

Lesson 11: More Joineries in Woodworking

Introduction

As woodworking skills progress, craftsmen move beyond basic joints to more advanced joinery techniques. These joints not only add strength and durability to wooden structures but also showcase craftsmanship and design aesthetics. In this lesson, we will explore advanced joinery methods such as the corner-bridle joint, comb joint, through-dovetail joint, and modern joints using commercial connectors. Each has unique applications in furniture making, cabinetry, and architectural woodworking.

Types of Advanced Joints

Joint	Description	Common Uses	
Corner-Bridle Joint	A strong where one piece has a tenon that fits into a matching mortise cut in the other, with both parts meeting at the corner.	Frames, furniture legs, cabinet corners.	
Comb Joint (finger joint)	Features interlocking rectangular "fingers" cut into the ends of two pieces of wood, which fit together with glue.	Box making, drawer construction, panels.	



Through- Dovetail Joint	Characterized by wedge-shaped pins and tails that interlock tightly, visible from both sides. Known for strength and beauty.	High-quality drawers, chests, fine cabinetry.	
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Joints Using Commercial Connectors

Modern woodworking often uses connectors that replace traditional joinery. These are faster to assemble, more adjustable, and widely used in mass-produced and ready-to-assemble furniture.

Connector	Description	Common	
Туре		Uses	
	Wooden pegs	Furniture	
	(dowels)	frames, chair	1771 1 - 77 1920
Dowel Joints	inserted into	parts,	
	aligned holes in	cabinets.	
	two pieces of		
	wood.		
	Strengthened		
	with glue.		~
	Oval-shaped	Tabletops,	End (edge)
	compressed	panels,	
Biscuit Joints	wood pieces	cabinetr.	113
	(biscuits) glued		
	into matching		130
	slots. Expand		10
	when glued for a		Shelf
	tight fit.		(edge) Face-to-edge Side biscuit joinery
			(face)



Pocket-Hole Screws	Angled screws driven into pre- drilled "pocket" holes. Quick and strong fastening.	Cabinet frames, shelves, DIY furniture.	
Metal Bracket and Plates	Steel connectors used for reinforcement, often screwed into place.	High-quality drawers, chests, fine cabinetry.	

Terminology

- **Tenon** The projecting piece of wood shaped to fit into a mortise.
- Finger Joint Another name for a comb joint due to the interlocking finger-like cuts.
- Tail & Pin Parts of a dovetail joint that interlock to form the connection.
- Connector Hardware Commercial fasteners like biscuits, dowels, screws, or bracket

Reference Terminology

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