

Valley

Woodwork

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MORE Decorative Details with Steve Latta May 20-24, 2019

There are so many ways to decorate your work that Marc and I thought it would be a good idea to introduce a new batch of techniques and expand upon a few others whose surface was just scratched in Decorative Details. This year I hope to dive a lot deeper with some of my favorites.

Sure, we will cover the basics of stringing but move towards some not so traditional designs and applications that can really jazz up a project. We will make some more elaborate bandings and introduce a little color into the mix. In Decorative Details, we have touched on some basic ornamental ovals and diamonds for a table leg or box but this time will branch off into some pictorials that I am sure you will enjoy. We'll get our fingers a little sticky with hide glue doing a some hammer veneering. And, throughout the course of this year, I will add to the list based on the work that comes across my bench. I have some neat projects coming up and hope to roll some of it into our week together.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. It will be a great class!



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Syllabus:

Although a firm day by day schedule is not set, I expect to cover the following topics throughout the course of the week. As the year unfolds, topics may be added but if they are, it is because I think they are really cool!

- A Review of basic stringing – materials and methods
- Double and treble stringing black/white white/black/white
- Hammer Veneering – not just a demo!
- Advanced Pilaster treatments: a sand shaded diamond in 4 or 16 parts
- Pictorial Patera: Making a Baltimore floral ornamental oval.
- Bandings revisited: More complex configurations.
- Fielded, elliptical panels: a mitered, mahogany border with a curly maple center. Double stringing separating the two.

Tool List For More Decorative Details Course - 2019

In addition to a basic set of tools (chisels, block plane, screwdrivers, hammer, dovetail saw, combination square, dead blow mallet, adjustable bevel, etc.)

- X-acto knives with extra blades #11
- A decent compass and a set of dividers.
- Cabinet scraper with a file for sharpening it.
- If you have trouble focusing on very small objects, purchase a set of reading glasses. Much of our work will be detailed.
- A slicing gauge. Lie-Nielsen, Lee-Valley and most other companies offer a slicing gauge. Lie-Nielsen is offering the slicing gauge that I designed. A Master AircREW Balsa stripper is very inexpensive tool that does a nice job when combined with a 1" c-clamp and is a nice place to start. There will also be several to share. <http://www.hobbylinc.com/htm/mas/masma4000.htm> This
- 12" straightedge. Combination square blades work fine
- Utility knife or veneer saw if you have one. Don't buy one if you don't.
- A roll of clear 2" packing tape
- Carving chisels—if you have them—especially small, tight sweep gouges. Palm chisels work great.
- If you have a burn-in knife for touching up shellac, please bring it. As a substitute, Jo-Ann Fabrics sell a Clover mini-iron for about \$29. I will be bringing irons that we can share so hold off if you do not have one.
- Long tweezers for sand shading. Once again, we'll set up sand-shading stations and you can see what we use for a set-up in terms of heat source, tweezers, etc. and then purchase your own at a later date.
- veneer hammer – if you have one. I will have some to share. Don't buy one if you don't have one.
- Eclipse Deep Fret Saw or equivalent./ Highlandwoodworking.com \$22.99. If you prefer an electric scroll saw, just use one of Marc's and save your money.

For doing inlay by hand:

- Lie-Nielsen radius inlay cutter. IN-RC **and** 3" extensions IN-RC-EXT. Purchasing this tool will save a great deal of workshop time. **REQUIRED** (Continued)
- My complete set of inlay tools is available from Lie-Nielsen. Although they would simplify the process for doing inlay by hand, if you are experimenting with inlay, I suggest you hold off buying the complete set. I will have extras that we can share.

For doing inlay with modern tooling:

- Dremel rotary tool with a router base. Any fixed or variable speed dremel unit that spins around 35,000 rpm should work. I use a model 395. **Do not get a cordless version and do not get the model with the quick change collet.**
- Stewart MacDonald router base #5260 from www.Stew-mac.com. This is an excellent tool that is very well made. Although there are others on the market, I feel this is the best quality and value for the money.
- Two small 1" c-clamps to secure a fence to the Stew Mac base.
- Although not required, I would highly recommend purchasing the Deadman Foot Switch # 1301 available at https://www.ptreeusa.com/rtr_power_switch.html This is a good switch selling for a reasonable price. This has multiple uses for all your portable power tools and I cannot recommend it strongly enough.
- I will have endmills for inlay available for use and sale. Do not buy the bits from Stew-Mac. Last time I checked, they were twice my price.

I intend to cover both hand and dremel inlay techniques because has experience has shown me that most folks enjoy both methods and their many related applications. Although most of my inlay is done by hand, the dremel and stew-mac router base are used regularly. It is a versatile combination with many applications other than inlay.

If any of the above seems costly and you are not sure if this type of ornamentation will become a regular part of your work, hold off on purchasing and we can share. I have seen too many instances where great amounts of money were spent on tools that were never used.