# "Little Victor" Plane 15P01.01

This little plane is a close copy of Leonard Bailey's 1877 "Little Victor" #51 block plane, which was once advertised as the "perfect tool". A simple and effective tool with an elegant design, it is a great miniature-maker's or modelmaker's plane. The investmentcast steel body is accurately machined, has a 45° bed angle and a fixed mouth, and uses a cogwheel screw to secure the included blade.

### Product Use

Easy to use, it can be pushed with a traditional side wing grip. For a highly controlled cut on a flat surface, it can be pushed with a thumb on the lipped toe while the palm of the hand is firmly planted on the work, similar to using two hands for a paring cut with a chisel.



**Caution:** Blade is sharp. The sides and top edges of the blade have been lightly deburred after lapping. Depending on how you grip the plane, you may find these edges uncomfortable. If desired, you can round over the square edges with a file.

#### Blade Adjustment

To initially set the blade, place the plane on a flat piece of wood (e.g., a scrap of stock) and slide the blade (bevel down) under the fixed ribs until it just touches the wood. Tighten the cogwheel against the blade until blade is secured. Sight down the sole of the plane to ensure the blade edge is parallel to the sole and adjust as required. To advance the blade, hold the plane firmly in one hand and tap the end of the blade with a light mallet or a plane hammer. To adjust the blade for even shaving thickness, tap either side of the blade with the mallet until the blade edge is parallel to the sole.

#### **Blade Sharpening**

The 0.085" thick by 1" wide O1 tool steel blade has the bevel ground at a  $30^{\circ}$  angle. Both the sole of the plane and the working surface\* of the blade are lapped to a flatness tolerance of  $\pm 0.0002$ " or better. Any subsequent honing can be limited to the bevel, as required.

\* The working surface is the 1/2'' section of the face closest to the cutting edge.

## Care and Maintenance

The body of this plane is cast steel and comes treated with rust preventative. Remove this using a rag dampened with mineral spirits and clean all machined surfaces.

We recommend that you initially, then periodically, apply a light coat of paste wax to seal out moisture and prevent rusting. Let wax dry, then buff with a clean soft cloth.

To guard against dings and scratches, or if storage conditions are damp or humid, keep the plane wrapped in a cloth or stored in a plane sack.