

Valley Woodwork

66 Amy Drive

Gap, PA 17527

(610)593-4418

FUNDAMENTALS OF WOODWORKING WITH STEVE LATTA JULY 22-26, 2019

Dear Fundamentals Attendee,

First off, thanks for signing up for my class. I know you have many options for workshops and I am grateful that you chose mine. I have been a cabinetmaker for over thirty years and teaching woodworking full-time at Thaddeus Stevens Technical College for over two decades. I love what I do.

Since I am usually teaching advanced courses, I asked Marc to change it up and allow me to teach a fundamentals course. I love the basics and have years of experience teaching them. In this class, students will develop a solid foundation for woodworking. We will cover the basics of hand and power tools, sharpening, wood and its properties, joinery and how to execute a quick but accurate field drawing. Beyond all of that, and this is what I consider the meat of the class, students will gain a strategy for approaching a project. While making a cherry, single-drawer end table, we will discuss in-depth which cut, when and why or what I call sequential woodworking. The focus is to gain a flow or rhythm to your work. Honestly, it is finding that "stride" which gives me the greatest joy when building a piece. This outlook is what I really want to share with you.

So, thank you again for signing up. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email below. It is going to be a tremendous class and I am sure your future work will be better for it.

Sincerely,



Stephen P. Latta
latta@stevenscollege.edu

Tool List: Fundamentals of Woodworking with Steve Latta

Basic Tooling:

- Combination square: Stanley 46-123 or equivalent (No plastic parts on whatever you select)
- Small double square (only if you have one): Starrett or Pinnacle (Woodcraft 04P56)
- Chisels – get a decent set of four $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, and 1
 - Do yourself a favor and get an 1/8” as well.
 - For chisels...Old Marples, Footprint, Lie-Nielsen, Lee Valley, etc.
- Low-angle, Block Plane – Veritas, Lie-Nielsen, older Stanley
- Small, adjustable bevel
- Small dead-blow hammer
- Card scraper and file: Baccho or Lee Valley
- Inexpensive honing guide: Lee Valley 60N01.05
- 6” rule with 4R graduations (1/8s, 1/16s, 1/32s, 1/64s) Lee Valley 60N47.01 or equivalent
 - I’d recommend a 12” as well. Lee Valley 60N20.06
- X-acto Knife with extra #11 blades
- Tape Measurer: 12’ or 16’ at a $\frac{3}{4}$ ” width. Standard graduations
- Some sort of a dovetail saw. I use an old Stanley Gents’ saw and it works great. Lie-Nielsen and Lee Valley as well as several others sell very expensive saws. Crown has a moderately priced version (Crown FLINN1 10" backsaw) that is available on Amazon for about \$23 and works quite well.
- Hammer
- Whatever you need to enhance your ability to see. I have old eyes and find it my greatest obstacle.
- Multi-purpose screwdriver.

I would highly recommend picking up some sort of rabbet/shoulder plane. These can be quite pricey but I really do think they are essential for fitting joinery. I would look at a Stanley 92 or 93, the smaller Lie-Nielsen or Veritas, or the Lie-Nielsen Rabbet Block Plane. As I said, these can be very pricey and I will be bringing several that we can share.