



A GUIDE TO YOUR SHOULDER OR REBATE PLANE

INTRODUCTION

Your Shoulder or Rebate Plane is designed to clean up timber surfaces where a 90 degree angle presents itself, such as across the grain of a shoulder and tongue in a tenon joint, cut by hand or machine, or a rebate along or across the grain formed by router or saw.

The brass soled Shoulder Plane is better suited to across grain work whereas the wood soled Rebate is better suited to working along the grain as there is less friction.

ADJUSTING THE BLADE (BASIC)

This plane has no mechanical adjustment, but with minimal practice you will be able to adjust the blade quickly and to very fine tolerances.

Follow these simple steps:

(A) To remove the blade, lightly tap the brass abutment (which is directly in front of the wedge) several times with a small hammer. The wedge will loosen, remove the blade from the mouth of the plane.

A.



Warning: To avoid being cut by the blade, ensure you hold the plane so your hand is clear of the blade edge. Then tilt the plane at an angle so that the blade will not inadvertently slide out of the bed before you remove it with your other hand.

(B) To replace the blade, insert the blade into the plane body and place the body on the 'blade setting block' of hardwood provided. Let the weight of the blade sit down flat on this block ensuring the sides of the blade are flush with the sides of the plane.

B.



(C) While the plane is still on the setting block, place the wedge into position and lightly tap the wedge in with a small hammer until the blade is held firmly.

C.



Procedure (B) and (C) done correctly will set the blade ready for use. Sight down the sole to check blade is correctly set, then start your planing work. If the plane is not cutting correctly, reset the blade as per procedure (A), (B) and (C).

ADVANCED BLADE ADJUSTMENT

Advanced blade adjustment is recommended after you are confident with the basic method. Learning the advanced method will give you more flexibility with taking deeper or finer shavings off your wood. Refer photo (D).

- (i) Sight down the sole of the plane placing your thumb on the wedge.
- (ii) To take a deeper cut, tap the top of the blade to advance it.
- (iii) To take a finer cut, tap the heel of the plane to retract the blade.
- (iv) To level the blade if it is high on one side, tap the side of the blade to bring it back to level.

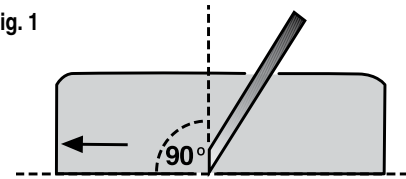
D.



USE AS A SCRAPER

To add flexibility to planing difficult timbers, the blade can be reversed (Fig 1) to make the plane scrape. Blade set up is same as procedure (a), (b) and (c).

Fig. 1



SHARPENING YOUR BLADE

Your blade is sharpened ready for use, and to keep it sharp we recommend the following sharpening technique:

Once you have honed away the hollow ground bezel, regrind a 30 degree hollow using a standard 6-8" bench grinder. Only grind to 1/32" (0.5mm) of edge.

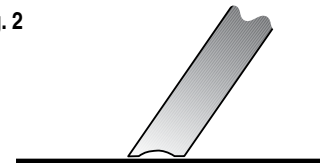
Then use a 800 - 1200 grit stone to hone the bevel, then polish the back of the blade and bevel on a 6000 grit stone ensuring the polished surfaces extend right to the edges.

A secondary bevel may be used depending on your preference.

Note: The essence of sharpening is not getting the angles perfect, but rather polishing the two surfaces to a perfect point using good quality fine grit stones. (About a 6000 grit stone will give you a fine sharp edge.)

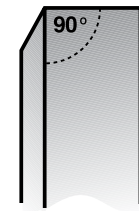
Fig 2 shows the effect of a hollow ground bezel and if used saves time and effort when sharpening your blade, plus reduces the wear on your stones.

Fig. 2



Ensure your blade remains sharpened at 90° to sides of blade. Fig 3.

Fig. 3



CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Regularly smear a little linseed oil on the sole of the plane to reduce friction. This will lengthen the plane's life and makes planing wood easier.

Keep a smear of machine oil on the blade to prevent rust.

If your workshop is exposed to extreme dry or damp conditions for extended periods it is recommended that you store the plane (when not in use) in the plastic bag and box that it came in.

Tune your plane once a year by placing a piece of 240 grit sand paper on a perfectly flat surface (cast iron saw bench top or thick glass) and rub the sole of the plane over the sand paper. Rub only enough to ensure the sole is flat. This will ensure your plane remains in perfect working order. Re-oil the wood sole with any commercial oil or wax.

PROBLEMS AND REMEDIES

P: If wood shavings are getting clogged in the throat of the plane, you have either got the blade set too deep or the blade is blunt.

R: To fix this problem, sharpen your blade or adjust the depth setting. DO NOT attempt to widen the mouth of your plane as this will only increase choking and tearing of the grain.

P: If the blade is chattering, the wedge is too loose or the plane's bed is fouled by dirt or wood shavings.

R: Tighten the wedge or clean the bed to ensure the blade is sitting perfectly flat on the bed.

P: If you can't laterally adjust your blade, you will probably find that the blade edge is not square to the blade side through repeated sharpening. Refer Fig. 3.

R: Re-square the blade edge and sharpen.

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