

TOOLS

Mountmaking requires a selection of standard tooling for basic mount fabrication. Depending on the complexity and material used, the provided tool list should cover most areas. Since there are many choices of tools available, the mountmaker must decide which will suit them best. Quality counts, don't sell yourself short. Included are larger more expensive tools. While these are not necessary for basic mount fabrication, they will allow further possibilities in your mount designs.

Hand Tools

- Variable speed battery operated hand drill
- Drill Bits – wire gauge (#1-60) set, fractional set (1/16"-1/2")
 - * Drill Gauges – wire gauge and fractional
- 82° single flute countersink set (1/4" – 3/4")
- Center punch
- Scribe
- Precision ruler
- Flexible tape rule
- Combination square w/centering and protractor heads
- Drafting compass
- Angle finder or bevel gauge
- Calipers
- Taps/die set (2-56 – 1/2-13)
- Vise-Grip® Locking long nose pliers/wrenches, small and medium sizes
- Pliers – parallel jaw, round nose, flat nose
 - * Diagonal cutters
 - * Coe wrenches
 - * Adjustable wrenches, large and small
 - * Socket set, 1/4" – 3/4"
- Bolt cutters
- Wire stripper pliers w/machine screw cutter
- Hacksaw
 - * Rod parter, by Diacro or Marvel (Armstrong Blum Mfg. Co), 2nd hand
- Utility knife and small precision knife, scalpels, single edge razor blades
- Scissors (regular and small sizes)
- Screwdrivers - Slotted and Phillips Sets, large and small sizes
- File sets, American-Pattern (for fast material removal) and Swiss pattern #0 (for finer finish work)
- Quality bench vise, smooth jawed for brass
 - * Lee Valley bending jig for vise
- Duo-mite® bench-top metal bender
- Hammers, smooth faced, large and small
 - * Anvil
 - * Mandrels, wood or metal
 - * Sabre saw

- Foredom® or Dremel® type hand grinder/flex shaft machine
- Selection of Carbide burs for hand grinder
- Selection of sanding discs for hand grinder
 - * Benchtop sander, 1" belt & 8" disc
 - * Power file sander; electric, air or battery powered
- Flashlight and Headlight, plastic mirror

Acrylic Specific Tools

- Heat Gun, need two to make an simple oven
- Plastic/Laminate drill bit set
- Bench top mounted buffing wheel
- Plex polish for plex, Rouge for brass.
 - * Roto-zip for trimming shaped plex forms

Paint Kit

- Spray primers
- Acrylic paint, Liquitex, Golden or other
- Various brushes, old and new, worn and fresh
- Enclosable palette, water bottle, etc.

Larger Tools

- 10" – 14" Band saw
- Drill Press
- 12" Disc sander
- Vacuum with a minimum 5 micron filter or HEPA filter
- Milling machine and cutters (expensive)
- Lathe and cutters (expensive)

Welding/Brazing/Soldering Tools

- Air-Acetylene torch for brazing or soldering
- Oxygen/Acetylene torch for brazing, soldering, and welding
- Silver solder and flux
 - * Iron Oxide pigment or other heat shields
- Hearth, either fire bricks or fireproof ceramic pad
- Pickle and water containers
- Welding face shield and gloves
- MIG or TIG welder (more expensive, for easier welding)