

Making a Banjo from Scratch with Richard Newman  
October 3-11, 2020 (9 days)

Note: There is a \$500.00 material fee payable to Richard when you are here for class. Please bring a check with you to pay Richard directly.

**Tool list:**

**Necessary tools you may have already, or should have:**

Block plane - I use Stanley low angle #65 and #60-1/2

Bench plane - #3 or #4 smoother, or any other bench plane will do

Card scraper (flexible rectangular scraper) and sharpening tools

A few chisels - one narrow (1/16" or 1/8"), maybe a 3/8 or 1/2, or more...

A small gouge or two if you have them - not absolutely necessary

Rasp(s) for shaping - I like the hand cut half round Dragon rasps from Stewmac, very fast cutting but not too costly. The coarse ones really eat wood!

Some files - cabinet files, fine files, fine rat tail file, needle files, etc

6" triangular file, fine cut

Awl

Marking knife or X-ACTO knife with a few blades

Single edge razor blades - a few

Fine tweezers

Diagonal and/or end cutting pliers

Light hammer

Screwdrivers - flat and phillips

Square - any size up to 12" - I like Starrett combination squares

Ruler - at least 12", with fine (1/32 or 1/64) graduations - can be from square  
24" minimum, steel straight edge

Blue or green painter's masking tape 1" or 3/4"

Cordless drill and drill bits (if you're flying you can use mine)

Sharpening stones (I'll have my water stones)

### **Optional, but I can't live without them:**

6" Dial or digital calipers

Magnifier - I like the Optivisor DA-5 magnifying binoculars, especially with the Quasar lighting system

I also really like the little 6" Starrett flexible scales; I've always got one in my pocket-

#C305R-6 or #C304R- they can often be found cheap on eBay.

### **Luthiers Tools – optional, but useful**

For inlay work:

Dremel tool w/ router base and end mills (1/32, 1/16, 1/8 - carbide 2 flute)

Jewelers saw - I'll provide blades

Fine point scribe - a large sewing needle will do

Engraving tools

Fretting tools:

Fret hammer (we will use my press)

Nut files - .010, .012, .016, .024

Small benchtop vise for holding nuts

Sources for luthiers tools

Stewart MacDonald - [www.stewmac.com](http://www.stewmac.com)

Luthiers Mercantile - <http://www.lmii.com>

**Note-** When we get close to class time, we can make a group order with Stewmac and get a discount plus free shipping. We will also order gig bags or hard shell cases as desired. Stay tuned!

I will provide wood, glue, abrasives & all hardware, plus extra tools for those who may need them. If you have a special piece of wood or inlay material you'd like to use, check with me to make sure it will work out well.

Looking forward to a fun and productive 9 days!

### **Any questions or comments, here's how to contact me:**

Richard Newman

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