

HOCK

HOCK TOOLS

Blades and Such for Planes and More

Sharp & to the Point

The Hock Tools Newsletter

Photo Album: Mark Ketelsen's Go-to Smoother

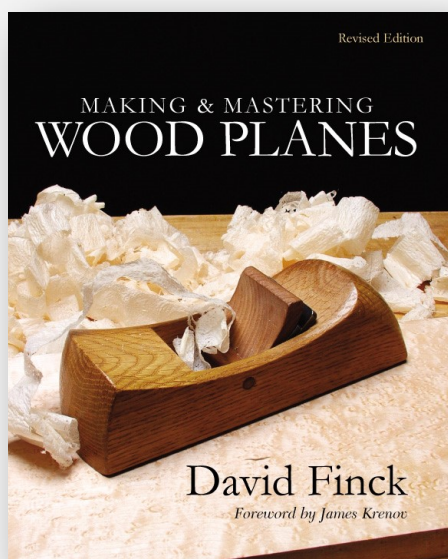
from #4/2015

Mark Ketelsen read David Finck's *Making and Mastering Wood Planes*, the popular how-to for do-it-yourself wooden handplane makers.

Finck learned this special plane making skill while a



The body for Mark Ketelsen's 10" x 2-3/8" smoother is from a piece of swamp white-oak from his firewood pile. The wedge is leopard wood and the sole *lignum vitae*.



**Making & Mastering Wood Planes
by David Finck.**

student at College of the Redwoods Fine Furniture Program developed and taught by master woodworker James Krenov.

Like so many other woodworkers who have read and used *Making and Mastering Wood Planes*, Mark cheers on David Finck's efforts, "This book thoroughly explains the nuances of making Krenov-style planes, as well as many other useful topics."

The plane above is made from a piece of swamp white-oak that Mark salvaged from his firewood pile because of its straight grain.

Once at the bench, he rived his perfect piece of salvage until he was able to attain zero grain run-out in any dimension, and generally rough-dimensioned the piece, which was to become the 10" x 2-3/8" plane you see here. Mark fitted it with a leopard wood wedge and a **Hock Tools PI200**, a 1-3/4" plane iron assembly, and also made himself an adjusting hammer to go with this beautiful plane.



Mark chose *lignum vitae* for the sole of this plane because, "*lignum vitae* is the most dense wood there is. Aside from the difficulty of working it, *lignum vitae* is ideal for plane soles because of its wear-resistance and natural lubricating properties."

"This plane is my go-to smoother for final surface preparation before finishing. The Hock iron takes an incredible edge when honed to 13,000 grit. With the breaker set really close to the edge — .008" — I have never experienced tear-out, even on difficult tropical hardwoods."



Thank you, Mark Ketelsen!