

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

S4D08297 BUILD A TRADITIONAL BOARDED CHEST

Tutors: DEREK JONES, with MARTIN GREEN

Dates: 4 DAYS WEDNESDAY 31 OCTOBER – SUNDAY 4 NOVEMBER

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

The boarded chest is a design that is almost as old as the concept of furniture itself and is as relevant today as it has ever been. It's a design that challenges the wisdom of contemporary makers and one that may cause you to question some of your own theories about construction and assembly. On this four day course you will build a simple box from poplar, suitable for sitting on and working out of with a hinged lid and carrying handles.

The project is designed for students wishing to develop a range of skills that will enable them to construct simple forms using a small collection of basic hand tools and robust joinery. You will learn to design 'on the fly' by maximising the potential of the material and not be restrained by a cutting list or drawing. Using hand tools and techniques that often contradict the contemporary rules of woodworking construction. As well as learning how to maximize the potential of wide boards, you'll also learn to cut joints that are ready for assembly straight off the saw and do not require glue. There is scope for more experienced woodworkers to embellish their chest by producing decorative mouldings by hand.

As no piece of furniture is complete without a finish you will learn how to make your own bees wax polish suitable for use on the inside. For the outside you will have the option to use the oldest and most long lasting paint finish known to man (milk paint) or try your hand at wood graining to create the illusion of the finest hard wood in the world; English oak, in a session taught by paint finish specialist Martin Green.

This course includes multiple skills that when combined will enable the student to build furniture in a style that will last several lifetimes.

LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

For those who have taken a related course or have some existing skills, and for more experienced practitioners who want to expand skills. The focus is on working towards independent practice.

Is there anything a potential student needs to be able to do to succeed on this course?

To make the most of this course we recommend that students are able to sharpen their own tools (or those supplied) independently. Although some instruction will be given as to how to tune some tools for a specific purpose we will not be able to cover the basics or sharpen your tools for you. A range of sharpening equipment will be made available to use in the workshop. Woodworking is a very physical activity. We're aiming to cover a lot of techniques in a short space of time so to keep pace with the class you might need to work into the evening to remain on target.

ABOUT YOUR TUTORS:

Derek Jones has been the editor of *Furniture & Cabinetmaking* magazine for the last eight years and has written extensively on the subject. A furniture maker with more than thirty years' experience he now splits his time between teaching, demonstrating and running a bespoke furniture making business.

Martin Green owns a commercial decorating service based in the Cotswolds specialising in traditional finishes. A master of his trade his skills are highly sought after in the country houses of England. Among his repertoire of finishes is the traditional craft of graining, both wood and marble effects for which he has won national awards.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Wednesday 31 October

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
5.30pm	Workshops available for dropping off equipment and materials
6.45pm	Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner
7.00pm	Dinner
8.00pm–9.00pm	First teaching session – attendance is an essential part of the course. Students will receive a talk on the health and safety issues relating to this course and be issued with a set of dimensioned drawings outlining the scope of each project.

Other days: Thursday 1 to Saturday 3 November

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Evening working: workshops are available up to 10pm for those wishing to work on providing this has been discussed with the tutor. These sessions are untutored.

Departure day: Sunday 4 November

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.00pm	Classes finish, please vacate workshop by 3.30pm
3.30pm	Tea then departure

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

Please see note about ensuring any tools you bring are sharpened before the course.

MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm.

For any materials you need to purchase from the shop, we suggest you do so during the first morning of your course, after having discussed with your tutor.

Additional charge:

On this course the tutor will supply all of the materials. This charge of not more than £160 should be paid to the tutor four weeks before the start of the course, by bank transfer, cheque or other means by prior arrangement – when you have booked, please email Derek at dj3dis@gmail.com to liaise about paying for materials.

Please bring:

1 x 250ml metal or glass container with an air tight lid suitable for containing wax polish

Please bring as many items on the tool list below as you can:

Marking knife
Marking gauge
Engineers try square
Dividers
Steel rule
Tape measure
Carcass, Sash or cross-cut tenon saw
Coping or fret saw with spare blades
Hand drill or cordless drill driver
Drill bits 3mm – 6mm plus countersink
Screwdrivers – flat and pozi
Bevel edge chisels 4mm – 20mm
Mallet
Hammer
Bradawl
Block plane
Shoulder plane
Smoothing plane #4
Jack plane #5
Router plane
Hair dryer

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Students may work unsupervised on agreed projects once they have satisfied the tutor as to their competence. There may be restrictions on the equipment available to students in the tutor's absence. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.