


Welcome to the “SketchUp for Woodworking” course where we will start with a finished product to create your design and build plan. We'll reverse engineer the design to create a 3D computer model, review and inspect the parts, components, fixtures, and the school's General Carpentry space, and then we craft the design and drawings with SketchUp Free.

The models you create provide you with these benefits:

- Ease of changing and evaluating the design
- Determine the materials needed to make the object
- Minimize wasted material
- Create and update drawings

In preparation for the first class, obtain an account with Trimble Software and access to SketchUp Free which is web based. Navigate to [Free 3D Modeling Software | 3D Design Online | SketchUp Free Subscription](#) and create a user account.

Before you arrive at class, review and complete the SketchUp tutorial video at:

 [GETTING STARTED with SketchUp Free - Lesson 1 - BEGINNERS Start Here!](#) See if you can follow along with the video and create a SketchUp project. Give yourself a few days to this before the start of class.

For the course, the school is providing you with a laptop computer for our work at the school. Other students use the laptop. At the end of each class, the laptops are returned to the front office. The laptops remain on school property.

The laptops run the Microsoft operating system and have a mouse with a clickable mouse wheel. For your homework, it's best to be using the same operating system.

Our classroom is in the “General Carpentry” area. Mr. Sterns, the day school instructor, has given us permission to hold the class in his machine and design rooms. Most of our work is in the design room.

At times, we do some preliminary work in this machinery room. The machine room contains many woodworking tools and machines. For each evening class, arrive with: closed toe shoes, safety glasses, hearing protection, np95 mask, pair of light working gloves, pencil, and a white eraser.

Dress for working in the shop. Tie hair back. No loose or dangling jewelry. Short sleeves are best. No gloves when operating machinery. The goal is to keep any part of you away from dangerous, moving machinery.

Welcome to the “SketchUp for Woodworking” course. See you soon.

Best,

Ralph Fink