with another shop machine, the overall dB levels will be considerably higher, necessitating some form of hearing protection.

^{*} We have added shipping and the import duty (7.5%) to the US price, and converted to Canadian dollars at the current rate (September, 2015).

^{**} Oneida – price quoted with optional fiber waste drum and stationary stand.

Calculating Static Pressure Loss

You can calculate the SP loss for each machine in your shop. Calculate the number of feet of duct between the machine and collector. To this add 6' for each 90° elbow along the line, 3' for each 45° elbow, and 7' for each T-fitting. Then multiply the number of feet by .055 if you will be using 4" ducting, .042 for 5" ducting or .035 for 6" ducting. The result is the static pressure loss for the machine. Let's look at a shop that has a table saw connected to a collector via 4" diameter ducting that is 18-feet from a collector, and has one 90° elbow. Using our formula above $-(18 + 6) \times .05$ the SP for the table saw will be 1.32. You need to do this for each machine that is connected to your collector, add 1.0 SP for air leakage, and then tally the total, which will be the SP loss for your dust collection system. For optimum efficiency, the collector you choose should have a water lift rating equal to or greater than the SP loss you have calculated.

Cost of ownership

While we often get caught up in the initial purchase price, it's important to consider the return on your investment over the anticipated life span of the product. Like many, if not most shop machines, a cyclone collector should last the independent woodworker or hobbyist woodworker a lifetime. The two crucial components that might need replacement are the motor and start switch. Both are easily replaced. In my experience, a motor that is indeed defective is most likely to fizzle out very early on - likely the first time you start the machine. All the manufacturers' warranties cover this eventuality for the first year of operation.

Consumables (plastic waste bags) do add marginally to the overall cost of ownership, while the canister filters should last for about as long as you own the collector.

Do you use a cyclone dust collector in your shop? If so, we'd love to know what model you use, and what you think of it. Post your feedback on social media with the hashtag "#CWW-cyclonecollector".



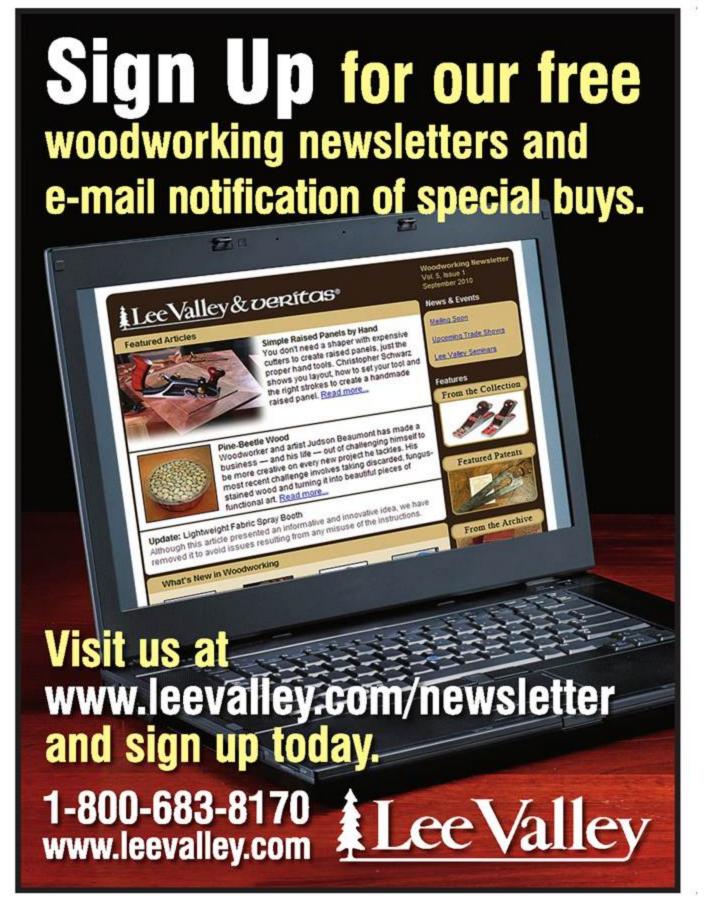
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BY ROB BROWN

efore machining any wood, some consideration must be given to the dimensions of this stand. All tablets vary in size, and a stand must be built with a specific tablet in mind. Tablets range in size from about 4" x 7" to 7" x 10". Their thickness also varies.

There are two main parts to this stand - a curved base and a vertical support arm. I suggest making the curved base so that its two outer ends are slightly narrower than the width of the tablet to be used on the stand. The height of the stand isn't as crucial, but finishing at a similar height to the tablet makes sense.

I made a quick mock-up of the stand so I could check for size and balance. I would strongly recommend taking 10 minutes to do the same.

Materials

It is possible to steam bend the curved base, but for many that's far too difficult and involved. Cutting the curve from solid wood would leave weak short grain, which would easily break. Plywood is certainly an option, but to cover the unsightly layers you would have to veneer two curved faces.

For the curved base I opted to use zebrawood veneer for the show surfaces and maple veneer for the inner layers. I used matching solid zebrawood for the vertical support arm. Veneer easily curves to the required radius and is available in many different species. Having said this, the lamination process is the most difficult portion of the build as you want to ensure tolerances are tight and you obtain strong glue lines throughout the piece. It's certainly not rocket science, but it does take a bit of care.

Make the form

If you make the curved base too large, the tablet will more easily fall off the stand. A curved base that's too small will be less stable than it could have been. I glued two pieces of 1/2" thick particle core together to create the 1" thick lamination form.

I used a 1/2" diameter router bit in my trim router, which was attached to a small circle cutting jig, to create an arc in the lamination form material. I used an inside radius of 3", but you should select a radius according to the tablet to be used on your stand. First I ensured one long edge of the form material was straight and true, then drilled a pilot hole about 3/8" away from the straight edge. I then attached the circle cutting jig to the form material. Multiple passes, each cutting slightly deeper, left me with two mating halves of the form.

Theory vs. reality

In theory, the strips on veneer total exactly the width of the groove that was cut into the form. When these strips get sandwiched between the two halves of the form, the veneer takes up the gap and the resulting curved base gets formed. In practice, this may not work perfectly. Likely what will happen is the center portion of the curved base will come together quite nicely, as it is perpendicular to the clamping pressure. The two



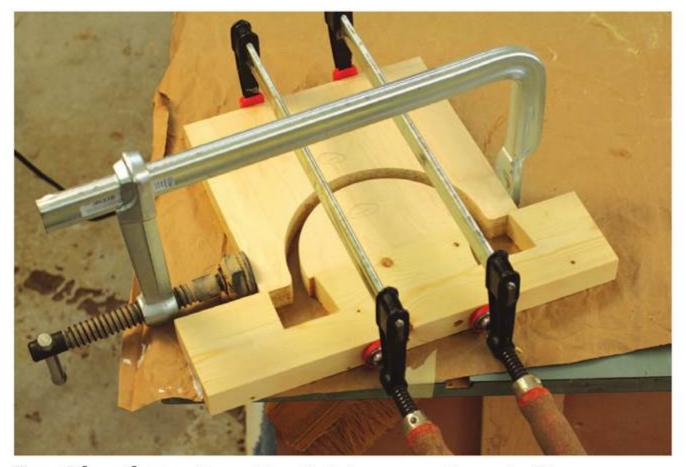
Do a Mock-Up -Some scraps and 10 minutes is all you need to do a simple mock-up. Brown's initial support arm needed to be wider at the base, to offer more protection from the stand tilting over.

outer ends, on the other hand, might not have enough clamping pressure, or the width of the veneer isn't perfect. If you cut the width of the female form narrow enough so you can add a clamp or two at a 90° angle to the first few clamps, you can add some pressure to the ends of the lamination.

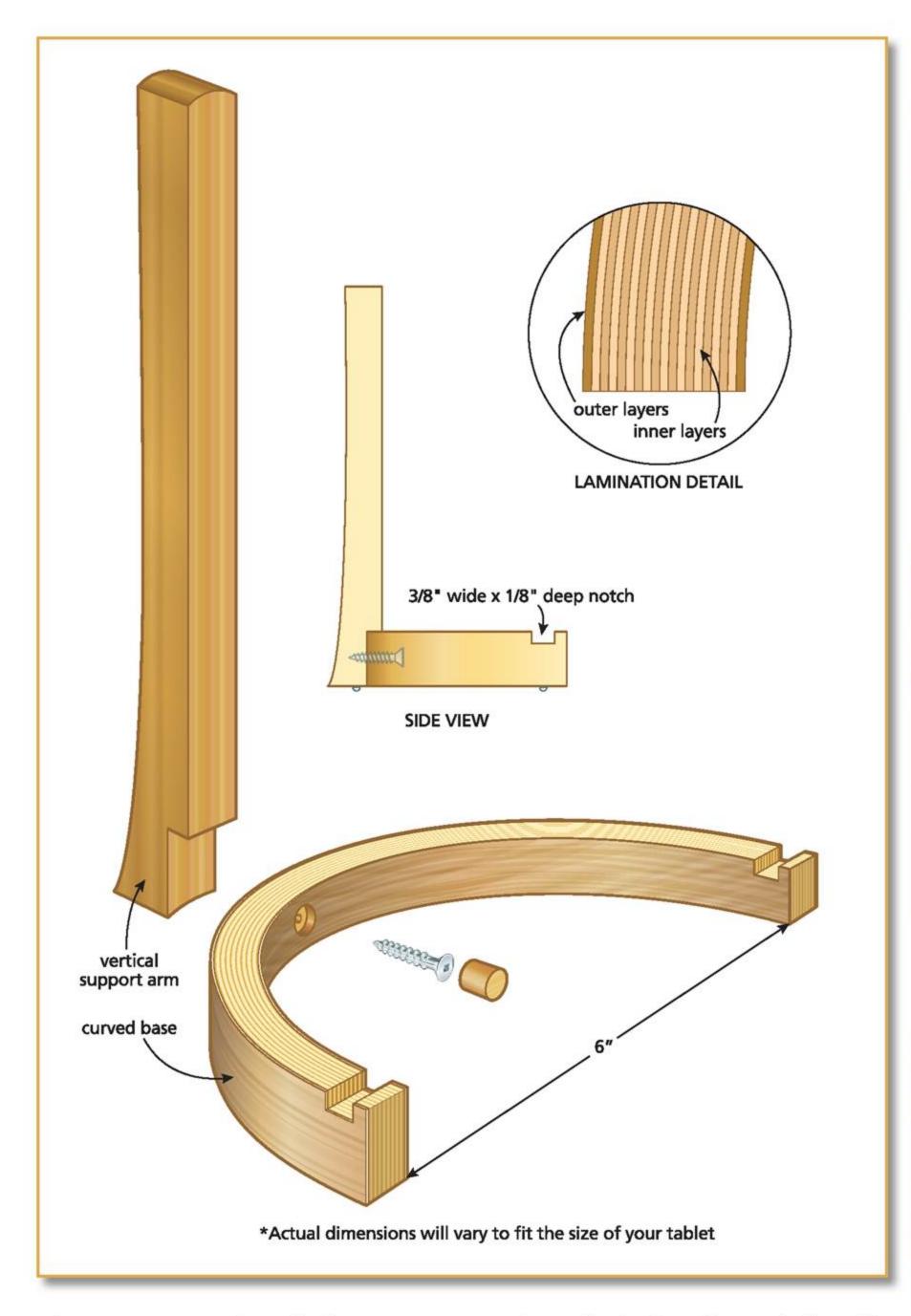
I then screwed and glued a jointed piece of 2x4 material to the straight edge of the male portion of the form. This piece



Rout a Groove – With a 1/2" diameter router bit set up to cut a 3" radius Brown creates the two parts of the form that will be used to make the curved base. The workpiece is screwed to the work surface from the underside during these cuts.



Two Directions - The red-handled clamps provide most of the pressure, but a clamp running perpendicular to it might also be needed to bring the ends of the veneer together.



of scrap was approximately the same dimension as the long, straight edge of the form. When the two halves of the form were brought together, the scrap 2x4 ensured they mated evenly, and sandwiched the layers of veneer properly. The piece of scrap also had two notches to accommodate the excess length of the veneer strips during glue-up.

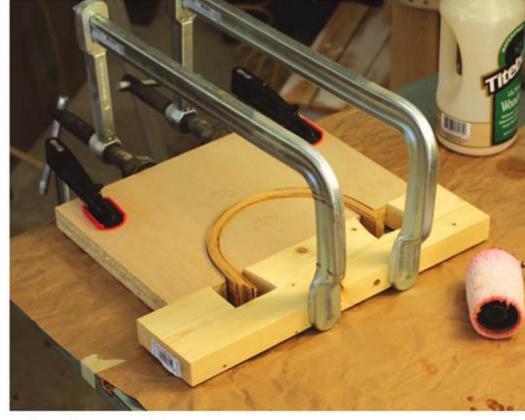
Cut the veneer strips

The thickness of all the strips of veneer must be exactly the same as the groove routed by the router bit you used to split the form in two halves. If you're going to err on one side I suggest being no more than 1/64" oversize is the way to go.

I used a straightedge and a knife to rip strips of veneer oversize. I was aiming for a curved base that was 1" wide, so I cut the strips a generous 1-3/8" wide. When I had enough strips to fit the groove exactly I was ready for glue.

Glue the curved base

I did one dry assembly of the curved base to ensure I had all the necessary clamps on hand and to ensure the real



Bring it Together – With all the strips covered in glue, Brown brings everything together to form the curved base.



Flush It Up – With the dried curved base still clamped in the form, use a block plane to even both edges of the workpiece.



Shape It – Once the rabbet has been cut into the support arm, and the piece has been cut to length, Brown uses a spokeshave to fair the curve on the back of the support arm.

glue-up would go smooth. Since there were many strips of veneer, and only so much open time to make this glue-up happen, I used a small paint tray and narrow roller to apply glue to both sides of each strip of veneer, short of the inner and outer show faces. Once the glue was applied I fit the bundle between



Slight Curve - For the inside surface of the rabbet joint to mate nicely with the support arm, a slight curve must be cut into the support arm. A chisel makes quick work of this task.



Line it up – With all the parts machined you can insert a screw through the counter-bore and locate where the pilot hole in the support arm needs to be drilled.

the forms and brought the two halves together. I let it dry overnight as I wanted to ensure the glue was very dry, which I hoped would minimize twisting.

Shape the curved base

With the glue dry, and the curved base still in the clamps, I used a block plane to true both edges of the base. It was pretty easy to bring the first edge almost flush with the jig. I then put the clamps on the other face of the form so I could plane the other edge.

I marked the two opposing quadrants of the curved base so I knew where to trim the ends, then removed the base from the form and used a handsaw to make the cuts.

Materials List

Part	Ltr	Qty	T	W	L	Material
Curved Base - Outer Layers	Α	2	1/32	1	~11	Zebrawood
Curved Base - Inner Layers	В	As Needed	1/32	1	~11	Maple
Vertical Support Arm	C	1	13/16	1-1/2	~11	Zebrawood
Plug	D	1	3/8" diar	neter		Maple+

Hardware List

Name	Qty Size	Supplier
Press-In Bumpers	3 5mm	Lee Valley / Misc

Make the support arm

I started with a piece of solid wood larger than required, as it's easier to cut joinery in. Once the blank was thicknessed to 3/4" I cut a 3/16" deep rabbet in what would be the bottom, front face. I then drew the rear profile of the support arm on the blank and cut it out on the bandsaw. Feel free to shape this piece to your liking, but I kept the upper half of the piece straight, and added an outward curve to the lower half. I liked the look of this, but more importantly, the wider base provided more protection against the completed stand tipping backward, away from the user, during use.

With the support arm cut to final length I ever-so-slightly added a curve to the face of the rabbet joint that mates with the rear of the curved base. Doing this would result in two advantages: a stronger joint as there would be more glue surface area, and there would be no visible gap between the

two parts once they were joined together.

Cut the notches

I cut the notches with a handsaw, and then fine-tune them with a sharp chisel. There's no need to cut too deep, as relatively small notches work wonders at holding the tablet in place.

The only joint

Drill a 3/8" counter-bored hole in the center of the curved base. Position the curved base against the support arm and mark, then drill, the mating pilot hole to accept a #6 x 1" screw. Bring the parts together with the screw then grab the tablet for use with your stand. Position it on the stand where you will be using it and mark the location. Also notice the angle or shape of the edge of the tablet, as trying to create notches shaped according to the edge profile on the tablet will go a long way to holding the tablet in place.



A Bit of Glue - Glue will help hold the only joint in this project together. Don't use too much, or squeeze-out will cause problems.



Trim it Flush – A #3 sweep gouge, or a narrow chisel, will bring the plug flush with the curved base.

Final assembly

I sanded all the surfaces, except the inner, curved face of the curved base, as doing this after assembly is difficult. I also eased all edges to make the stand comfortable to handle. I then applied a small amount of glue to the rabbet joint and screwed the parts together. Once dry I added a maple plug, which I trimmed flush when it was dry. Next up is a final sanding of the inner face of the curved base, followed by a quick check for any glue squeeze-out.

So the stand doesn't slide around during use, I installed three rubber press-in bumpers, one in each extremity of the curved base, and the final one at the very back edge of the support arm. Just be sure not to drill out the rear face of the support arm if you curved it like I did.



A Foot to Stand On – Brown added three rubber press-in bumpers to each corner of the stand. These bumpers will allow the stand to sit flat, and will keep the stand from moving during use.

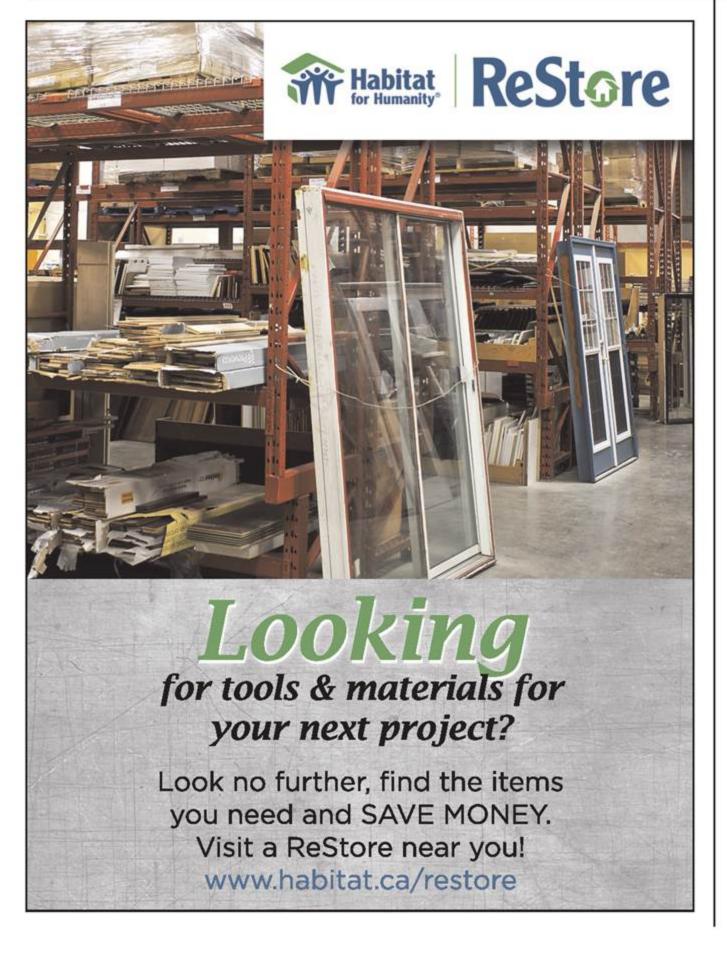
Finishing touches

I applied three coats of spray-on polyurethane finish to the stand, sanding lightly between coats.

When the finish was fully cured I used #0000 steel wool and wax to add a soft lustre to the stand, pressed the rubber bumpers into place and handed the stand to my resident techie – my wife.



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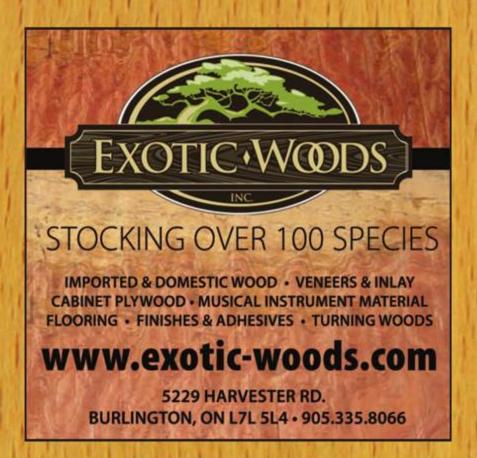
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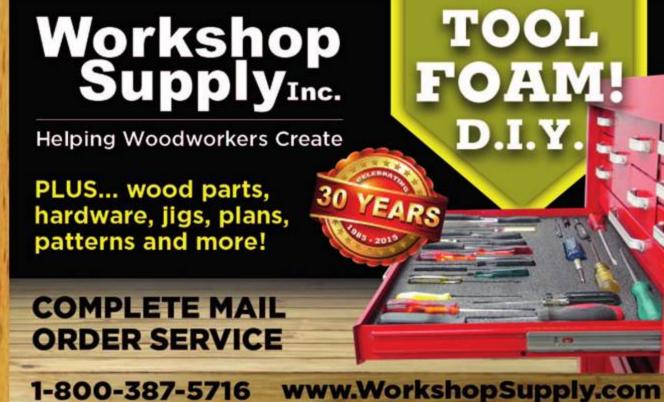


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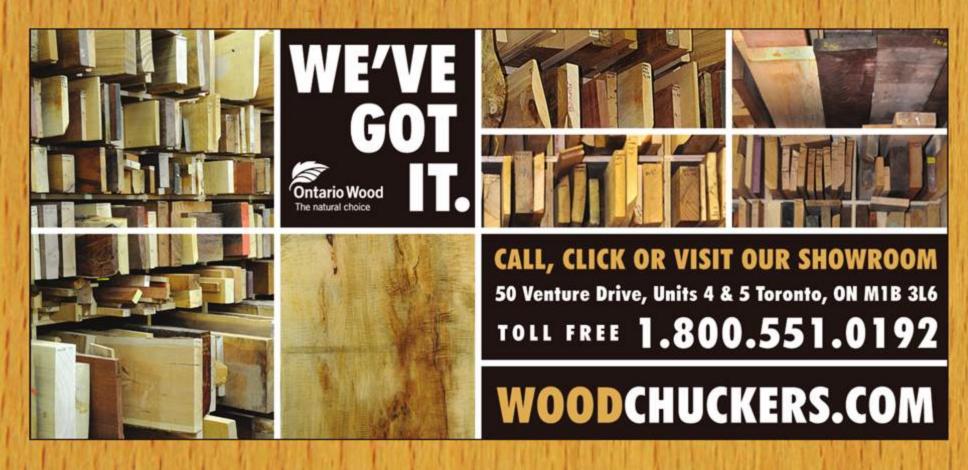
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Basement Boatbuilding - Part 2

BY DON WILKINSON

hen I last left you I was preparing to build a 19-foot kayak in my basement, but first there was the little matter of an inconvenient wall I needed to remove. I had performed some precise measurements, and even studied some blueprints I had found in a bedroom closet. They weren't for this house but my wife can't read blueprints so it didn't matter, as long as she thought I could. Besides, I looked really professional as I stroked my chin and went, "Hmmm," while I turned the plans round and round. Eventually, I came to the assumption that the offending wall may not have been a bearing wall after all, and even if it was ... so what? I had almost full confidence the builder knew what he was doing and I figured that the house probably wouldn't collapse on my head much before the kayak was built and we had moved away. Far, far away.

I finally decided it was time to start work and as I reached for my matching set of precision sledgehammers I couldn't help but recall those immortal words of Ronald Reagan: "Mr. Wilkinson, tear down this wall." And with those stirring, slightly paraphrased words echoing through my empty little head, I hefted the sledgehammer to my shoulder and with a mighty swing drove the hammer straight through the gyproc, where it sailed across the dining room and embedded itself in the far wall. Somehow, on its passage through the wall it managed to miss every stud, nearly all the electrical thing-a-ma-jigs, the hot water pipe and even the 220 volt wires and outlet for the stove. It was readily apparent even to me

that I needed more practice with my tools.

Before proceeding any further, I feel I should list for you which tools I consider essential for home renovations. There are two. These apply to all home renovations, not just wall removal. First off, you need a sledgehammer, possibly two, and when it comes to sledgehammers, bigger is better. I used to like a 14-pounder for that little bit of extra power you sometimes need for driving that nail or to re-attach some door trim. Nowadays, I prefer something with a little more precision and subtlety. Lee Valley carries a nice line in 4-ounce upholstery hammers that seem to do the trick for me. Then again, these days most of my home improvements involve making the bed and occasionally vacuuming the floor.

The second essential tool for the home handyman is, of course, the reciprocating saw. I had two just because they are so much fun to use and that is the reason we got into woodworking in the first place. If you don't know what a recipro-saw is, think jackhammer with a saw blade. A recipro-saw is designed to quickly and easily cut through anything you want (and a little too frequently through things you might not want it to). If you need a wall down, this is the tool to use. Other than that, I can't think of any other tool a home handyman might ever need. I know I never did. At least not until my wife noticed the 220-volt wires gently sparking against the water pipe I had tucked it behind. Then she made me get a screwdriver and actually disconnect the wire. Women!

She then raised the issue of a potential

dust and odour problem that might occur during construction. I raised the issue that since this was her idea in the first place she would just have to live with it. Later on she graciously sent one of her children down with bedding and a sandwich. I conceded that I could staple some poly over the stairwell so no odours, sawdust or swear words could find their way upstairs and she let me out of the basement. I went and bought a new staple gun.

Once the poly was up and a few extraneous wires and water lines were disconnected, or at least pushed out of the way, I had provided myself with all the space I might need for her project.

In a few short hours I had managed to turn two completely wasted rooms into a first-rate boat building shop, and if that isn't a home improvement I don't know what is. And I am still here to tell each and every one of you that

you too can do the very same thing.

Unless, of course, you like being married.

DON WILKINSON YukonWilk@gmail.com

Don is a semi-retired woodworker, semi-husband, retired contractor and some-time father. He now prefers to write about and photograph woodworking than do it himself. He finds it less painful that way. Past articles, and other writings, can be found on his blog talesofawarpedlife.com.

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