

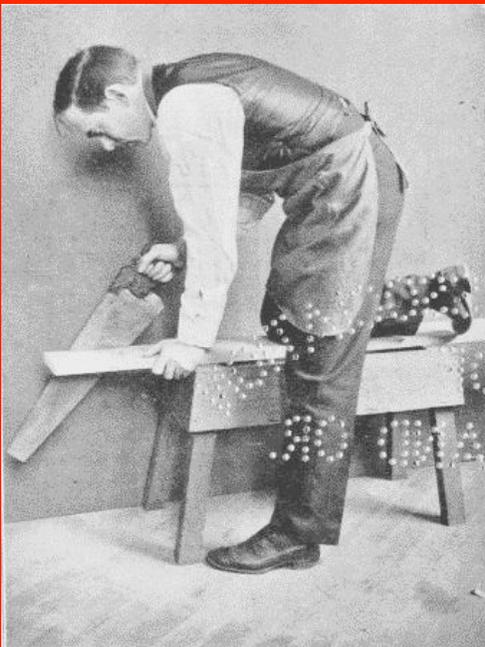
## 2010 HISTORICAL MERIT BADGE PROGRAM



# Carpentry

First offered in 1911—discontinued in 1952

**CAN YOU IMAGINE A LIFE WITHOUT POWER TOOLS?  
LONG BEFORE MANUFACTURING, EVERYTHING WAS MADE BY HAND.  
CRAFTSMEN DEVELOPED THEIR SKILLS TO BECOME A MASTER.  
THE FINAL TEST WAS THE PRODUCTION OF A GREAT PIECE CALLED A MASTERPIECE.**



### Requirements

To obtain a Merit Badge for Carpentry, a Scout must:

1. Demonstrate the use of the rule, square, level, plumb-line, mitre, chalk-line and bevel.

These are the original requirements written in 1911. Think about how times have changed as you complete the requirements a Scout your age would have done a hundred years ago.

A hundred years ago there was no such thing as handheld power tools. To get the most of this merit badge, we suggest doing it the old-fashioned way with good, old-fashioned hand tools.

### ATTENTION

Think safety first by using the appropriate clothing and ALWAYS using safety equipment such as eye and ear protection and gloves as appropriate. Always work under the direct supervision of a responsible adult who is knowledgeable about the tools and materials you plan to use. For more information about safety with tools, see the *Home Repairs* and *Woodwork* merit badge pamphlets.



These tools are very important for planning your project. A wrong angle or crooked line could keep the project from being assembled properly. Perhaps you have heard your grandfather say, "Always measure twice and cut once." Since it took considerable physical effort to saw a board, can you understand the importance of good preparation?

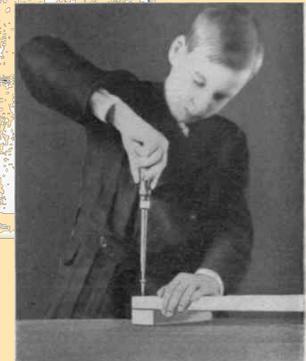
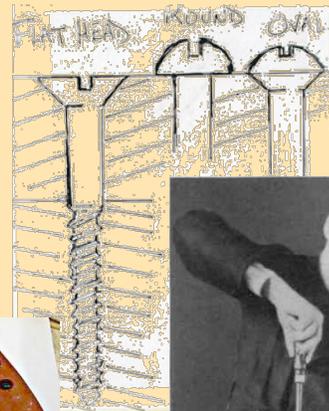
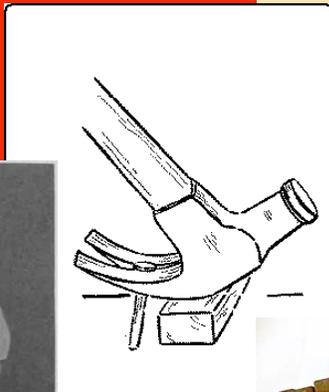
# 2010 HISTORICAL MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

## Carpentry

### Requirements (cont.)

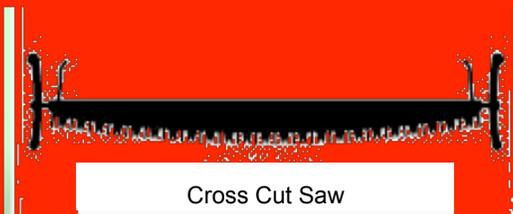
2. Demonstrate the proper way to drive, set, and clinch a nail, draw a spike with a claw-hammer, and to join two pieces of wood with screws.

Clinching is when you drive a nail through two pieces of wood and then bend the nail over from the other side for extra strength. Bending the nail over before it goes through doesn't count, but that is why the claw hammer was invented. Today, after the invention of the power screw driver, most wood is joined by screws that are better at holding wood, but a hundred years ago each screw needed to be set by hand.

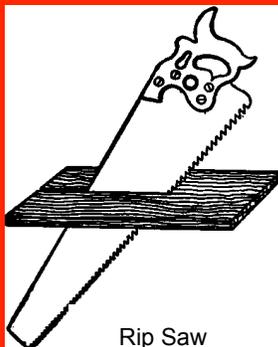


3. Show correct use of the cross-cut saw and of the rip-saw.

One of the hardest things to do a hundred years ago was to cut a board, because it took considerable effort.



Cross Cut Saw



Rip Saw



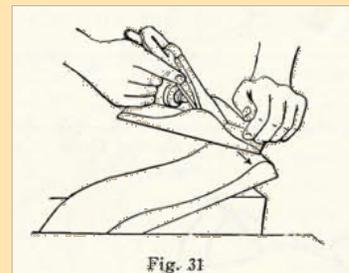
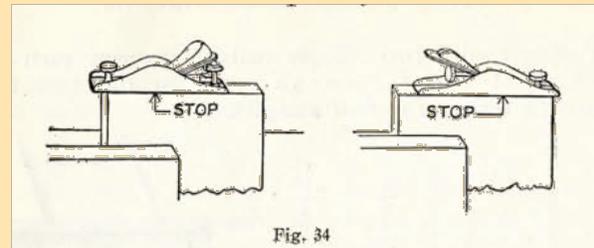
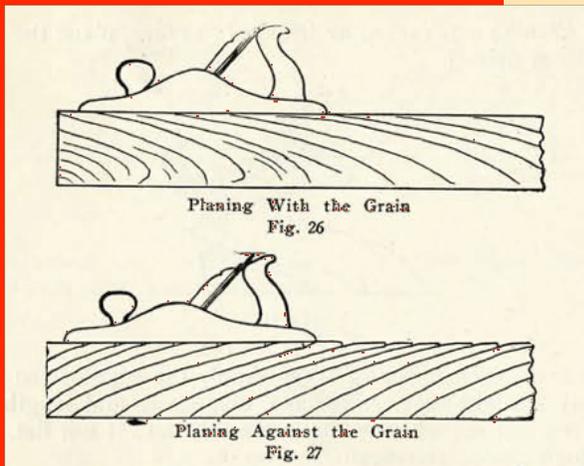
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## Carpentry

### Requirements (cont.)

4. Show how to plane the edge, end and the broad surface of a board.

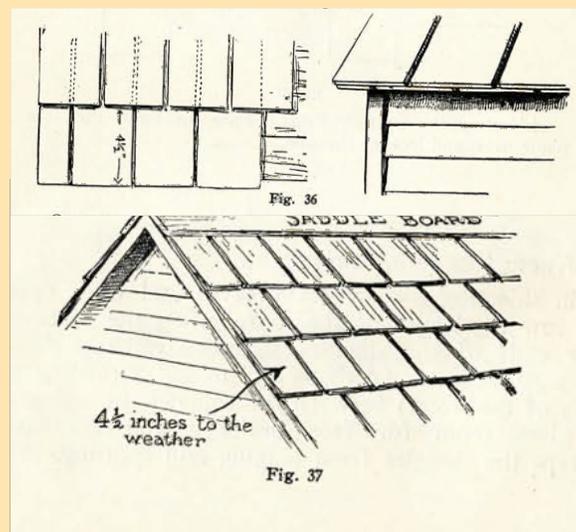
Today, we buy finished lumber, or boards that have been measured and planed. Early in the 20th century, you would have needed to finish the surface and square the edges of the wood before using it.



5. Demonstrate how to lay shingles.

Construction methods were fairly simple a hundred years ago. A very common roofing material was wood shingles. Here are the instructions from the 1928 *Carpentry* merit badge pamphlet. Even back then, it was preferred to have someone teach you a skill rather than try to learn from a book.

On top of the first row lay another row with the butts of the second row flush with those of the first, but breaking joints with the shingles of the first row. That is, lay the first row double, but so that the spaces between the shingles of the lower layer are covered by the shingles of the upper layer (Fig. 36). Lay the butts of each row by a chalk-line or against the edge of a narrow board, which can be adjusted and temporarily held in place by two strips nailed to it and to the roof higher up. Shingles 16" long can be laid about 4½" to the weather (Fig. 36); that is, with that portion of the length exposed at the butt. In case of a roof with very slight pitch 4" will be safer. If shingles of extra length are used the distance can be varied accordingly. Trim off the upper ends of the top rows of shingles, and put on saddle boards at the ridge, letting the edge of one overlap the other (Fig. 37).



# 2010 HISTORICAL MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

## Carpentry

### Requirements (cont.)

6. Make a simple article of furniture for practical use in the home or on the home grounds, finished in a workmanlike manner, all work to be done without assistance.

Book Trough and Magazine Stand



Fig. 53

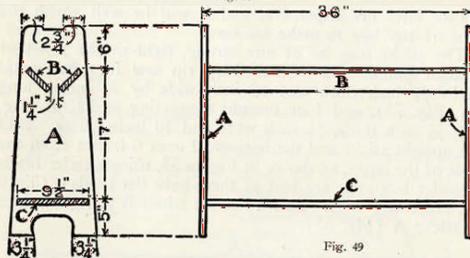


Fig. 49

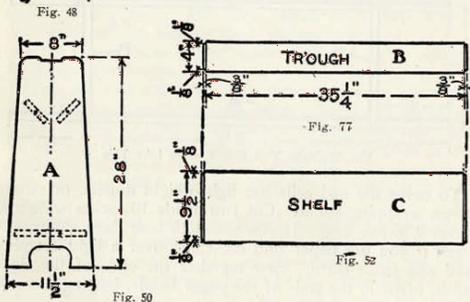


Fig. 52

Fig. 50

Prior to 25 years ago, it was standard that young men made a school project out of wood. Usually it was a simple stool or small table. These items would often last for years and be passed down from generation to generation. Here are some examples of projects right out of the 1928 merit badge pamphlet.

### Footstool

Use stock  $\frac{7}{8}$ " or  $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick. Get out ends or legs (A), using jig saw, turning saw, or compass saw. Smooth edges with spokeshave or file. Plane sides. Sandpaper, using

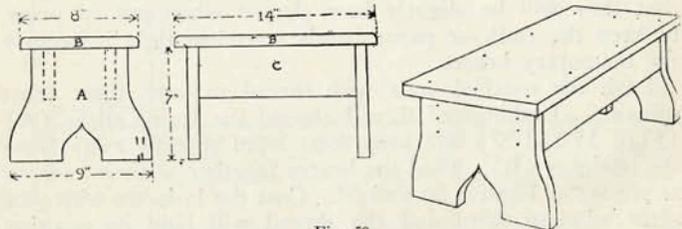
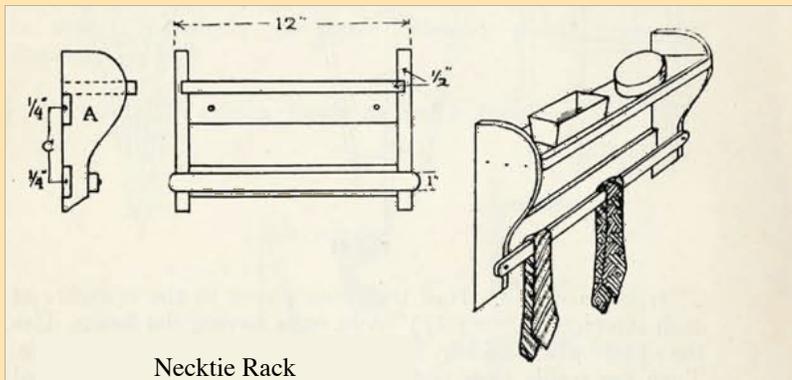


Fig. 59

block. Get out stretchers (B). Plane and sandpaper. Get out top (C). Plane and sandpaper. Nail ends and stretchers together as shown with 2" wire nails. Nail on top, seeing that it projects equally all around. Set nails. Finish as desired.



Necktie Rack

**THIS HISTORICAL MERIT BADGE WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE DURING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF SCOUTING. THE CARPENTRY MERIT BADGE COUNTS TOWARD RANK ADVANCEMENT. REQUIREMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED BY DEC. 31, 2010.**

