Tool List For Inlay Class with Steve Latta -

In addition to a basic set of tools (chisels, block plane, screwdrivers, hammer, dovetail saw, combination square, dead blow mallet, adjustable bevel, etc.) ….

- X-acto knives with extra blades #11
- Two decent compasses and a set of dividers. Cheap compasses that cannot be firmly set will cause inaccuracies and a lot of related frustration.
- A circle template.

Cabinet scraper with a file for sharpening it.

If you have trouble focusing on very small objects, purchase a set of reading glasses. Much of our work will be detailed.

A slicing gauge. Lie-Nielsen, Lee-Valley and most other companies offer a slicing gauge. We will be using it to slice veneers. Lie-Nielsen is offering the slicing gauge that I designed. A Master Airscrew Balsa stripper is very inexpensive tool that does a nice job when combined with a 1” c-clamp and is a nice place to start. See http://www.hobbyline.com/htm/mas/masma4000.htm. I will be bringing several that we can share so do not feel the need to bring one. There will be several you can try.

12” straightedge. Combination square blades work fine

A tape dispenser of ¾” Scotch tape – transparent.

Carving chisels—if you have them—especially gouges. Bring whatever you have and we’ll see what we can create. For the bellflower that we will be doing, we will be using a #5-20 and a #5-30 Swissmade. We will only be using them briefly so if you don’t see this as being a major part of your work, save your money and we’ll share. We will also use a Swiss made #7-18 for stringing and this is a good chisel for multiple inlay operations. Purchase a #2-10 for cleaning
corners. These chisels are expensive and I would prioritize them as #2-10, and #5-20 as priority. #7-18 as important and #5-30 we can share if you don’t have them. I will bring a few to share. Palm chisels if you have them. Don’t go out and buy them for this workshop. 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.

**For doing inlay by hand:**

Lie-Nielsen radius inlay cutter. IN-RC and 3” extensions IN-RC-EXT. Purchasing this tool will save a great deal of workshop time. This tool is required and I suggest you order it well ahead of time.

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.

**For doing inlay with 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. Also, purchase the router base #5260 from [www.Stew-mac.com](http://www.Stew-mac.com). This is an excellent tool that is very well made. Do not buy the dremel router base. It defines “garbage.” This router/base combination will get a lot of use in class and I consider it essential.

- 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.ptreeusa.com/routerControls.htm#20266](http://www.ptreeusa.com/routerControls.htm#20266). This is a good switch selling for about half the price I’ve seen it elsewhere.

I will provide the endmills for inlay in class and have extras available for sale. Do not buy the bits from Stew-Mac. Last time I checked, they were three times my price.

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