Pet Peeves

Bevel Cut June 2022
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We're all familiar with the concept of "pet peeves." Perhaps high on your list of such common annoyances is "slow internet," having a discussion with someone who constantly stares at his/her cellphone, or the millennial who inserts "like" four times in every sentence. Another aggravation is drivers who turn without signaling, sometimes making a right turn from the left lane (around Boston, of course, using your turn signal is considered a sign of weakness).

My guess is that many guild members have pet peeves that are woodworking specific.

Around the basement woodshop, it seems that pet peeves come in at least three categories.

Vendor-driven
- Screws not included
- Batteries not included
- No assembly instructions – they're missing; so you are on your own
- Bad assembly instructions written by someone for whom English is a third language; this is probably worse than having no instructions
- Products promoted 25x per month as being on-sale, so the sale price is really the every-day price
- Requests to rate the vendor or the "buying experience" just 35 seconds after making an online tool purchase
- Requests to rate the product before the tool has been delivered
- Excessive shipping charges
- Inaccurate drawings and/or measurements, whether you paid for them or even if they are free

Self-driven
- Needing one more clamp than you own
- Drilling a hole on the wrong side of a board
- Finishes that never seem to cure
- Making bad measurements
- Moving forward with a project before material is "flat and square"
- Damaged wood parts or body parts because you decided to skip sharpening
- Building jigs and fixtures rather than finished goods
- Setting off the SawStop brake with the miter saw

Fate-driven
1. Misleading customer reviews (see last month's bevel cut)
2. Incoming phone call you've been waiting for arrives just seconds after you've poured glue
3. Power outage while using miter saw or table saw
4. Dust or pollen storm after applying coat of finish