

## 2018 CATALOG OF SHAKER BOX SUPPLIES

For the past thirty years we have been introducing people to Shaker oval boxes by giving hands-on workshops in box making and supplying box makers with the wood, hardware, tools and instructional materials needed for box construction. We offer bands and tops and bottoms for a wide range of sizes and styles of boxes, carriers and trays starting from the log and overseeing cutting, drying and surfacing of all materials to insure quality. Tops and bottoms are solid wood in the smaller sizes, and special shop made plywood for larger sizes requiring the dimensional stability of cross banded boards.

The copper tacks used in oval box construction are made on machines that date back to the late 1800's. Our machines were acquired from the W.W. Cross Nail Co. when they ceased tack manufacturing in 1991. We currently make nine sizes of tacks plus the 1/2" copper shoe peg used for securing top and bottom boards when copper is preferred in place of wood pegs.

We guarantee satisfaction in all your purchases. We welcome phone orders at 517-543-5325 (9-5 eastern, M-F) and send all orders with an invoice for your payment by check after you receive it.

### News for 2018

Our website continues to be complimented by those who find us there. First time box makers can take advantage of the "Getting Started Special" (page 4) with its \$50 discount. Be sure to look for the articles section containing downloads like "Slicing Thick Cherry Veneer for Bending" and articles John has written for **Popular Woodworking**. See "Building Shaker Oval Boxes" #135 Aug, 2003 for step photos and patterns on how to make the nest of 5 boxes taught in our Box Basics class and John's cover story from issue #227 Oct, 2016 on "Crown Boxes."

The PBS program "A Craftsmen's Legacy, The Woodworker" (season 1, episode #1) can still be found on air introducing what John feels is his legacy. You'll get a glimpse into box and tool making at the Home Shop. A DVD of the program is available for free upon request in case you've missed it.

### Home Shop Books

*Making Wood Tools with John Wilson* (page 3) was reviewed by Highland Woodworking News as "what may be the most beautiful book of the year as well as the most useful." Now in its 2<sup>nd</sup> edition that won the 2015 Gold Award from the non-fiction authors association. Included are five new tools available as a supplement free from the Home Shop to those who bought the first edition

*Shaker Oval Boxes Vol I: A Craftsman's Guide to Original, Derivative and Diverse Forms of the Oval Box* (page 3) is an illustrated overview of boxes, carriers, trays and more with helpful dimensions for the craftsman.

*Shaker Oval Boxes Vol II: Projects, Plans, Processes* (page 3). The complete how-to book on making oval boxes, carriers, trays and more (240 pages) color photos and hard bound.

*Shaker Oval Boxes Vol III* when finished will focus on history, materials and markets. An eBook on CD is available for all the books containing PDF, ePUB and MOBi files (page 3).

For all of us here at the Home Shop, may your boxes bring satisfaction to you and joy to others.

*JOHN WILSON*



Box making in Syracuse/Polaski, NY, the longest running event on the road for John and Eric - 23 years!

## BOX MAKING SUPPLIES

☞ **FIRST TIME BOX MAKERS**, I suggest the nest of five boxes (#0-#4). Throughout the supply list, hand symbols indicate wood, tacks and bench materials needed to make these boxes. See especially the "Getting Started in Box Making Special" grouping these items together for additional savings on page 4. For further information, instruction and photos visit our website, [ShakerOvalBox.com](http://ShakerOvalBox.com) and check out the PDF of **Popular Woodworking** Aug. 2003 "Making Traditional Oval Boxes"

## SHAKER OVAL BOX BANDS and TOPS & BOTTOMS

BOX SIZE	BAND PRICES		TOP & BOTTOM PRICES			
	<i>cherry or maple</i> per box set	<i>cherry or pine</i> in <u>pairs</u>	<i>lacewood</i> in <u>pairs</u>	<i>birdseye maple top</i> and plain bottom	<i>birdseye top</i> (each)	
#000.....	\$2.00.....	solid \$2.00.....	solid \$2.50.....	solid \$2.50.....	\$1.50	
#00.....	\$2.00.....	solid \$2.00.....	solid \$2.50.....	solid \$2.50.....	\$1.50	
#0.....	\$2.50.....	solid \$2.50.....	solid \$3.00.....	solid \$3.50.....	\$2.25	
#1.....	\$3.25.....	solid \$3.25.....	solid \$3.75.....	solid \$4.50.....	\$2.50	
#2.....	\$4.25.....	solid \$4.25.....	solid \$5.00.....	ply \$5.75.....	\$3.50	
#3.....	\$5.50.....	solid \$5.50.....	solid \$6.25.....	ply \$7.75.....	\$4.50	
#4.....	\$6.75.....	solid \$6.75.....	solid \$8.00.....	ply \$9.00.....	\$5.75	
#5.....	\$8.75.....	solid or ply \$8.75.....	solid \$11.00.....	ply \$12.00.....	\$7.75	
#6.....	\$11.00.....	<i>cherry, pine &amp; plain maple (each),</i>		<i>birdseye top(each)</i>		
		ply \$6.00.....		ply \$11.00		
#6 Carrier.....	\$10.50	(band 2-3/8" wide, with #C handle)				
#7.....	\$14.50	ply \$8.75.....		ply \$13.00		
#7 Carrier.....	\$12.50	(band 2-1/2" wide, with #C handle)				
#7 Div. Carrier ...	\$13.75	(band 2-1/2" x 40-1/2" with center divider 5/16" x 4-3/4" x 13")				
#8.....	\$19.00	ply \$11.00.....		ply \$16.50		
#8 Carrier.....	\$14.50	(band 2-3/4" wide, with #C handle)				
#8 Button Box ...	\$14.50	(bottom band 2-3/4" wide, with top band)				
#8 Tall.....	\$25.50*	(bottom band 8" wide, with top band)				
#9.....	\$22.00*	ply \$14.50.....		ply \$19.00		
#10.....	\$25.00*	ply \$16.50.....		ply \$21.00		
#11.....	\$30.00*	ply \$19.00*		ply \$23.00*		
#12.....	\$34.00*	ply \$21.00*		ply \$26.00*		

1/4" Birch Plywood Boards are available at 60% of corresponding cherry prices, sizes #6 - #12

☞ **SET OF FIVE** Box Bands, enough bands to make one box each size

#0, #1, #2, #3, #4, available in cherry and maple ..... \$22.00

☞ **SET OF FIVE** Tops and Bottoms, cherry or pine #0-4 boards to make one box each size ..... \$22.00

lacewood (quartersawn sycamore)....\$26.00, or birdseye maple tops and plain bottoms..... \$30.00

**PRESENTATION BOX** and **CROWN BOX** (Open Round Box with Rim) materials Please call for pricing

### HANDLES in cherry or maple

**A - HANDLE** (1/8" x 3/4" x 17") fits #3, #4, & #5 (swing)...\$2.00  
**B - HANDLE** (1/8" x 1" x 23") fits #5 (fixed), & #6.....\$2.50  
**C - HANDLE** (1/8" x 1-1/4" x 26") fits #6-#8 (fixed).....\$3.00

### TRAY BANDS in cherry

#7 - \$7.00.....#8 - \$8.00.....#9 - \$9.00  
 #10 - \$10.00...#11 - \$11.00...#12 - \$12.00  
 1" foam oval forms for trays #7 - #12 priced \$7 - \$12 each.

## FORMS and PATTERNS

☞ **#0 - #4 OVAL CORES** solid wood forms for bending bands ..... \$60.00

☞ **#0 - #4 SHAPERS** wood corks for holding formed bands ..... \$60.00

☞ **#0 - #4 FINGER PATTERNS** in aluminum for tracing fingers and locating tack holes  
 (includes both top & bottom band patterns) see suggestion 5 on page 4..... \$20.00

**#5 SIZE PATTERN SET** includes oval core, shapers, and finger patterns..... \$45.00

**#00 and #000 SIZE PATTERN SETS** includes core, shapers and finger pattern ..... \$18.00 each

**#3 (three fingers), #5, #6, #7, #8 FINGER PATTERNS** (includes both top & bottom band patterns) ..... \$6.00 each

**#9, #10, #11, #12 FINGER PATTERNS** (includes both top & bottom band patterns) ..... \$8.00 each

**#6, #7, #8 CORES & SHAPERS** available upon request

## TRAYS and TOOLS

**COPPER HOT WATER TRAY** made from heavy gauge copper with stainless steel hinge

- 37" tray** I recommend for most box makers (3" x 6" x 37", fits a #6 band). Add \$8.00 to postage, see page 4..... \$140.00\*
- 48"x 9" tray** (3" x 9" x 48", fits a Tall #8 band). Add \$8.00 to postage, see page 4 ..... \$199.00\*

**GALVANIZED STEEL WATER TRAY** with simplified lift off lid

- ☞ **32" tray** (3" x 6" x 32", will accommodate through #5 bands)..... \$48.00
- 48" tray** (3" x 9" x 48", will accommodate through #8 tall bands) Add \$8.00 to postage, see page 4..... \$85.00\*

**DRILLING JIG** corded Ryobi drill with line switch, ready to drill peg holes (includes 5/64" bit) ... **\$90.00\*** Improved

- ☞ **ANVIL** cradled 1" galvanized pipe ready to clamp on bench for clinching tacks..... \$20.00
- ☞ **SANDING BLOCK** cushioned wood block (sized for 1/4 sheet of sand paper) ..... \$3.00

## COPPER TACKS, PEGS & RIVETS

- ☞ **TAC PAC** with pegs. One package each of #1, #1-1/2 & #2 with 1 box toothpicks (makes 80 boxes)... \$15.00
- PEGS** toothpicks (one box included with TAC PAC) use 5/64" hole 1/2" deep ..... \$1.00  
TIP: Cut box in half on band saw to create pegs. Be sure to hold box down securely when cutting.
- TRUNK RIVETS** (oval head x 3/4" long with washers, 24 count/pkg.) for attaching swing handles in #3 - #8 carriers ..... \$5.00/box  
1" long trunk rivets also available, same head size and same price, 12 count/pkg.
- SMALLER RIVET** (round head x 1/2" long with washers, 24 count pkg.) S.D.L. style carriers & very small sizes..... \$5.00/box

**COPPER TACKS:**

Tack #	Length of Tack	Recommended Box Size	Thickness Clinched	Approx. Count/pkg.	Price		
					Package	Pound	
#3/4.....	5/32".....	#000-#00.....	.045-.062 .....	250 (1/4 oz).....	\$5.00 .....	\$130.00*	
#1 .....	3/16" .....	#0-#1.....	.055-.065 .....	350 (1/2 oz).....	\$5.00 .....	\$66.00*	
#1-1/2 .....	7/32" .....	#1-#3.....	.065-.075 .....	375 (5/8 oz).....	\$5.00 .....	\$60.00*	
#2 .....	1/4" .....	#3-#6.....	.075-.090 .....	375 (1 oz) .....	\$5.00 .....	\$55.00*	
#2-1/4 .....	9/32" .....	#6-#8.....	.090-.110 .....	300 (1 oz) .....	\$5.00 .....	\$51.00*	
#2-1/2 .....	5/16" .....	#8-#12.....	.110-.130 .....	200 (1 oz) .....	\$5.00 .....	\$48.00*	
#3 .....	3/8" .....	#13-#16.....	.130-.160 .....	160 (1 oz) .....	\$5.00 .....	\$48.00*	
#4 light trimmer (7/16" in length, #2-1/2 head) handles on bands #6 & up					150 (1 oz).....	\$5.00 .....	\$48.00*
Fixed Handle Tacks (3/8" in length, #2 head) handles on bands below #6					310 (1 oz) .....	\$5.00 .....	\$55.00*
Copper shoe pegs (1/2" in length. Use 1/16" pilot hole, 3/8" deep.).....					175 (1 oz) .....	\$3.00 .....	\$28.00*

## INFORMATION and KITS

- DVD VIDEO** includes both "Making Shaker Oval Boxes & Carriers with John Wilson" (one hour) , and "Making a Shaker Oval Tray with John Wilson and Scott Phillips" & box making, copper tack machines, and solar drying kilns used at the Home Shop (52 min.) ..... \$19.99
- CLASS BOOKLET** used in John's box making classes for #0-#5 size boxes and carriers..... \$4.00
- ☞ **PATTERN PACKET** 25 Oval Boxes and Carriers (with patterns for all sizes through #12)..... \$10.00
- ☞ **SPECIAL OFFER DVD** with Class Booklet & Pattern Packet (post paid)..... \$32.75
- 3 OVAL BOX KIT** includes sizes #1, #2, #3, in cherry, complete with bands, boards, tacks and pegs (To purchase pre-made cores, shapers and patterns, see page 2, or use the foam board supplied in the kit) ..... \$35.00 Improved
- FIXED HANDLE CARRIER KIT** includes two #4 fixed handle carriers, in cherry, complete with materials and instructions (To purchase pre-made cores, shapers and patterns, see page 2)..... \$35.00
- SWING HANDLE CARRIER KIT** includes one #4 swing handle carriers, in cherry, complete with materials and instructions (To purchase pre-made cores, shapers and patterns, see page 2)..... \$27.50
- #1 BOX WITH MUSIC WORKS KIT** "Simple Gifts" song in a #1 oval box. Project suitable for the first-time or experienced box maker. Contains everything you will need.... \$ 35.00
- PRESENTATION BOX WITH MUSIC WORKS KIT** same as above only long , narrow box allows section for small treasures. Contains everything you will need..... \$44.75
- MUSIC WORKS "Simple Gifts"** fits inside #1 oval box with 7/16" thick sounding board (Sounding Board Available Separately at \$2.75) ..... \$10.00
- "SHAKER OVAL BOXES Vol I" autographed and post paid in US..... \$34.95\*
- "SHAKER OVAL BOXES Vol II" autographed and post paid in US..... \$39.95\*
- "MAKING WOOD TOOLS WITH JOHN WILSON" 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition signed and post paid in US \$39.95\*
- ☞ **eBOOK "SHAKER OVAL BOXES Vol I OR Vol II" OR "MAKING WOOD TOOLS" 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition** post paid in US....\$9.95\*

## GETTING STARTED IN BOX MAKING SPECIAL

Take \$50 off when ordering the getting started set: One set of five cherry or maple bands, one set of five cherry or pine tops and bottoms, size #0 - #4 cores, shapers and finger patterns, 32" galvanized water tray, pipe anvil, sanding block, one tac pac and one DVD special offer - regularly \$302.75, now \$252.75\* + S/H.

## SHIPPING and HANDLING, DISCOUNTS and PAYMENTS

We ship by U.S. Postal Service or UPS depending on which is cheaper or your preference.

One TAC PAC or up to six ounces of tacks.....\$5.00 Larger quantities of tacks up to 3 lbs.... \$7.00

**Shipping** wood materials and other supplies ..... Actual Cost + \$5.00

Orders containing copper water trays, band sizes #8 through #12, or over \$400.00 ..... Add \$8.00

Sales tax on materials sold in Michigan (exclusive of Shipping & Handling) .....Add 6%

Canada & Overseas: Actual post and insurance + \$5.00. Call/write for payment instruction summary.

**Discounts** Most materials receive 5% off when 10 of a kind are ordered, or, instead, orders of \$500 or more can take 10% off most items. Wider bands and larger boards, special sizes, copper hot water trays, and pound quantities of tacks (all marked with an asterisk ' \* ' ) exempt from discounts.

**Payment** We do not take credit cards, but trust you with an open invoice to pay by check or money order after inspecting your order.

## NOTES TO CRAFTSMEN

Please note for **veneered stock** (up to 1/10" thick): When bands are sliced from the log, some have *one* surface biased with tiny splits from the slicer knife. This means that the fibers will be rough when bent on the *outside* of the box. The remedy is to make this surface the *inside* of the box. By flexing the band before trimming the finger bevels, you may notice the fiber separation. However, if it becomes evident at the moment of bending, STOP. Rebevel the fingers, reheat the band, and bend with the better side outside. TIP: Note the band when first put into hot water to pre-soak the finger tips or in the simmering water to soak: "The inside of the curl is the outside of the box."

**Top & bottom boards of solid wood** (#0-#4) will respond to moisture changes resulting in either gaps at the edges (shrinkage) or possibly splitting the band at the ends (expansion). To avoid problems, have your boards 8-9% moisture content *before* making up your box. We try to meet this standard in all our boards, but changes can occur during storage, either here or with you, as unfinished wood of 1/4" thickness can absorb humidity in a matter of days. Use a small board with 5/16" notches cut along the top edge to provide a stand-up for boards in your home so both sides dry equally. A small fan will hasten the drying process. Do not parch the wood in an oven or furnace room. Two or three days ventilation will be sufficient.

**Top & bottom board fitting:** 1) check that finger directions are correct when setting band on the board; 2) use a mechanical pencil to get an accurate tracing around the inside of the oval; and, 3) after cutting the rough oval shape, edge sand with disc sander deck at 2° UP (not 2° down as done when drawing pattern on the outside surface). To achieve the raised disk sander deck, you may need to file out the slot in the adjustment slide, or replace the adjustment screw temporarily with a small C-clamp.

**#0-1 pegging changes:** We now suggest using a 5/64" d. drill size for all wood peg holes, replacing the 1/16" d. for #0-1 as in the past. Pegs hold better with the larger drill size. Use 1/16" drill size for copper shoe pegs. Be sure to center drill pilot hole in oval board edge.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR BENDING BOX BANDS

1. Please follow notes on veneer and top & bottom boards above.
2. Have the water boiling in the soaking tray, and then work promptly so the wood is *hot at the moment you bend it*.
3. Ten minutes may be sufficient time in the water tray, but *twenty minutes* will insure that troublesome bands are fully soaked.
4. To help keep the fibers together at the moment of bending, *push the wet band* around the ends of the oval core giving the wood support with your hand.
5. When cutting the finger bevels, *develop a narrow style* so that the ends are 3/16" wide, or 1-1/2 times the tack head diameter. This minimizes curling and matches the Shaker style. Patterns for fingers are rough size. Trim to finished size with sharp knife using slight 10° bevel.
6. Be sure to hold *all the fingers all the time*, or else the band is likely to split up the middle between the fingers.
7. Repairs to bands while wet can be made using cyanoacrylate or CA glue.

## WATER and BAND STAINING

From time to time box makers encounter staining during the hot water soak. The culprit in most cases is iron from well water or metal filings or metal dust on your work surface. It is the water which transfers the problem of gray or dark stain, or black spots caused by fine particles suspended in the water. To dissolve these spots, use a deck/wood cleaner which contains oxalic acid. Also, oxalic acid crystals are available at some paint stores and drug stores. Dissolve 1tbs. in ½ pt. H<sub>2</sub>O. Once the stains have dissolved, rinse the solution off with clean water.

Besides trying a different water source, there are several techniques worth considering. Use filtered water as from a softener. Draw water slowly from a tap that is used often to avoid dislodging sediment which causes black spots. Change water when it discolors and do not soak maple in the water used for soaking cherry.

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517-543-5325 (8:30-5 EST, M-F) or visit [ShakerOvalBox.com](http://ShakerOvalBox.com)