

Hand Tool Sharpening

Did you ever want to build a paddle or boat but dreaded using your handplane or chisel because it was so difficult to use and didn't work anyway? Did you ever ask yourself why your beautiful brand new hand tool just creates more work than it saves? Perhaps your hand tool isn't properly sharpened. Even brand new tools aren't ready to use out of the box and need to be properly sharpened.

A sharp hand tool is a joy to use and is a much safer tool too. Dan Morrison will be showing anyone interested how to properly sharpen a hand tool using Japanese water stones. Although the demonstration will focus mainly on the use of Japanese waterstones, the techniques can be used for any sharpening medium such as sandpaper or oil stones. Dan has been working with wood for many years and learned how to sharpen hand tools from the senior editor of American Woodworker Magazine, Tom Caspar.

So bring your favorite sharpening system or just come to watch. By the end of the session you will have learned how to sharpen your hand tool to perfection.

What to bring:

Plane blade, wide chisel (narrow ones are more difficult to sharpen), or spokeshave blade

Japanese water stones (or other favorite sharpening system) - 800X, 1200X, 4000X, and a Nagura stone (can be purchased at Rockler and Woodcraft)

Honing guide of your choice - Lee-Valley/Veritas sells several types to fit your budget.

If you have any questions regarding equipment, please contact Dan Morrison at df.morrison@comcast.net.