

The Starter Shop Blueprint



Your First Tool Guide

Woodworking is an engaging, hands-on activity that allows you to transform simple wood pieces into something special. It's an opportunity to express your creativity and hone your problem-solving and artistic skills. The tools you use will have a direct impact on how successful you are. This Guide contains information on a number of woodworking tools that are often thought of as the *basic hand tools*. With these basic hand tools, a person will be able to begin their journey in woodworking. This listing should not be thought of as a complete list of tools, only as a good starting point. As you progress on your journey in woodworking you will find that there are additional tools that will enable you to perform a wide range of tasks; faster, safer, with greater accuracy, and increased enjoyment of this activity.

While you can certainly build functional projects with a limited set of budget gear. You will find that woodworking is far more rewarding when your tools deliver the accuracy, precision, safety, and repeatability you need when building projects you make.

Here are some additional benefits of using higher-quality tools:

Quality tools help ensure that joints fit tightly and components align perfectly, resulting in professional-level fit and increased durability.

- Accurate tools reduce the need for rework, which will save time and minimize material waste caused by measuring or alignment errors.
- Sharp, well-made tools are more predictable; dull or poorly built or difficult to calibrate tools are prone to slipping, mis-measuring, or using more force than necessary.
- Lastly, higher-end tools often feature better ergonomic designs that reduce physical strain, allowing you to work longer with less fatigue.

While the tools listed here are not the **best** or **most accurate** tools, they will allow you to get started on your woodworking journey, The tools listed in this guide are a balance between accuracy and costs. The tools will not break the bank in terms of cost or hold you back by being inaccurate or difficult to use. While there are higher quality tools, these are a good place to start. Why would I not want to use the highest quality tools available? That's simple, they will be

more accurate or of higher quality than what you need at this point in your woodworking abilities.

An example might be a Starrett® [435-12-4R](#); Combination Square has a squareness accuracy of +/- 0.0015" over the length of the 12- inch blade, which is really good. It is simply more accurate than you need it to be, or can even be. Remember, you will be working with **wood** which is an organic material, and will move with just the humidity in your shop. That Starrett Combination Square will also set you back a little over \$500.00.

In addition to the sources listed in this document, here are some other sources for quality tools. These include Facebook marketplace, Craigslist, community auctions and, [The Woodworkers Guild web site under the Resources](#) tab. So, let's get started with that basic Tool list.

****Just The Basics****

Safety Glasses – To protect your most valuable shop tools, your eyes



Rockler® \$31.99

Features: side shields, anti-fog coating, and impact-resistant polycarbonate lens.

Click to view: [Rockler Safety Glasses](#)

Woodcraft® \$12.99

Features: inner foam padding, anti-fog lenses, and scratch-resistant polycarbonate lens.

Click to view: [Woodcraft Safety Glasses](#)



Dust Protection - To protect your airway and your lungs so you can breathe



Woodcraft® \$39.99

Features: light weight mesh construction, single strap system and, capable of trapping particulates down to 0.1 micron.

Click to view: [Woodcraft Dust Mask](#)

Rockler® \$34.99

Features: adjustable Velcro® strap, replaceable filters, and, adjustable nose clip also helps to prevent fogging.

Click to view: [Rockler Face Mask](#)



Tape measure / steel ruler – To tool to keep you on the straight and measured path



Rockler® \$8.99

Features: 1/8", 1/16", 1/32", and 1/64" laser engraved graduations, hardened stainless steel, and satin finish.

Click to view: [Rockler Steel Ruler](#)

Woodcraft® \$39.99

Features: 1/8", 1/16", on one side and 1/32" on the other, laser engraved graduations, hardened stainless steel and, satin finish.

Click to view: [Woodcraft Steel Ruler](#)



Combination Square - A tool for marking and checking 90° and 45° angles



Woodcraft® \$53.99

Features: 1/8", 1/32", on one side and 1/16, 1/64" on the other, black micro-fine etched castings, level vial and, steel scribe tool.

Click to view: [Woodcraft Combination Square 12"](#)

Rockler® \$34.99

Features: 1/8", 1/16", 1/32", and, 1/64 graduations, hardened steel, includes level vial, and, satin chrome finish includes case.

Click to view: [Rockler Steel Ruler](#)



Block Plane – A tool for cutting end grain, touchup, and finish work



Rockler® \$69.99

Features: Stanley™ Model 12-960 Bailey Low-Angle Block Plan, low angle cutter, quick release cam lock.

Click to view: [Rockler Stanley Bailey Block Plane](#)

Woodcraft® \$114.99

Features: based on a classic design, knuckle style lever cap, soles and sides machined flat and square.

Click to view: [Woodcraft Block Plane](#)



Chisel Set – A set of tools for cutting, carving, and removing small amounts of wood with high precision



Woodcraft® \$43.99

Features: Handles that are ergonomically designed, made from impact resistant polypropylene, set includes 1/4", 1/2", 3/4" and 1".

Click to view: [Woodcraft Chisel Set](#)

Rockler® \$64.99

Features: tapered side for trimming tight corners, handles designed to withstand mallet blows, set includes 6mm, 12mm, 20mm, 26mm (0.24", 0.47", 0.79", 1.02").

Click to view: [Rockler Narex® Chisel Set](#)



Clamps - "F" and Bar Style Clamps To securely hold wood while glueing, cutting and fastening



Rockler® Cost dependent on type and quantity

"F" Style 18" length, Qty: 4 \$19.99 each

Bar Style 18" length, Qty:4 \$39.99 Each

Click to view: [Rockler® "F" Style Clamp](#)

Click to view [Bessy Bar Style Clamp](#)

Woodcraft® Cost dependent on type and quantity

"F" Style 18" length, Qty: 4 18.49 each

Bar Style 18" length, Qty:4 24.99 Each

Click to view: [Woodcraft® "F" Style Clamp](#)

Click to view: [Woodcraft® Bar Style Clamp](#)



Hand saw - Japanese / Western – Japanese hand saws cut on the pull stroke allowing for a thinner blade and saw kerf. Western hand saws cut on the push stroke requiring a thicker blade and wider saw kerf.



Woodcraft® \$34.99

Features: "Dozuki" style, combination, rip and crosscut, 0.3 mm blade thickness.

Click to view: [Woodcraft Dozuki Combination saw](#)

Rockler® \$39.99

Features: "Dozuki" style, crosscut blade, 0.5 mm blade thickness.

Click to view: [Rockler Cross Cut Japanese Handsaw](#)



Drill/Driver Combination – Drill/Driver for boring holes and fastening screws. Impact Driver for tightening and loosening larger screws and bolts, and a battery with charger for a power.

Home Depot© – DeWalt® \$249.99

Features: Includes Compact Drill/Driver, Impact Driver & Tool Bag, (2) 20V Batteries 2.0Ah & Charger.

Compatible w/ All DEWALT 20V MAX Batteries & Chargers

Click to view: [Home Depot Dewalt Drill/Driver Combo](#)



Home Depot© Milwaukee™ \$199.00

Features: Drill/Driver Delivers 500 in-lbs. of torque
Impact Driver delivers 1500 in-lbs. of Fastening Torque

Click to view: [Home Depot Milwaukee Drill/Driver Combo](#)

Lowes™ – DeWalt® \$249.99

Features: Includes Compact Drill/Driver, Impact Driver & Tool Bag, (2) 20V Batteries 2.0Ah & Charger.

Compatible w/ All DEWALT 20V MAX Batteries & Chargers.

Click to view: [Lowes Dewalt Drill/Driver Combo](#)



Lowes™ Craftsman™ \$239.00

Features: Includes Compact Drill/Driver, Impact Driver & Tool Bag, (2) 20V Batteries 2.0Ah & Charger

Compatible w/ All (100 +) Craftsman V20 Batteries & Chargers.

Click to view: [Lowes Craftsman Drill/Driver Combo](#)

Drill Bits/Driver Set - Designed to cut circular holes in various materials. And, secure or remove fasteners like screws, nuts, and bolts.

Home Depot© – DeWalt® \$29.97

Features: Ultra-hard black oxide offers long-life and durability, suitable for drilling wood, metal, plastic and fiberglass, designed to ensure quick starts and clean holes.

21 piece set Sizes 1/16 to 1/2

Click to view: [Home Depot Dewalt Twist Drill Bit Set](#)



Lowes™ DeWalt® \$24.98

Features: **Same** Dewalt Bit Set, only at Lowes.

21 piece set Sizes 1/16 to 1/2

Click to view: [Lowes Dewalt Twist Drill Bit Set](#)

Home Depot© – DeWalt® \$12.97

Features: Anti-snap design ensures 3X improved impact performance, precision fit tip reduces cam-out, laser engraved size ID enables easy bit identification.

30-piece set

Click to view: [Home Depot Dewalt Screwdriving Bit Set](#)



Lowes™ DeWalt® \$29.98

Features: CNC-machined bit tip for precise fit in screw heads for reducing cam-out, magnetic Screw Lock sleeve minimizes drops and reduces wobbles, connectable accessory storage system to optimize storage space

32-piece set

Click to view: [Lowes Dewalt Screwdriving Bit Set](#)

Jig Saw -Used for making curved, intricate, and straight cuts in wood, metal, plastic

Please Note: *It is advised to purchase the same manufacture for both the jig saw and drill/driver as both battery-operated tools will be able to use the same battery and battery charger. Purchasing the same manufacture will save you the cost of battery and charger.*

Home Depot© – DeWalt® \$129.00 (**Tool Only**)

Features: Includes (2) Blades, ideal for cutting a variety of materials, uses T-shank jig saw blades for professional results, compatible w/ All (200+) DEWALT 20-Volt MAX Batteries & Chargers

Click to view: [Home Depot Dewalt Jig Saw](#)





Lowes™ Craftsman™ Jig Saw \$14.00 (**Tool Only**)

Features: Tool-free blade release allows for easy blade changes, variable speed trigger that adjusts cut speeds up to 3,200 no-load SPM, 3 orbital cut settings, onboard LED light.

Compatible w/ All (100 +) Craftsman V20 Batteries & Chargers.

Click to view: [Lowes Craftsman Jig Saw](#)

Work Bench - Is a specialized, heavy-duty table designed to provide a stable, flat surface for holding, crafting, and assembling wood projects.

While there are literally thousands of woodworking benches ranging from simple saw horses and a couple of wooden planks. Costing less than \$100.00....



...to master craftsman level, career defining statement pieces that easily cost several thousand dollars.

WE, would recommend something towards the saw horse and plank end of the scale for your first workbench. There are many resources available for plans, kits and ideas on how to build your own. Magazines like Wood, Woodsmith, Fine WoodWorking, and Popular Woodworking. Web based resources like, YouTube, and Pinterest, and Google Images. And, a number of retailers have lower cost Workbench kits available for purchase.

And, when the time comes and your skills have advanced, that is a great time to design and build that craftsman styled statement piece.

Lastly, a several consumable items to round out your woodworking starter list.

Wood Glue - PVA glues are the most common type of wood glues, the bond is often stronger than the surrounding wood fibers. There are some slight differences between the different brands mainly in terms of rate of drying and easy of clean-up. There is a more in-depth guide also available on the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild Web site called **Wood Glues and Adhesives**.



For additional information on Titebond II Wood Glue.
[Titebond II Premium Wood Glue](#)

For additional information on DAP Weldwood Wood Glue.
[DAP Weldwood Wood Glue](#)



Other Woodworking glues and adhesives – There are several other glues or adhesives that are commonly used in woodworking, those would be Epoxies and a class of adhesives called Cyanoacrylate (CA) glue, commonly known as super glue.



For additional information on Five-minute Epoxy.
[Five-minute Epoxy](#)

For additional information on cyanoacrylate glue.
[Starbond Thick & Accelerator](#)



Abrasive (sand) Paper – Used to smooth, shape, or remove material (paint, rust, varnish) from wood, metal, or plastic, primarily to prepare surfaces for finishing.



For additional information on 3M abrasive (sand) paper.

[3M Sanding Sheets](#)

Masking Tape – One of the most important tools in your woodworking shop can be masking tapes, here is a great article from Wood Magazine explaining 32 different uses for Masking Tapes. [Masking Tape Uses](#).



For additional information on Painters (masking) Tape.

[3M Painters Tape](#)