

# GETTING STARTED

The Hand Mill manual is very comprehensive with lots of photos to help explain the setting and cutting processes. I have tried to answer any question that might arrive during its use based on questions I have received from owners in addition to my own experience. As a result, it's quite lengthy and may seem overwhelming when you first begin using the Mill. However, using the Hand Mill is intuitive once you have some experience with it and understand the principal and processes. In addition, it's quick and easy to use and produces strips that are extremely accurate and consistent.

The Hand Mill comes with a butt finishing anvil installed. This anvil has been trued by us to make sure that the aluminum angle, base, adjustable bed, plane, and dial indicator work properly. The correct procedure for you to true anvils is explained in the anvil section.

It is my recommendation that you go to the anvil section and true your anvils before starting to cut bamboo. The finish butt anvil that has been trued by us can be used to adjust your adjustable bed to .010" above the base and parallel to it as described in the anvil section. This is done for you to learn how to use the push/pull screws, dial indicator for setting a taper, and the steel weight before truing your anvils.

In addition, a straight taper of .006" per station has been set in the adjustable bed. This is to show you how a typical taper would be set on the Hand Mill. You should note that the right side of the adjustable bed at station "0" is always tight against the base. Included with the Hand Mill and mounted on the anvil is a butt strip that has been rough cut to illustrate how a strip should look and where it may be attached. (Note: This is only a discarded strip and may not be a perfect strip or perfectly cut.) This strip has an approximate .006 per inch taper. It also illustrates that in order to determine the correct strip height it needs to be measured as you cut your strip down to a finished size rather than determine the height by the bed setting.

The manual is organized in a sequential manner based on the different steps required for you to properly set up your Hand Mill. My suggested procedure is set out below.

1. Read the manual in its entirety.
2. Familiarize yourself with the tools.
3. Mount the aluminum angle to your bench.
4. Study the adjustable bed and base to understand the taper setting principal and mount base, adjustable bed, and anvil onto aluminum angle.

5. Study the Morgan Hand Mill plane to understand how it operates and the cutting depth is set.
6. Study the anvil section that covers the basics of setting a taper and truing your anvils.
7. Study the taper setting section to familiarize yourself with specific taper setting instructions.
8. Read the bamboo preparation section for a general idea on strip preparation. There is also very specific information for the Hand Mill in the Milling Strips section.
9. Read the Hold Down Shoe information before milling strips.
10. Study the Milling Strips section for specific instructions on using the Hand Mill and cutting strips.
11. If you purchased a measuring block set it using the gauge drill on your caliper.

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