



How to submit an article for *American Period Furniture*

American Period Furniture (APF) covers a full range of topics related to American period furniture including design, construction techniques, tools, materials, finishes, and historical articles about the lives and work habits of early cabinetmakers.

APF strives to maintain high scholarly standards. Authors are expected to acknowledge intellectual property rights through citation of previously published works and other means as appropriate. Final decisions regarding acceptance of articles rests with the journal's editor and editorial board.

Manuscripts are accepted for consideration for publication from both SAPFM members and non-members.

Publication timetable. The journal is published in December, but journal production is a 12-month affair! We attempt to tailor journal with a blend of content that reflect the wide range of interests and skills of the SAPFM members.

Manuscripts not chosen for publication may be considered for the following year or the SAPFM quarterly newsletter.

How to get started. To get the ball rolling, send the editor a brief inquiry describing your proposed article; three to five paragraphs are sufficient. Don't worry about details and formality. Your inquiry should be more like a letter to a friend, telling about a certain project you've built (or plan to build) or other topics of interest. Highlight things that you think fellow SAPFM would want to learn about.

I'm not a writer. What would I say? Writing is a craft, just like furnituremaking. You get an idea, rough it out, and then refine it. Your knowledge and insights are more valuable than you think. Remember that SAPFM members appreciate articles that are easy to digest and informative.

Some topics—finishing, sharpening, and hand tools come to mind—warrant a revisit every two to three years with a fresh approach.

Photography. Photos to show finished works or to illustrate techniques, activities, or other topics are essential. Be vigilant about photographing safe woodworking techniques. Don't photograph anything that might lead SAPFM members to injury. (No eye protection or dangling shirt cuffs are two examples to avoid in how-to photos.)

Digital images should be shot on the highest possible resolution with a camera that captures 3.2 or greater mega pixels. Please burn a CD of your images, as 1) the size of e-mail attachments quickly paralyzes e-mail systems 2) some compressed images lose quality when reopened.

Acceptable digital formats: .tif (preferred) and .jpg.

Please do not manipulate your images in Photoshop or other image program before sending your CD of images.

Appropriate credits and permissions must accompany each image not created by the author. Contact the editor for assistance with obtaining permissions. Photographs will not be returned unless requested.

Why photos get rejected. Photography quality—not the woodworking quality—is the most frequent cause of photo and story rejection. Make sure you have sharp images (use a tripod), simple backgrounds (neutral, wrinkle-free surfaces), and follow proper lighting techniques.

For project how-to photography, make sure hands and tools have detail (not burned out by flash from the camera). With a macro lens or close-up attachment, move in close.

Publishing in other magazines. We present a view of our craft as seen through the eyes of our members, so our articles are specialized. We require original material that you have the right to publish. In the past, we have expanded material first printed in SAPFM chapter newsletters into a journal article.

Acknowledging proposals. The editor will contact you within a couple of weeks after reviewing your proposal. If the article fits the journal's needs, he will give you an idea when it will be published and what additional work, if any, will be required. In your proposal, please indicate a good time to contact you by phone. Don't forget to include your e-mail address.

Submissions. Electronic versions in Word format are preferred. Image files and captions should be submitted separately.

Manuscripts are preferred in electronic format, on disc, or as one or more attachments to e-mails sent to the editor at cvoss@sapfm.org.

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