



## Blacksmithing Course Pre-Work

The following videos and practice are strongly recommended prior to the first day of class.

June 2017

### 1. Learn How to Hammer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyG0LaRctfU>

Good video.... He's pretty much spot on. In class, we'll also practice ways to 'delay' the inevitable fatigue. It will be very helpful if you're able to practice as described .... sink 200 or more nails (8d or 10d, 2 3/4" to 3 1/2"). I'd recommend setting a log stump up to a height of about 29" to 33" and start pounding ... gradually decreasing the number of strokes as you become proficient. The height is somewhat important and replicates anvil height. Try to stand up more or less straight... Focus on trying to keep your wrist perpendicular to the nail head at the point of impact. Bring the hammer up past your ear, use webbing between thumb and index finger as a fulcrum, begin the down stroke by closing the pinky and ring finger firmly towards the palm. Don't sweat it too much. Like most things, it's way easier if you don't think about it too much:) Practice.

### 2. 005 HEAT TREATMENT OF STEELS PART 1, MARC LECUYER

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw4RI0uG7ok&start\\_radio=1&list=RDQMKRO--GZpzMg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw4RI0uG7ok&start_radio=1&list=RDQMKRO--GZpzMg)

### 3. 006 HEAT TREATMENT OF STEELS PART 2, MARC LECUYER

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1wqbiU5sC30>

The music that plays as these videos begin is something that requires a warning...you've been warned. However, these are the best I've seen at taking a complex topic and making it somewhat easy to digest. The 'star', Marc Lecuyer, is clearly a professional educator and outstanding instructor... (with questionable musical taste:) Don't hesitate to watch them more than once...it's a lot to take in.

### 4. How Heat Treatment Affects the Properties of Metal and Alloys

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCT3oJUEPc0>

An old video posted to Youtube. It explains crystal structure very well ... the graphics tend to stick in the head and it begins to make sense.