

# Timber Framing Tool List

Investing or borrowing these tools will help to ensure your workshop experience is a productive, fun and a safe experience!

**At a MINIMUM; all participants MUST have a mallet, a chisel, hand plane and personal safety equipment (talk to us if financial circumstances prevent you from affording the workshop PLUS the tool costs and we will work something out!)**

## 1. Framing Chisel

- 1 ½" & 2"; if you can only afford one, get the 1 ½"

- recommended brands: Sorby (*Lee Valley, Welbeck Sawmill*) or Barr Quarton ([www.barrtools.com](http://www.barrtools.com))

*\*NOTE: Most chisels do not come sharpened for use! Lee Valley and Barr Quarton do have sharpening service available...but only upon request! We will teach you sharpening techniques during the workshop, however arriving with a sharp chisel will make you a much happier camper, as it is difficult to focus on sharpening when you are eager to cut your first joint!*



Figure 1 Sorby Registered Mortise Chisels

Figure 2 Barr Quarton Hand-forged Chisels

## 2. Framing Mallet

32-48 Oz. Wooden (Lignum Vitae, or other hardwood) mallet or Deadblow mallet. (*Welbeck Sawmill for the wood; Lee Valley for the Deadblow*). Another option is the popular splithead weighted featuring replaceable rawhide strike faces, which absorbs shock and reduces glancing blows.

The wooden mallet is far superior, and well worth the extra money and effort seeking one out, however the deadblow, at a fraction of the cost, is a suitable beginners mallet.



Figure 3-2 1½ lb Weighted Rawhide splithead mallet

## 3. Framing Square

While there are a few fantastic aluminum framing squares out there...the most common of them are garbage! Best to go for a good steel square: Shinwa, a Japanese company, makes a fantastic square as well as Stanley. (*Lee Valley for the Shinwa; Welbeck for the Stanley*)

## 4. Combination Square

These can be picked up at many hardware stores: Stanley makes a bright yellow one which has an all metal body and is reasonably good for the money. Another option, the proverbial "Cadillac", would be the 12" Starrett (*Welbeck Sawmill for the Stanley and Lee Valley for the Starrett*)



**Figure 4 Starrett combination square set.**

### **5. Block Plane - Low angle and standard**

Both Stanley (the professional ones) and Record (distinguished by their blue paint-job) make decent planes. A great value for the confident are the Veritas planes available through Lee Valley. Also available are wooden hand plane. Ulma is a manufacturer to seek out in this type and they are available at Welbeck Sawmill. Japanese hand planes are of course the cat's pajamas so to speak, but are rather finicky (e.g. inappropriate) for a beginner or intermediate level workshop setting.

### **6. Hand Saw**

Crosscut and Rip saws are ideal, however a good rip saw is becoming quite scarce. For the purposes of the Square Rule Workshop, a Stanley Shark Saw or other crosscut/rip combination saw would work just fine. As for the Plumb Line Scribe Workshop, a variety of saws will help you tweak your work just so... so bring a variety if you can!!! Also, Japanese saws offer qualities which are unparalleled in western saws. Most notably, the saw is designed to cut on the pull stroke, rather than the push stroke, resulting in a straighter cut. *(Lee Valley for the Japanese and Fine western rip saws, most other hardware stores for the combo saws)*

### **7. Safety Equipment**

Safety Glasses/sunglasses, hearing protection (plugs or muffs), Safety shoes approved by CSA (green triangle)

### **Other items to bring, which will greatly facilitate your time at the workshop:**

- An open mind
- Water Bottle
- Sunscreen
- Sun Hat
- Warm Layers
- Pencils
- Paper
- Olfa Knife
- 12-24" flexi steel rule (for scoring)
- 2' level
- Torpedo level
- Camera
- Scientific Calculator

### **Suppliers:**

Welbeck Sawmill  
 RR2 Durham, Ontario N0G 1R0      Tel: 519-369-2144      Fax: 519-369-2787  
[www.welbecksawmill.com](http://www.welbecksawmill.com)

Lee Valley  
[www.leevalley.com](http://www.leevalley.com)

Barr Quarton Tools  
[www.barrtools.com](http://www.barrtools.com)      1 800 235 4452