CONSTRUCTION

The first step in construction is to square stock according to the dimensions specified in the drawing. Advanced members should already know the six steps involved.

These steps are mentioned briefly, but for further details consult bulletins 11A and 11B.

1. Plane working face.
2. Square working edge.
3. Square working end.
4. Reduce to correct length.
5. Reduce to right width.
6. Reduce to right thickness.

SANDPAPERING

When the woodworker is sure that it will not be necessary to do any more cutting with edged tools and not until then may be used sandpaper to finish a piece of work. The grit left in the pores of the wood by the sandpaper will dull the tools. When sandpaper is used it should be treated as a tool, which it really is, and should be handled just as carefully. Sandpaper is numbered according to the size of the grains of sand used on the surface. The numbers range from 000000 to 3. The finer grades, 3/0 to 6/0, are used only in rubbing down surfaces in finishing. The grades used for rougher work usually start at 00 and then range as follows: 0, ½, 1, 1¼, 2, 2½, and 3. Commercial packages of sandpaper contain one ream, each sheet 9 inches by 11 inches.

How to Use Sandpaper

For the first sanding of a piece of lumber coarse sandpaper is used, but it is seldom necessary to use numbers 2½ and 3 because they leave deep scratches that require considerable sandpapering with a finer paper to remove. If sandpaper is held under the hand it will follow the exact shape of the surface. If one attempts to sandpaper on or near an edge the paper will “drag” the corners and spoil the neat sharp lines, making them rounding. If the surface of the paper is examined, it will be noticed that most, if not all, of the cutting has been done by the spot upon which one’s fingers rested. This means a waste