Advice from a 4-H’er

*From: Seth, Age 13 (2015)*

You can make beautiful wood projects and wooden items can be fixed and restored in the woodworking project. It’s one of my favorite 4-H projects!

Most woodworking project leaders have machinery such as table saws, band saws, scroll saws, and lathes to learn to operate. These machines help you cut the pieces of your project and sanders or sand paper can help you finish your project with a smooth surface. More common tools like a drill, hammer or screwdriver help to assemble your item. Last of all, your project will be completed with a wood stain or paint.

You will learn to measure and be accurate in your measuring. The rule, “Measure twice, cut once”, helps you avoid mistakes and keeps you from wasting wood. Plus, accuracy in measuring helps your project fit together nicely and avoid gaps in the sides of your project. You want it to be as perfect as possible!

When I enter the woodshop, I know the possibilities of what I can create are endless. I get excited just entering the room and planning my next woodworking project. I think if you try this project, you’ll love it too!

# Project levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age 7-9</th>
<th>Age 10-13</th>
<th>Age 14 +</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♦ Identify tools and needs for your work area.</td>
<td>♦ Learn how to use the right hand tools.</td>
<td>♦ Use stain to emphasize the grain of wood.</td>
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<td>♦ Learn safety rules, tool safety settings and how to use safety gear.</td>
<td>♦ Determine which woods are good for a product.</td>
<td>♦ Understand the difference between wood, laminates and veneers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>♦ Identify what different woods look and feel like.</td>
<td>♦ Learn to measure and cut angles.</td>
<td>♦ Learn correct and safe use of power tools.</td>
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<tr>
<td>♦ Finish wood projects by sanding and painting.</td>
<td>♦ Learn the importance of proper sanding and finish application.</td>
<td>♦ Explore woodworking careers and opportunities.</td>
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## Resources:

Visit
http://www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/project-club-resources/projects.html
to also find the following links.

### Kansas 4-H Wood Science Website:

### Other helpful Wood Science websites around the country:
- http://www.insidewoodworking.com/
- http://www.woodnet.net/
- http://www.woodnet.net/tips/index/

## Exploring Opportunities

- Prepare an exhibit that explains types of wood and best applications for each.
- Give a safety demonstration for safe woodworking tool usage.
- Develop an exhibit comparing different wood finishes.
- Build a bird feeder for a neighbor.
- Build toys out of wood for a homeless shelter.
- Make a bench and donate it to charity.
- Join a Habitat for Humanity build.
- Conduct a basic building workshop for a younger club.
- Be a project helper for younger members in woodworking.

## Exhibit Ideas

- Make and finish a piece of furniture.
- Build a tack box for your show animal project.
- Create a poster or notebook on safety precautions when working with wood and tools.
- Develop an exhibit on woodworking tool(s) and what they are used for.
- Create an exhibit on various woodworking techniques.