

## COURSE DETAILS – LONG WEEKEND LW0218

TITLE: MAKING SIMPLE FURNITURE – A SMALL CABINET

TUTOR: PETER KUH

LEVEL: BEGINNERS

---

**AIMS OF COURSE:**

This course has been designed for students who are new to woodwork or have only little past experience and would like to develop further knowledge and skill. They will be introduced to the technology of carcass and drawer construction, while making a cabinet in a solid hardwood.

**WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD ACHIEVE:**

All students should complete all of the woodwork on the cabinet and drawer by the end of the course.

**MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES COVERED:**

The cabinet and drawer will be made from solid hardwood with birch plywood used for the drawer bottom.

Techniques: biscuit-jointing and routing grooves (under 1:1 supervision by tutor), cutting shoulders by hand, cleaning up and gluing up.

**TEACHING METHOD:**

The project as a whole will be introduced and the technology will be explained that determines the construction methods used. The use of each tool and process used will be demonstrated and followed by student practice. The tutor will supervise students and help as required.

**EVENING SESSIONS:****First evening session – attendance is an essential part of the course:**

After an introduction to the tutor's work, there will be a quick introduction to timber technology followed by:

- Discussion of some basic principles of working with wood effectively.
- Explanation of the project and the joints to be used.
- Discussion of the order of work and the skills to be covered in making the carcass and drawer.
- Demonstration of sharpening of chisels and plane blades.

**Other optional evening activities:**

The workshop is available until 10pm and students may work on with agreed aspects of their work at the discretion of the tutor. These sessions will be unsupervised.

**GENERAL TIMETABLE:**

DAY 1 – Distribution of components for carcass and discussion of order of work. All students mark face sides and edges. Demonstration of biscuit jointing and discussion of strength of biscuits relative to traditional joints. Demonstration of sharpening scraper followed by student practice. Demonstration of cutting slots for drawer stops in top shelf using a router. Tutor supervises students 1:1 as they cut biscuit joints and rout slots for drawer stops. All students clean up interior surfaces of carcass using scraper and abrasive paper. Demonstration of gluing up carcass followed by glue up by some students.

DAY 2 – Demonstration of cleaning up outside of carcass. Those students who have glued up carcass clean up outside using scraper, block plane and abrasive paper. Students who have not yet glued up carcass do so.

Discussion of drawer construction using biscuits. Students given drawer components already cut to size with grooves cut in the sides and front for the bottom. Tutor supervises students using the biscuit jointer for drawer joints.

Demonstration of gluing up drawers. Some students glue up drawers.

DAY 3 – Those students who have not yet glued up drawers do so. Discussion and demonstration of cleaning up and fitting drawers. Students clean up and fit drawers. Discussion of finishing using Danish oil. Those students who are at an appropriate point in the project finish their cabinets and drawers using Danish oil.

**STUDENT PREPARATION FOR COURSE IF ANY:**

None necessary.

**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.

KUHI3D3

**MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE:**

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ON PRACTICAL COURSES YOU MAY WELL NEED TO PURCHASE MATERIALS THROUGHOUT THE COURSE TO COMPLETE PROJECTS

Included in the course fee is the cost of timber provided for the project and some materials shared amongst the group.

**These items will be available for purchase in the College Shop:**

Abrasive papers and finishing materials  
Slimline knives

**Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:**

Overall or apron  
Comfortable, sturdy footwear

Note: Tools and equipment are provided by the College Workshop.

**COURSE TIMETABLE** (unless otherwise stated above or agreed with the tutor during the course)

Course timetable for 2–9 day courses – each course starts with a welcome session on the first evening of the start date of the course and is followed by 2–9 days depending on the length of the course.

<b>Arrival Day</b>	From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students. Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner.
	7.00	Dinner.
	8.15–9.15	First teaching session.
<b>Daily Timetable</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Morning classes.</b>
	10.30	Coffee.
	12.45pm	Lunch.
	<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Afternoon classes.</b>
	3.30	Tea.
	5.00	Classes finish.
	7.00	Dinner.
	8.15	Evening working – students may have evening access to certain workshops in the absence of their tutor, but only with their tutor's permission and provided it is safe to do so.
<b>Departure – last day</b>	10.00am	Residential students are asked to vacate rooms.
	3.00pm	Classes finish.
	3.30	Tea then departure.