This small, low-angle block plane is only one third the weight of a standard block plane, a significant factor if you want to carry it in a pocket all day. The sole is 3 5/8” long and overall length is 4 1/2”. It is an ideal plane for delicate trimming work, as well as fitting miter joints and breaking sharp edges.

The 7/8” wide blade is available in PM-V11® tool steel and is bedded at 15° with a 20° bevel angle. The lever cap is molded to comfortably fit the palm of the hand. The lever cap wheel can be set from a full locking position to a controlled friction setting for blade adjustment. The combined feed and lateral adjustment mechanism makes blade setting accurate and easy.

To initially set the blade, place the plane on a flat wood surface (e.g., a scrap of stock). Lightly clamp the blade with the lever cap wheel and advance the blade until it just touches the wood.

Flip the plane to a sole-up position, then sight along the sole to ensure the blade edge is parallel to the sole and adjust as required. Clamp fully (a quarter turn should be ample – do not overclamp) and take a test cut.

You will quickly get accustomed to setting blade depth by sighting along the sole, but for setting very fine shavings, you will still need to take test cuts.

A cautionary note: The lever cap clamping wheel has tremendous mechanical advantage. For normal use, it needs to be tightened only a quarter turn after full engagement with the blade. Never torque it down as hard as you can or you may damage the plane.

Backlash and How to Avoid It
To eliminate the possibility of the blade shifting backward unpredictably as the backlash is taken up, the final setting should always be made with the blade being advanced by the clockwise movement of the thumbscrew. If you need to retract the blade slightly, retract it more than required, and finish by advancing it to its desired position. This takes up all the play in the mechanism, eliminating any shifting in use.

Blade Sharpening
The pocket plane has a bed angle of 15° and the blade comes ground at an angle of 20°. Since the blade is used bevel up, the effective cutting angle will be 35°.

Blade Adjustment

Caution: Be aware that the blade is sharp; careless handling can result in serious injury.

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