

Connecticut Valley School of Woodworking

Tool List For Introduction to Inlay with Steve Latta

In addition to a basic set of tools (chisels, block plane, combination square, etc.)

- Two X-acto knives with extra blades- #11. We will turn one of these into a clean-out tool.
- A decent compass and a set of dividers.
- A small, three square needle file. (I should have these available for sale)
- Cabinet scraper with a file for sharpening it.
- A 1 ½ or wider chisel, or a bench plane iron
- If you have trouble focusing on very small objects, purchase a set of reading glasses or an Optivisor.

Much of our work will be detailed.

- “Swissmade” gouge #2-10 or #3-10 or equivalent for cleaning corners.
- A slicing gauge to cut stringing. Most major tool suppliers sell a slicing gauge. Lie-Nielsen offers the slicing gauge that I designed. A Master Airscrew Balsa stripper is very inexpensive alternative that works well. We will also have these available to borrow if you do not want to purchase one for the class.
<http://www.hobbylinc.com/htm/mas/masma4000.htm>
- 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.

Tools for inlay by hand....

- Lie-Nielsen radius inlay cutter. IN-RC and 3” extensions IN-RC-EXT. Order this tool well in advance. They are often out of stock. This tool is required.
- 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. There will be plenty of tools to share.



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Modern Tooling:

- Dremel rotary tool with a router base. Any fixed or variable speed dremel unit that spins at 35,000 rpm should work. Do not get a cordless version.
- Router base #5260 from www.Stew-mac.com. This is an excellent tool that is very well made. Do not buy the dremel router base. It defines “garbage.”
- Two small 1” c-clamps to secure a fence to the router base if you bring one.
- Although it is not necessary, I would recommend purchasing the Deadman Foot Switch # 1301 available at <http://www.ptreecusa.com/routerControls.htm#20266>. This is a good switch selling for about half the price I’ve seen it elsewhere.
- I will have the 1/32 endmills for inlay available for use and sale. Do not buy the bits from Stew-Mac. They are a great company but last time I checked, they were more than twice my price.

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

If any of the above seem 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 again.

