



WOODENBOAT SCHOOL TOOL LIST

THE ART OF SHAKER BOX MAKING

You have signed up to take The Art of Shaker Box Making at Wooden Boat School this year and you are probably wondering - “what hand tools should I bring?”

First, you will need a coping saw with an extra fine blade of 28 teeth per inch. This is a must have. Master Mechanic makes blades with 28 teeth per inch. They are available thru True Value Hardware, Amazon, Walmart, and other sources. Make sure they fit the saw that you have as all blades are not interchangeable with all saw frames. Throw in 2 blades just in case. A medium blade will also be useful, but the extra fine will see most of the action.

You will also need a small tack hammer. A 7 or 8 ounce works well. A word of caution is in order here. Hammers that have been used to hit anything except copper tacks will end up staining your beautiful boxes around the tacks. Bring a new hammer. Preferably a ball peen hammer that no one will want to borrow to drive nails. The ball side of the hammer can also be used to attach swing handle rivets to your boxes later.

Next you will need a fixed blade utility knife with a heavy-duty blade. Shy away from the ones with skinny blades that will bend and break.

Other hand tools that you will need to bring include;

- A small and sharp wood chisel. 1/4” or 1/2” is all you need.
- An x-Acto knife with a couple of # 11 or #2 blades. They are available at Walmart.
- A small pair of cutting pliers. Something that is capable of literally cutting tooth picks. That’s what they will be doing.
- A tape measure.
- 4 small spring clamps (the ones that are about 3 to 4 inches long).
- A 1 or 1 1/2-inch inexpensive chip brush for dusting off your boxes.
- A few push pins (thumb tacks with a large plastic head).
- Gloves for handling hot bands as they come out of the steam bath. Light weight gardening gloves work.
- A small hand drill with a 1/16” and 5/64” bits. A small crank style drill will work if you do not have a corded or cordless small drill. I have a 4 Volt cordless Ryobi that is excellent for box making because of its compact size.
- A number 2 pencil. For marking your work. Also, throw in a small notebook just in case there is anything you want to write down to refer to. If you bring a few sheets of legal-size paper, you are welcome to make tracings of my forms so you can make your own later.
- And last- but certainly not least - bring some things to protect your eyes, ears, and lungs when we use the electric shop tools. Safety goggles, ear plugs and dust mask.

The week I spend each year at The Wooden Boat School is my favorite week of the year. As you prepare to attend our class if you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me at wwj3c@icloud.com. I will be happy to talk with you about our upcoming class. Best Wishes, Bill Jordan