Building Bigger Things



Glossary

Bucking

Cutting the log into lengths.

Chamfering

To remove the sharp corner along the edge of a board by planing it at a 45-degree angle. The resulting surface is called a "chamfered edge."

Chipping

Cutting wood into small pieces using mechanical knives.

Cubic Foot

A cube of wood 12" on a side.

Dovetailing

To fit together interlocking joints having rectangular ends, such as for drawers, cabinets, and furniture frames.

Featheredge

A very thin, sharp edge on a plane iron; especially one that is easily broken or bent over.

Felling

Cutting down trees.

Honing

Sharpening with a fine grit stone or whetstone, usually with oil.

Grindstone

A flatsided circular stone that revolves on an axle and is used for grinding and sharpening woodworking tools.

Joint

The area where two pieces of wood are attached, fitted, or joined together. There are different ways of doing this in woodworking.

Knots

The remains of branches covered over by the tree trunk as the tree grew. Knots reduce the strength of lumber and sometimes detract from the appearance of wood, therefore they are referred to as defects in wood.

Limbing

Removing limbs and branches from trees.

Lumber

Any wood that is suitable for carpentry construction.

Mite

To cut two pieces of wood at corresponding angles so that they can be fitted together into a neat and secure joint.

Mortising

Cutting a hole in a piece of wood to receive another piece of wood, a lock, or any other wood fastener.

Plane Iron

The blade or cutting edge of wood plane.

Prune

To cut off or cut back parts of a tree or plant to help its growth and shape.

Pulping

Chemical or mechanical separation of wood into fibers.

Resin Canals

The tubular, cell-like spaces found in softwoods.

Species

A class of trees and woods having common characteristics and a common family name.

Treated Wood

Wood that contains a chemical that makes wood resistant to decay and insect damage.

Trueing

To make level or square.

Whetting

Sharpening by rubbing on or with something, such as a stone.

This publication was produced and distributed in furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914. Extension work is a cooperative program of Oregon State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Oregon counties. Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials—without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, disability, or disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran status. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.