

Frequently Asked Questions

What does it cost to join?

Apple Country Woodcrafters' annual membership dues are \$120. per calendar year; in addition, new members pay a one-time initiation fee of \$50. This membership includes your spouse and any children aged 18-26. If you join after November 1, you pay the \$170., and get November and December as bonus months added to your membership for the following year. If you are independent and age 18-26, membership is \$60., plus the one-time initiation fee of \$50.

What does membership include?

Membership provides access to the Apple Country Woodcrafters' shop. This shop is 3,750 sq ft., fully equipped with woodworking tools to build almost any woodworking project you desire. It also opens opportunities to learn from our experienced members who love to share their skills and knowledge. The club hosts monthly meetings, where members are encouraged to show projects that they have been working on. We often have guest presentations at the meetings, covering a wide variety of woodworking topics and skills, such as proper finishes to use, or how to build a chair or guitar. Some months we also have open workshops covering the subjects presented during the monthly meeting.

What are other benefits to joining?

The club operates a wood shop that offers wood for your fine woodworking projects at discount rates, which are usually cheaper than you can find in most stores. Periodically, the club will acquire various woodworking tools that are offered for sale to members, before offering them to the general public. Several times during the year, various club members will offer their personal tools for sale, to members first. Both of these sources are a great way to acquire tools from sources you can trust. We also have a monthly newsletter, *Apple Country Shavings*, that keeps you up-to-date on information related to woodworking and happenings in our area; the newsletter is emailed to our membership during the first part of each month. We also have a Members Only section of our website, as well as a Facebook page.

I have no woodworking experience. How do I join and what about training?

Apple Country Woodcrafters has members of all skill levels; however, our average member is a beginner. You can attend one of our monthly meetings or stop by the shop and pay your membership dues. You will be required to read the club's general information for new members and to provide normal contact information.

A shop supervisor can help you sign up for Tool Certification; all new members, regardless of skill level, are required to be certified on every tool that you intend to use in the ACW shop. Tool Certifications are conducted every Friday afternoon (except 5th Fridays, when they occur). After your Tool Certifications, if you're new to woodworking, you can work with any of our club mentors who are happy to share their woodworking knowledge. A great way to learn basic woodworking skills is to participate in our weekly toy builds. These are generally held each Friday morning at our shop.

I'm already a very experienced woodworker and have my own shop. Why should I join?

Many of our members already have their own home shops, some with substantial capabilities. The club provides a great opportunity to share your skills and knowledge with fellow woodworkers. It's also a great way to expand your own knowledge and skills. Woodworking is something where one can always keep learning. The camaraderie working with the Friday morning

group sessions, or other group sessions held during each week, and our monthly meetings, are great reasons for experienced woodworkers to join. Helping those unfortunate in our community, by using your woodworking skills and knowledge is reason enough for anyone to join!

Am I required to do anything to retain my membership?

No. Other than paying your annual dues, there are no requirements for membership. You will need to be Certified for each power tool you wish to use at the club shop. There is no requirement to participate in meetings, group-builds, or to build anything at your home shop. That said, participating in some or all of these things is very rewarding, and you'll have the opportunity to interact with and get to know some very knowledgeable people and enjoy the camaraderie with fellow woodworkers.

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