

# Material List

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In this list, I included all the needed tools for our workshop. The basswood blanks that we will carve will be sent to you in the mail (**If you decide to purchase the Class KIT**). In addition, I will provide you with cutting plans of our projects in case you prefer to saw the blanks yourself.

Each student will need to have:

- A **carving knife**.
- A **strop** for maintaining and honing the knife and a **sharpening medium** for the initial sharpening of the knife.
- A set of inexpensive **needle rasps**.
- Hand and thumb **protection gear**.

I listed below the names of tools and how to source them. I assume that many of you already possess some of the tools and might only need to buy a few. I tried to be as cost-conscious as possible so I provided a few buying options for most of the tools and supplies.

**Carving knife:** A carving knife is used for slicing away wood. I prefer using a straight blade knife and I included two links for you to choose from.

1. **Amazon:** This carving knife (\$12) is good and affordable. I am not sure where it is made. [https://www.amazon.com/Cutting-knife-carving-general-purpose/dp/B071WCH6T4/ref=sr\\_1\\_14?crid=3CZQGDM53C&dchild=1&keywords=beaver+crafter+carving+kit&qid=1622730684&prefix=beaver+crafter+%2Caps%2C155&sr=8-14](https://www.amazon.com/Cutting-knife-carving-general-purpose/dp/B071WCH6T4/ref=sr_1_14?crid=3CZQGDM53C&dchild=1&keywords=beaver+crafter+carving+kit&qid=1622730684&prefix=beaver+crafter+%2Caps%2C155&sr=8-14)
2. **Lee Valley:** This carving knife (\$15) has a more traditional design and is made in Germany. Choose style #8 from the dropdown list. <https://www.leevalley.com/en-us/shop/tools/hand-tools/carving-tools/knives/31083-german-chip-carving-knives?item=06D0408>
3. **Taylor Toolworks**, one of my favorite woodworking suppliers, sells a British-made marking and carving knife (\$18) that comes with five exchangeable blades. This is a good option for those who wish to avoid the need of sharpening their knives. <https://taytools.com/products/swann-morton-dovetail-marking-knife?variant=18098346590259>

**Sharpening media:** A strop, a sharpening stone, or sandpapers can be used to sharpen and hone our knives. A strop is a must-have tool. A stone or a few sheets of sandpaper are very helpful too.

1. **Strop.** A strop is a piece of leather that is charged with a honing compound and is used to maintain the sharpness of your knife. People repurpose old belts or small pieces of scrap leather to make their own strops. I like to glue the leather to a piece of wood for enhanced stability and flatness. I prefer a paste compound which I spread over the leather. A stick compound (it looks like a green crayon) is another option.

- a. **Amazon**: A wide and long strop (\$10) with two compound sticks:  
[https://www.amazon.com/Leather-Honing-Strop-Green-Compound/dp/B07214VMGB/ref=sr\\_1\\_37?crid=3CZQGMSAB53C&dchild=1&keywords=beaver+crafter+carving+kit&qid=1622731098&srefix=beaver+crafter+%2Caps%2C155&sr=8-37](https://www.amazon.com/Leather-Honing-Strop-Green-Compound/dp/B07214VMGB/ref=sr_1_37?crid=3CZQGMSAB53C&dchild=1&keywords=beaver+crafter+carving+kit&qid=1622731098&srefix=beaver+crafter+%2Caps%2C155&sr=8-37)
  - b. **Taylor Toolworks** sells this strop, which is made in the USA and comes with a high-quality compound.  
<https://taytools.com/products/copy-of-french-2-sided-leather-strop-3-x-10-stropping-surface?variant=32366542946391>
  - c. **Amazon**: This is my favorite paste compound:  
[https://www.amazon.com/Extra-Fine-Honing-Polishing-Compound/dp/B07NCC1TMB/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?crid=11U10CHJA0HUV&dchild=1&keywords=honing+compound+paste&qid=1622765331&srefix=paste+honing+com%2Cstripbooks%2C150&sr=8-2](https://www.amazon.com/Extra-Fine-Honing-Polishing-Compound/dp/B07NCC1TMB/ref=sr_1_2?crid=11U10CHJA0HUV&dchild=1&keywords=honing+compound+paste&qid=1622765331&srefix=paste+honing+com%2Cstripbooks%2C150&sr=8-2)
2. **Sharpening stone.** A sharpening stone is a more aggressive medium for removing steel from your blade. Most knives will need initial sharpening by a stone followed by a strop. After the initial sharpening on the stone, your knife's blade can be occasionally maintained by the strop alone. If you have a flat sharpening stone you can use it of course, but if you need to buy one I really recommend a diamond stone. This one from **Taylor Toolworks** is a good choice.  
<https://taytools.com/products/400-1000-grit-diamond-sharpening-stone?variant=17996458426419>
3. **Sandpaper.** Many like to use sandpaper instead of water, oil, or diamond stones. Today's sandpapers come in a plethora of options. Wet-dry silicon carbide, Ceramic, and even diamond stone. If you buy sandpaper that has an adhesive backing (Pressure Sensitive Adhesive) you could affix it to a hard surface such as a plate of glass, a tile, or even plywood, and use it as a good substitute for a sharpening stone.
- a. **Taylor Toolworks** sell a good PSA sandpaper kit plus a glass plate at \$24  
<https://taytools.com/products/one-sheet-5-16-x-5-x-12-float-glass-and-7-sheets-3m-psa-lapping-film-for-scary-sharp-system?variant=31429168758871>
  - b. Another option from **Taylor Toolworks** is to buy just a set of sandpaper without the glass sheets.  
<https://taytools.com/products/7-sheet-3m-psa-lapping-microfinishing-film-414x11?variant=17805360070707>

**Needle rasps** are great tools that can be a substitute for the knife and in some situations can even be more effective. However, needle rasps work slower. These rasps are also the perfect tool for children who learn how to carve. **Amazon** sells a good and inexpensive set (\$8). Here is the link:

[https://www.amazon.com/DS-Space-Needle-Rubber-Bastard-Carving/dp/B075SW5LCR/ref=sr\\_1\\_10?crid=1SY092GO01SAK&dchild=1&keywords=needle+rasp+set&qid=1622893319&srefix=needle+rasp%2Cstripbooks%2C150&sr=8-10](https://www.amazon.com/DS-Space-Needle-Rubber-Bastard-Carving/dp/B075SW5LCR/ref=sr_1_10?crid=1SY092GO01SAK&dchild=1&keywords=needle+rasp+set&qid=1622893319&srefix=needle+rasp%2Cstripbooks%2C150&sr=8-10)

**Safety Gear** in our case is a way to protect your hands and fingers from accidental cutting. I find that a protective glove on the non-dominant hand and a thumb guard on the thumb of the dominant hand provides adequate protection.

1. **Protection gloves:** I bought my **fabric** gloves via **Amazon**. You can get yours for around \$8. Here is a link to the No-cut gloves products page.  
[https://www.amazon.com/s?k=no+cut+gloves&ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss\\_1](https://www.amazon.com/s?k=no+cut+gloves&ref=nb_sb_noss_1)
2. **Thumb guards:** Although you can wear a glove on the dominant hand (the hand that holds the knife) many prefer to use a thumb protector instead.
  - a. Here is a link to a good product via **Amazon**:  
[https://www.amazon.com/Treeline-Leather-Thumb-Guard-Large/dp/B00A6OXEFI/ref=sr\\_1\\_7?dchild=1&keywords=carving+thumb+guard&qid=1622894294&sr=8-7](https://www.amazon.com/Treeline-Leather-Thumb-Guard-Large/dp/B00A6OXEFI/ref=sr_1_7?dchild=1&keywords=carving+thumb+guard&qid=1622894294&sr=8-7)
  - b. **Taylor Toolworks** sell a high-quality set that includes **3 guards** for many years of use. <https://taytools.com/pages/search-results-page?q=thumb+protection>