

THE MICHAEL C. FORTUNE STUDIO

FURNITURE DESIGN

Designing Chairs with Michael Fortune
September 21-25, 2020

Tool List

- (3) Sliding bevels. Slim all metal type by Shinwa, 6" or 9" size. Japan Woodworker
- (1) Engineer's protractor, metal type by General or iGage
- (2) Plumb bobs (small) and string
- (1) Incline meter, plastic type with a 4" dial by Empire, Dasco Pro or equal. Reads angles on a dial. Available from building supply companies like Home Depot. Or use your iPhone app.
- (1) Sliding square 12"
- (1) Marking gauge
- (1) Tape measure, 1/2" or 3/4" standard measure only.
- (4) Plastic corners brackets, Rockler
- (1) Hot glue gun (there's one in your workshop somewhere) and glue sticks
Pad of tracing paper 14" x 17".
2H, 6B pencils
- (1) 1/8" or 3/16" dia. Soft solder x 2' long or pipe cleaners

Special Note:

- Please purchase the incline meter ASAP and begin to collect dimensional information from chairs that you have around the house, at work, in restaurants, etc. Categorize the chairs, dining, task (desk), bench, stool, etc.

Include:

- height from the floor to the front of the seat
- depth of the seat
- size (if any) space below lumber support
- center line of lumbar support
- height of back
- approx. curvature on back and seat
- width of seat, back, space between arms (if any)

If you can do it, put the dimensions on tracing paper over top of a simple sketch (or digital image) of each chair.

- From magazines, tear out chairs that you like, take photocopies of chairs from books. Put them in a folder and bring them to the class.
- Examine and record the structural elements in the chairs that you encounter, note the failure points. Try not to get thrown out of Wendy's or Crate and Barrel.