

Multi-Generation Lamination Resources

Lloyd Johnson

lloyd@woodturnerpro.com

Laser for positioning board for cutting multiple generation boards:

PAL (Perfect Alignment Laser): This is a laser designed for quilting. There are two versions of this and they are both made by the same company. One is low cost and the other is much more functional at a slightly higher cost.

PAL #1:

This unit can be either battery operated or plugged into a USB power source. It has a flexible gooseneck and works alright if you don't touch it. To keep it in position, I have an earth magnet to the base which lets you put it on the table of a table saw.



has a flexible epoxied a rare

PAL #2: This unit is basically the same kind of laser that is used on the PAL #1 but it screws into a standard adjustable lamp head. It only operates using a USB power source. It clamps to the table of the table saw and by tightening three different knobs, the position stays in place quite well.

It comes with a shade that adds nothing whatsoever to the lamp and so I have removed mine altogether. It is easy to position the cross hairs of the laser and it stays in place remarkably well.



Both of these units are available at Amazon, Walmart, Target, etc. Do an internet search for **PAL Embroidery Laser**.

Thin lumber: My favorite source for thin lumber for making laminated boards is eBay. There are a number of manufacturers that produce sanded thicknesses between 1/8" and 1/2" which is shipped to you in USPS Flat Rate Priority Mail boxes. Orders are usually for a single thickness of one or more species and the length is 12" – 24" long and 3"-4" wide. Since the lumber is finished sanded, usually to a few thousandths of an inch, you can buy from multiple vendors and likely end up with wood that is nearly exactly the same thickness. You can always find Maple, Walnut and Cherry but can also find a number of other species. In my experience, the wood ships within 24 hours and is delivered within 72 hours of purchase. The cost is less than half of what you would pay at a store such as Rockler or Woodcraft. The wood is kiln dried – mostly Eastern US species.

Go to eBay and search for 'thin lumber 3/8"' to see many options of buying 3/8" thin lumber.

Binding Tape for a clamping solution: This tape is used by Luthiers as an alternative to traditional clamps. I use it whenever possible because of its versatility and ease-of-use.

I buy mine from Stewart-MacDonald (luthier supply company):

<https://stewmac.com> – search for Binding Tape



Thin Kerf Saw: This blade is used to cut .023" channels in guitar or ukulele fingerboards. The blade itself is 1/8" thick but the outer 3/8" is ground to .023".



Rockler Clamp-It® Assembly Square:

A pair of these assembly squares can be mounted with knurled knobs to the fence of a miter saw. This will let you put a cutting platform made of MDF or high-density plywood positioned higher than the saw table and nearly two inches away from the fence to allow you to use smaller blades than normal.

