

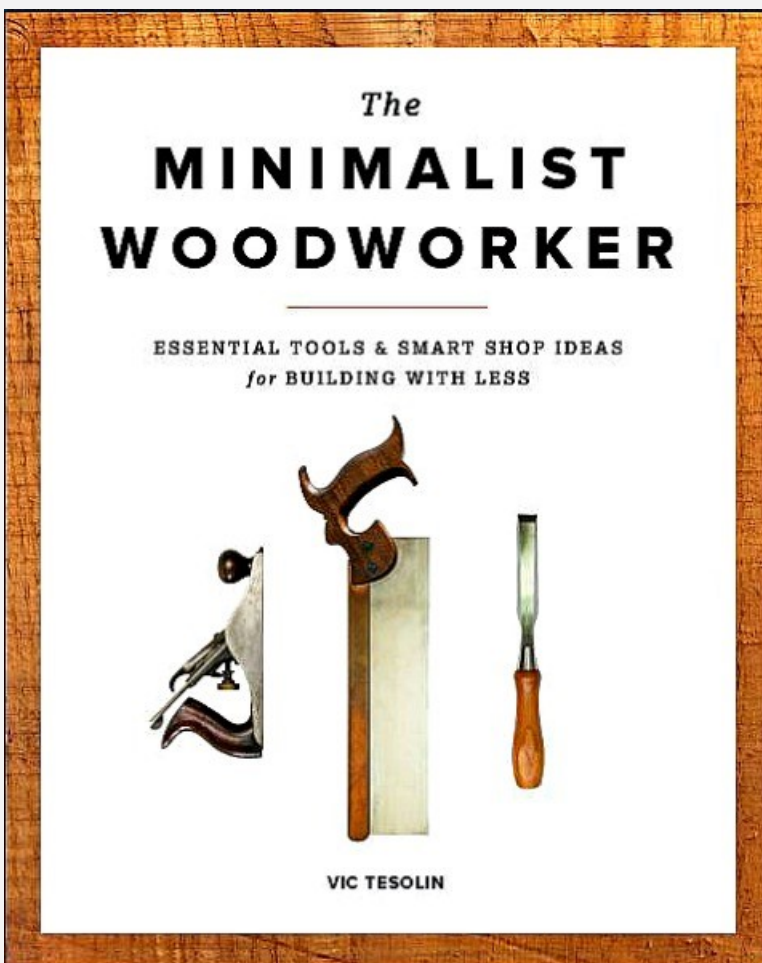
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Sharp & to the Point The Hock Tools Newsletter #1/16

Shout-Out: Vic Tesolin Shows the Way to Woodworking in Small Spaces



Cover: **The Minimalist Woodworker: Essential Tools & Smart Shop Ideas for Building with Less** by **Vic Tesolin**, published by **Spring House Press**, \$24.95.

forward to. Sure, it is not likely you'll build a 10-foot dining table in ¼ of a corner of your small apartment or in that garage where the car and numerous important household items "live." But, even

Are you a woodworker who lives and works in small quarters? Or, does your woodshop occupy that wee corner of your garage and looks upon a car, a washer and dryer, all your camping gear, and your mother-in-law's precious antiques – offering little to no elbow-room or mind-space for project development?

Do you have a big love of woodworking and are you holding on to plenty of ideas for projects yet are depressingly limited by your limited space?

Well, do not dismay! As it turns out, a paucity of space does not *have* to mean a paucity of woodworking, or giving up the woodworking you look

though faced with only a few square feet, you can keep your woodworking hobby very much alive as you build those persistently mind-burning projects in your own small, well-appointed and efficient woodshop.

Woodworking instructor Vic Tesolin, who began his blog *The Minimalist Woodworker* in 2013, explains all about being a woodworker in small quarters in *The Minimalist Woodworker: Essential Tools & Smart Shop Ideas for Building with Less*, published by Spring House Press.

Vic paid his dues as a professional furniture designer and builder, a frequent lecturer who has also written many articles on woodworking, has pulled a stint as editor at *Canadian Woodworker*, and has been a technical advisor with Lee Valley Tools since 2010. Indeed, you may have seen Vic at woodworking trade shows, manning Lee Valley's *Veritas* booth, showing and explaining how to use their many tools.

Through his experiences setting up his own shop in a small space and successfully overcoming its attendant dilemmas, Vic Tesolin developed a passion to help others also master the challenges of having only so much room in which to design and build furniture, which gets them woodworking!

As Vic explains it, "Minimalism, as it pertains to my book, means that you don't need every tool out there and a massive space to woodwork. You just need a small set of good tools, a space for a bench and some tool storage, and the desire to create with your hands."

Two of the great things about *The Minimalist Woodworker* are that it is useful for woodworkers who have already set up a small shop by describing efficiencies, as well as for those getting started. Vic provides you an understanding of the minimalist mindset while detailing how to make a small space productive.



Vic Tesolin,
The Minimalist Woodworker.

The book also includes seven projects with step-by-step instructions, each project taking its sequential place to appoint your small shop while leveraging your woodworking experience, which develops your skills.



Vic's written from a modest woodworker's point of view, and from a perspective shared by many woodworkers, or soon-to-be woodworkers, who are constrained by limited space.

Plus – and I like this part a lot! -- a major feature of *The Minimalist Woodworker* is to provide the reader a stress-free

entry (or re-entry) into the life-long craft of woodworking.

Another feature of Vic Tesolin's *The Minimalist Woodworker: Essential Tools & Smart Shop Ideas for Building with Less* that helps the space-shackled woodworker, is that it includes easy-to-follow instructions and a penetrating look at what is most essential to keep things simple, which goes a long way to getting and keeping you woodworking!

A special treat for Hock Tools from Vic Tesolin's May 2015 The Minimalist Woodworker blogpost. His favorite wooden Smoother is fitted with a Hock Tools blade.



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