

Stephen Mackay

Confident learners in the making...

Course Title

Confidence with tools

Course outline

If you have ever questioned your own confidence in the use of tools or equipment, then this course is for you. This is your opportunity to get to safely use a limited range of tools and equipment to bolster your woodworking skills. Use this course as your preparation for effective delivery of the technology curriculum in resistant materials.

This is a practical hands-on course designed to eliminate fear in your own use of tools and extend the opportunity for using them with children.



Courses detail

No prior knowledge or experience is required, just a willingness to get to grips with the exciting world of hand tools.

Instruction will be offered in the safe use of the following tools and equipment; jigsaw, impact driver and torque screwdriver, belt and orbital sander, scroll saw, different hand saws, drill and various drill bits, chisels, files and rasps. Use of glue in Early Years woodwork will also be covered.

In order to focus our efforts, a short build project will be undertaken that will be completed within the set time period. Choose from a limited range of options at the time of booking; these include a tool box, a simple wooden toy or a birdbox.

Time frame

Minimum three hours

Course numbers

Maximum 6

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206 Cames Road, RD5,
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Materials, background reading list, essential equipment required

None

Please ensure clothing worn is not so precious that a little dust and dirt is a problem.

Brief resume of tutor

In the last eighteen years I have developed a successful career in teaching, where I have led a number of initiatives in the special needs sector. I am a qualified, secondary trained, Design & Technology teacher. Much of my work is outdoors, constructing things that change the lives and the surroundings of my students. In 2012, I was recognised as one of New Zealand's 'Most Inspiring Teachers'. My teaching career has consolidated my experience in leadership, management, data analysis, logistics and Health and Safety.

For the past five years I have provided my own brand of specialised technical support to schools and kindergartens. I provide a range of educational services designed to develop confident learners. Specifically I work with staff and children to nurture a broad range of competences through a holistic approach to the design and build process.

Much of my success is grounded in thirteen years of industrial experience across a number of disciplines where I achieved chartered status in mechanical design and production. I have also studied green woodworking in the UK and am a practicing 'Bodger' with my own pole lathe.

In 2005 I took six months unpaid leave of absence to provide humanitarian support in Thailand after the Tsunami. There I led an international workshop project that involved locals in the production of their own furniture (Thaikea).

In short I have a passion for making things. I am happiest when surrounded by those that share my passion.

Course cost

\$650 plus GST which includes materials for the build project (this is a total cost for up to 6 participants)

Travel costs may apply

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