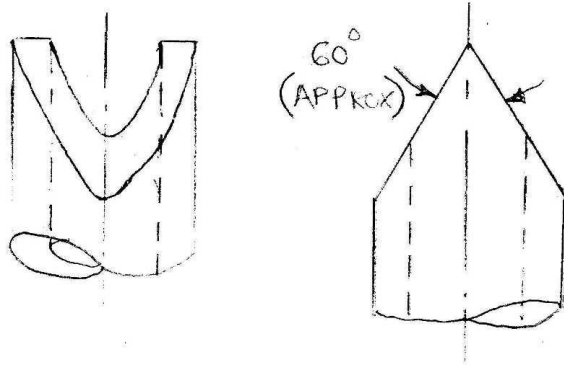


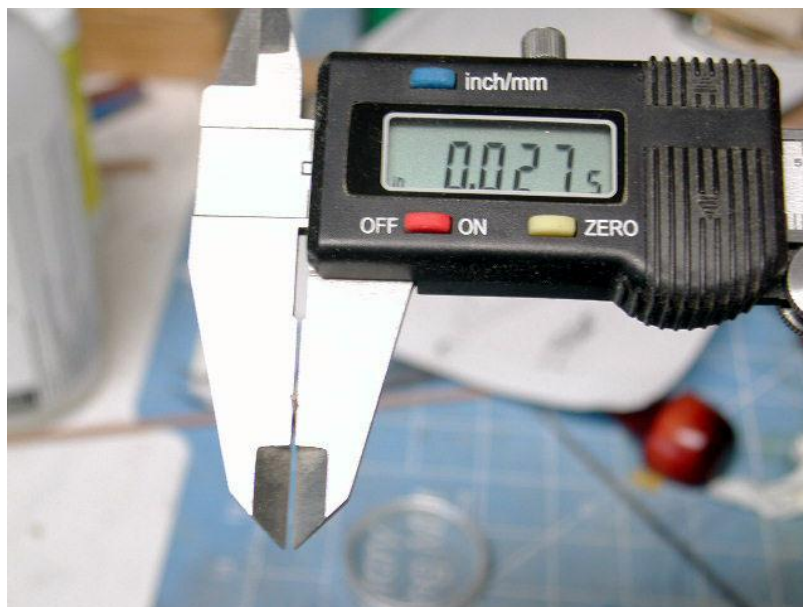
Making Treenails

I think this method is about the best I have ever seen (and used) for making the pesky things. It is not my idea. I saw it on the Russian forum and would like to thank Alexei Baranov for it. It does require a drill press to do well and safely. Other than that a hand saw and a short piece of wood, say 1" x 4" x 4" lg. I like the same wood which I use for planking but the choice is yours. It also requires purchasing a syringe needle of the same inside diameter as the treenail. They can be acquired from pharmaceutical supply stores. Any comments and suggestions are always welcome.



The needles are hardened steel, so grind them on a bench grinder or 5" disc sander:

Checking the size of a treenail:



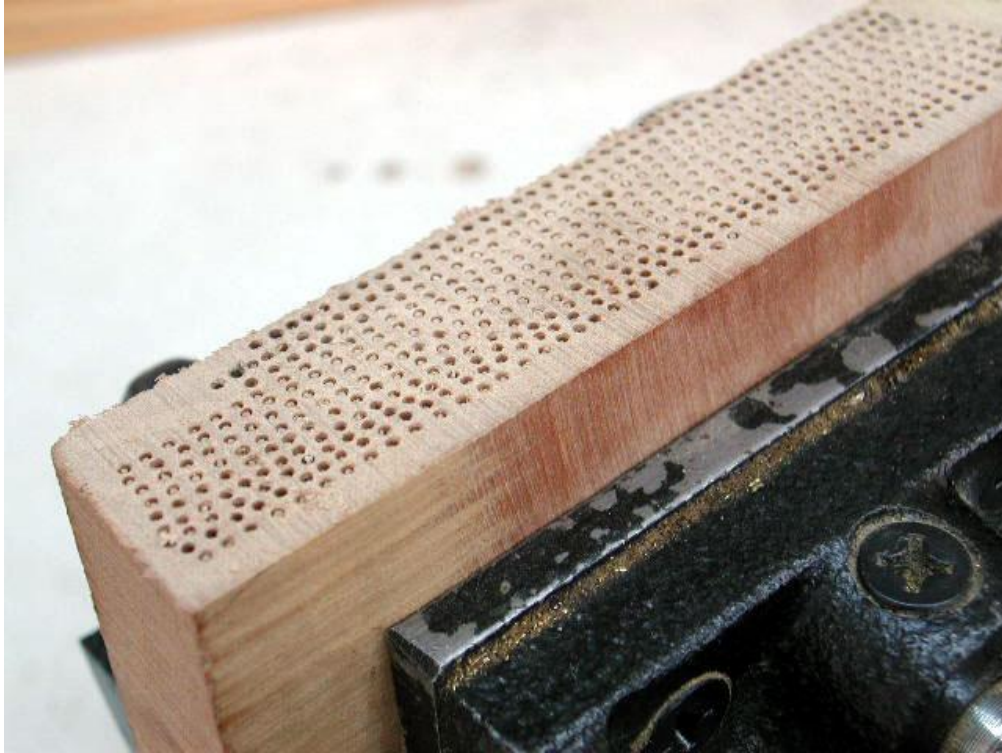
Clamp the wood in the vise with grain in the same direction as the axis of the drill press. Set the needle in the chuck protruding a tad further than the length of treenail (trunnel) you require. Withdraw the drill frequently to cool it



Drill holes until the chuck touches the work piece.



Repeat as often as necessary!



Cross cut a piece slightly LESS than the full length of treenail required. Tap the piece on the bench to dislodge any treenails which may be stuck.



The treenails are best handled with tweezers. Pick one up, dip in glue and insert into holes in planking and frames.

Keith Harrison
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