



Douglas Stowe

PO Box 247

Eureka Springs, Arkansas 72632

479-253-7387 phone or fax

douglasstowe@gmail.com

<http://www.dougstowe.com>

<http://boxmaking101.com>

Small Decorative Boxes with Doug Stowe

August 31-September 4, 2020

Most of us have been inspired by the many box makers exhibiting quality workmanship in creative and unique designs. As a beginning or intermediate box maker, you may wonder, “How do I get *there* from *here*?” There is a common misperception that inspiration comes from out of the blue, but our own lives and interests may provide the opening of a doorway into personal expression and meaningful work. In Box Making, we will decide as group on making a particular box design and will also have opportunities for exploring more personally creative directions. My classes are always flexible and I make a reasonable effort to personalize instruction and meet individual needs.

My box making always starts with the wood. The beauty of wood is what inspires me. **I ask each student to bring some wood from home, as it expresses something very personal about each of us and carries part of our character and interests into the creative environment of the classroom.** An understanding of wood, its nature as a creative material is ground zero in the understanding of design. We begin Monday morning with a discussion of the material and its characteristics, with a particular focus on how our understanding of its properties can lead us to excellence in the final product. We will then discuss the other elements of design, and types of joints, choosing as a group, a type of joint that best reflects the learning needs of the class.

Material: No spalted or exotic woods may be used without special permission. You may use any other woods you desire to bring, or use the following species available for purchase at the school: *cherry, walnut, oak, maple, and poplar.*

Every student should bring:

Tape measure

Steel rule graduated in 64ths.

Try square

Pencil or chalk

Notebook

Students interested in hand-cut joinery should bring additional tools:

Marking gauge
Marking knife
Dozuki or backsaw
Sliding T bevel
Chisels in size range from 1/4" to 3/4"

Some adjustments to the following will be made depending on the type of box selected and to meet the specific interests of students.

Monday

Design principles and elements
Types of joinery and demonstration of joinery techniques
Developing an order of operations strategy
Preparation of materials with particular attention to grain direction and its implications in the final product
Using sleds and other devices for accurate workmanship

Tuesday

Making and using inlay (demonstration)
Making and using floating panels
Assembly
Lids, cut from base, assembled, or from solid wood
Other demonstrations based on student interest

Wednesday

Making legs, bases and feet
Fitting hinges using story stick technique for perfect accuracy
Making wooden hinges (demonstration)
Making trays and dividers

Thursday

Making pulls
Finishing projects, use of various finishes
Linings, how to cut and apply

Friday AM

Completion of projects