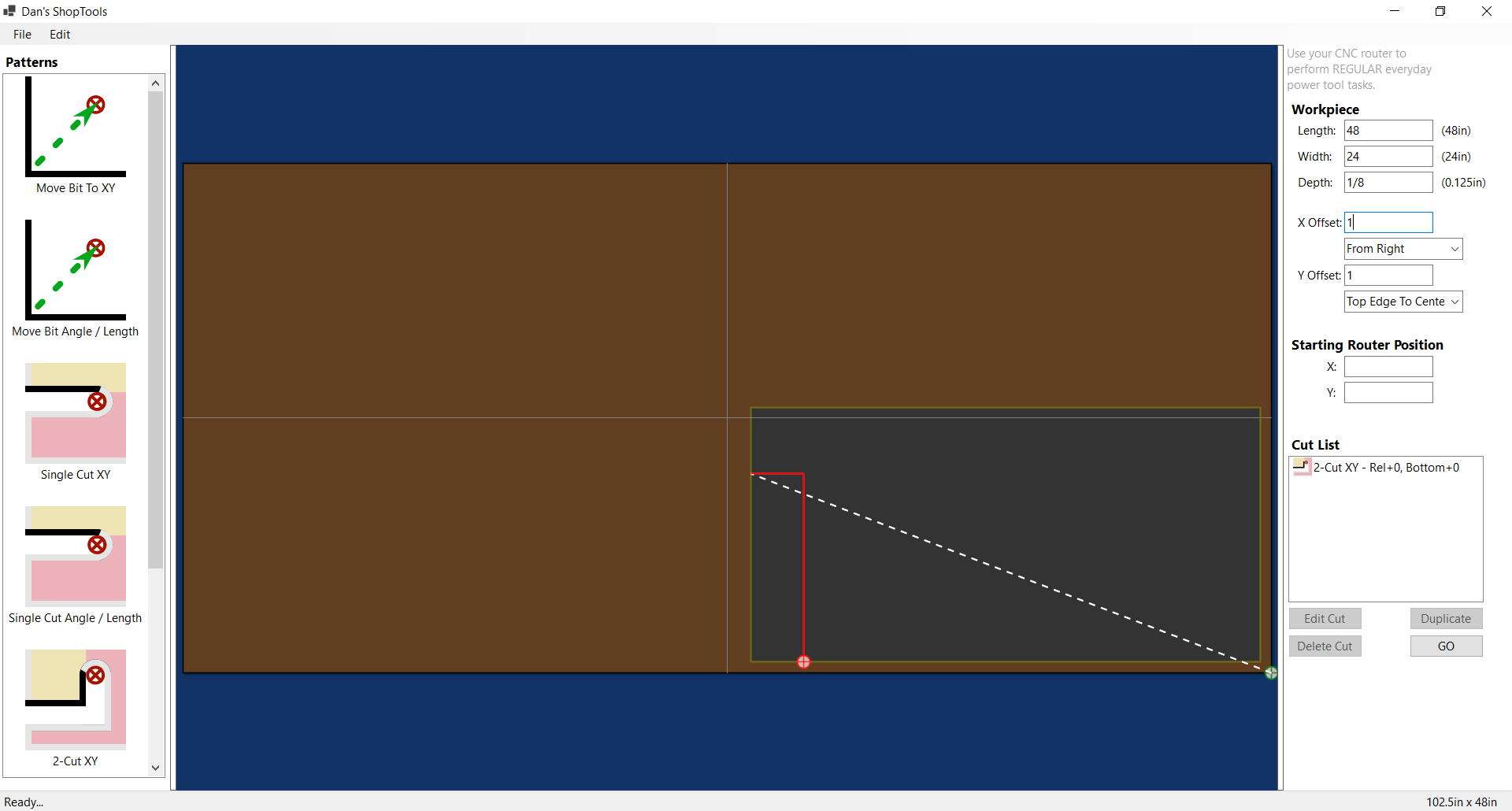


One of the biggest complaints I've heard about CNC routers in recent years is that, even when you want to use your machine for simple ad-hoc drills and cuts, the time it takes to plan everything out, draft it in your favorite CAD application, and create your tool paths with a matching CAM application often outweighs the convenience. You could have saved time by just walking over to your traditional power tools and doing it manually. But that's about to change…

Welcome to **ShopTools**, the application that finally makes CNC routing easier than using your old power tools - except now, you don’t have to touch those tools at all. That’s right: with no CAD, no CAM, no expensive software or steep learning curve - you can just **drag, drop,** and **cut**.



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## Why ShopTools?

Have you ever wished your CNC router could just **replace** your power tools instead of adding another layer of complexity? Well, **wish granted**. ShopTools is here to make your CNC pay for itself by taking over the following jobs.

* **Drill Press**. Precisely placed holes, no measuring required.
* **Table Saw / Miter Saw**. Straight cuts, perpendicular or at any angle.
* **Band Saw**. Curve? No problem.
* **Scroll Saw**. Intricate, detailed work with machine precision.
* **Jigsaw / Sabre Saw**. For the times you just need a quick, accurate cut.

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## How It Works

Imagine defining your cuts *faster than you could mark them with a straightedge and pencil*. That’s what ShopTools delivers. No marking. No CAD. No CAM. No tool-path configurations. You just accurately position your material on the waste board, and your CNC does the rest.

* **Use any numbering system**. Every measurement textbox supports every popular distance-type measurement expression. You can specify inches and fractions of an inch for one parameter, while using decimal inches or millimeters for another.
* **Template-driven workflow**. Just drag and drop movements, drill positions, and cut lines into place.
* **No job is too simple**. Even if you only need to drill one hole or make one cut, this is the perfect way to get it perfect the first time every time.
* **Lines at any angle**. Set a couple of parameters and go.
* **Save and reuse cut lists**. Open, edit, and export to G-code whenever you need.
* **One-time table setup**. Just set your dimensions, directions of travel, and origins. Done.

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## The Safest Way to Run Your Shop

Why get your hands near a spinning blade when you don’t have to? With ShopTools, the only time you touch the machine is when you’re **calibrating it, turning it on,** or **turning it off**. Everything in between is hands-free. Faster cuts, safer operation, and zero risk of kick-back or touching rotating equipment.

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## But Wait, There's More

Improvements are coming along pretty rapidly but if you encounter something that hasn't been addressed, just add an Issue and we'll make sure it gets some attention.

So, what’s stopping you? Your CNC is ready to go to work. **Why not let it?**

Download ShopTools today and make your shop run smoother than ever.

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## Using ShopTools

The general workflow of using ShopTools is easy.

The following are the general steps for creating No-CAD / No-CAM cuts on your CNC router:

* Open ShopTools. If this is the first time opening the application, choose the **Edit / Settings** menu option to configure your table. This only needs to be done once.
* Set the Length, Width, and Depth of your workpiece. Optionally, position the workpiece and router at known offsets.
* Double-click a pattern or drag and drop it onto your work area, and set the properties like starting offset, length, angle, or whatever is applicable for the operation.
* Repeat the above steps until all holes and cuts are defined.
* Save your cut-list file if you wish to refer back to it later. Whenever you open a cut-list file you've saved earlier, you only need to export it to g-code to use it, skipping all of the above steps.
* Export your file to g-code and pass that file to your machine.

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NOTE: Although the feature is planned, ShopTools doesn't yet have a real-time 3D toolpath preview. If you like to review your toolpaths as a general rule before sending them to your machine, I would recommend using <https://ncviewer.com/> by ToolPath Labs.

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## Developing With ShopTools

You can see the full SDK documentation for ShopTools here on the GitHub site at <https://danielanywhere.github.io/ShopTools>.

## Platform Independence, Anyone?

If you would like to see a non-Windows (Linux UI) version of this application, please provide some feedback on the Issues page of this repository so I can get an indication of whether the effort might be worthwhile.