



RON HERMAN

Ron has done everything from pit-sawing trees to hand-building log cabins with mule teams to creating and aging historic restorations to match the existing structures, as well as building multi-million-dollar new-construction homes. He is credentialed to meet the strict standards for working on houses registered with the National Historic Trust, and has performed several period restorations.

UNDERSTANDING WOOD FOR THE CABINET MAKER (PAID \$50)

- Friday and Saturday: 9:00am - 12pm

If you have ever worked with wood, you have very likely at some point been frustrated by its variable and ever-changing behavior. Why did your beautiful table top warp so quickly? What made your locust veneer crack off beech substrate on your guitar project? How do you stop the panels on your cabinet doors from shrinking and gapping? Problems with failure can always be predicted and circumvented if you understand the structure and nature of wood. That's where Ron comes in.

Understanding the physical structure and properties of wood (dendrology) is the most important knowledge you should have as a woodworker. If you understand how lumber is cut and what that means for your projects, how to select the best wood for your project from retail outlets, how to read defects in wood and how to understand the behavior of wood over time, your project success will be high. In this three-hour seminar, Ron explains all these things and more, and answers your questions to help you improve your woodworking skills.

This very popular seminar is derived from a 40-hour course developed in conjunction with the U.S. Forestry Service and the University of Wisconsin at Lacrosse, and Ron has delivered a 6-hour video on this subject through Popular Woodworking. It provides lots of hands-on opportunities and doses of Herman wisdom and humor, and will definitely send you on your way with your brain full!

VENEERING BASICS (PAID \$50)

- Sunday: 10:00am - 1pm

Want to spice up that boring box or add some pizzazz to a cabinet face? Adding veneer can be a beautiful way to add some punch or elegance to your project. Veneer has been a common aspect of woodworking for more than 400 years and is a good way to take your woodworking to the next level by building your skill sets.

Join Ron to learn about different veneers and the advantages of using veneer, harvesting methods and methods and mechanics of application, as well as different forms of veneer that are appropriate for different projects – raw, paper-backed, phenolic-backed, etc., and how to apply them to different substrates. Learn how a common drug store compound can be a great help, and how a simple vacuum press can immensely simplify your veneer application. Ron will provide several demonstrations to assist you in gain and retain knowledge on the subject.

Finally, Ron will give you information and tips about buying veneer so you can make advised choices for obtaining veneer to enhance your projects.

FUN WITH WOOD

- Friday and Saturday: 1pm

Wood always floats... doesn't it? And how much would the karate enthusiast's hospital bill be if you rotated his hand-chopping block $\frac{1}{4}$ turn before he hits it? Count on Ron to show you interesting and amusing features of wood that will also give you knowledge to help improve your projects. Your learning about how water moves through wood may help keep you out of trouble when you build that patio table your wife has been asking for, and a fun party trick may keep you out of hot water with the application of hot water.

JOINERY FOR THE CABINETMAKER

- Friday and Saturday: 2:30pm

Showcasing quality tools from Veritas/Lee Valley, Ron will explain and demonstrate basic joints that need to be learned and practiced in order to master cabinetry. Learn specific and alternative joints for frame and drawer construction, differentiating between solid wood and plywood fastening methods. Ron will provide a visual comparison of these methods with demonstrator drawers built with each joint constructed using a different method. Learn the IDIOT principle and what it means for your solid-wood drawer construction!

KEEPING IT SHARP

- Friday and Saturday: 4pm

Sharp tools are safer, faster and more effective and efficient to use. It doesn't have to take eight hours and sixteen stones of varying grits from different countries to effectively sharpen your tools. Learn how to sharpen like professional housewrights do—quickly, effectively and cost-efficiently—so as not to waste time on the job. Ron will teach you how to know what your tools need—cutting, sharpening and/or honing—and how to produce that keen edge that will glide through your next project. This course covers chisels, planes, knives, turning tools, bits, and other edged tools. Remember, there are only two states to any edged tool: Sharp, and Not Sharp!