

Course Title : Planer Operation

Course Hours : 1 hr

Course developed by Bill Keener for use in training at the Education Center of the Greenville Woodworker's Guild, Inc. in Greenville, SC., and cannot be reproduced or used without the approval of the Mentoring Chairman of the Guild.

Safety is a personal issue. The Guild and the author do not accept responsibility for any accidents that may occur while using this guide.

1. Course Objectives:

- A. Learn the basic safe practices while operating the Planer
- B. Learn operating practices that are prohibited due to safety
- C. Learn how the planer operates: Feed rollers, Table rollers, cutterhead
- D. Learn how to select boards in the rough and prepare them before planing, and how to check grain direction
- E. Learn proper procedure for feeding wood through the planer.
- F. Learn importance of supporting board as it enters and exits planer. Preventing snipe
- G. Learn how to change feed speed of planer. Slower the rate of feed the smoother the planed surface.
- H. Learn minimum 3/16" and maximum 5" board thickness
- I. Learn how to produce parallel edges with planer

2. Class Materials

- A. Several pieces of joined lumber.
- B. One piece of bowed rough lumber

3. Lesson Plan

Explain Safety Issues

- A. Never operate any machinery when tired, sleepy or while taking medications or drugs that might cause drowsiness.
- B. Do not wear baggy or loose fitting clothing
- C. Remove all jewelry where possible
- D. Footwear should provide good traction and protect the toes.
- E. Long hair should be secured under a cap so as not to hinder vision and pony tails should be secured.

- F. Always wear approved safety glasses or goggles.
- G. Always use hearing protection.
- H. Always keep tool surfaces clean.
- I. Always be aware of others working in the vicinity of the planer, particularly the outfeed side of the planer
- J. Always make sure the planer is in proper working order. Any unusual noises or vibrations : stop the joiner immediately and investigate cause.
- K. Never use the planer with dull cutter blades
- L. Always provide sufficient support for material on both the infeed and outfeed side of the planer.
- M. Always seek assistance when handling heavy or awkward boards or anytime you are uncomfortable or unsure how to proceed.
- N. Always respect the planer for what it may do to you or someone nearby if there is a lapse in safe operating procedures.

PLANER CANNOT BE SUBSTITUTED FOR A JOINTER, IT CANNOT BE USED TO FLATTEN WARPED OR BOWED BOARDS, IT CANNOT BE USED TO MAKE ITS OWN FACE SIDES AND FACE EDGES.

Show the location of:

- A. Power on/off switch
- B. Circuit breaker for planer

Show how to

- A. Raise and lower table
- B. Adjust thickness or depth of cut. Remember the best performance is when the depth of cut is 1/16" or less.
- C. Plane short stock

LIMITATIONS WHEN USING PLANER NO BOARDS WIDER THAN 20" AND SHORTER THAN 15"