

Holiday Decoration Blacksmithing Class

Hello and thank you for your interest in the holiday decoration Class. This course is intended for students with little to no prior knowledge of blacksmithing. Included in this pamphlet is your sign-up sheet and liability waiver. If your schedule changes and you are not able to attend the class you have signed up for, please contact me as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at: 410 – 310 - 4560.

As for the always entertaining liability waiver form, which my insurance company makes me have everyone sign, the basic idea is this: blacksmithing can be dangerous. The danger is significantly reduced by using the proper safety gear, the fact that we will not be using much in the way of power tools and, of course, by using common sense and following the safety rules. It is my job to see to it that this class is safe and fun. Having said that there are times when I accidentally hurt myself in the shop. Minor scrapes and burns can happen. We will be working with hand tools and next to open flames. Also this is a physical activity that will last for several hours over two days. Water and rest times are provided but if you feel that your physical conditioning will not allow you to participate then you may want to reconsider. So if you accept these realities, and if smashing 2000 degree steel sounds like fun, then sign on up and we'll see you at the forge.

There is no official age requirement for this class. However, there are a few considerations for minors. First, I need a parent to sign the liability waiver and to accompany the student to the class. If the parent wants to take the class also that works out great but they don't have to. They can simply watch and there will be no fee for that. Next, the student will have to be able to handle the class. The weekend is 13 hours of forging (with breaks). So they will have to be strong enough to swing a 2 lb hammer for that time and be able to focus on the tasks for that time. Having said that there are quite a few older teenagers who forge on a regular basis and it can be a great activity for them to get into.

Holiday Decoration Class Liability Waiver Form

In consideration of Broken Hammer Forge and its instructor, David Collier, making these classes available and granting permission to enter the school of said classes, I hereby waive all claims for damage and/or loss to my person or property which may be caused by any act on my part, the part of the instructor, act of God or acts of my fellow students. I understand there are inherent dangers in blacksmithing and I assume the risk of all dangerous conditions in and about said classes. I also understand that blacksmithing can be physically demanding and I assert that I am in good physical condition and therefore able to handle the demands of the class. I also agree to follow and obey the safety rules and/or instructions of the class instructor. I understand and accept that if I fail to obey these rules and/or instructions it may result in my removal from the class and the forfeit of my registration fee. I also accept that my registration fee is non-refundable if I fail to attend a class, cancel within two weeks of the class date or am unable to complete the class. By signing this, I acknowledge that I understand and accept this waiver and that I am at least 18 years of age.

Signature _____

Date _____

Printed Name _____

Date _____

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Parent or Guardian's Signature _____

Date _____

Parent or Guardian's Printed Name _____

Date _____

Student's Name _____

Weekend Schedule:

Saturday:

8:00 – noon: morning session
noon – 12:30: lunch
12:30 – 4:30: afternoon session

Sunday:

8:00 – noon: morning session
noon – 12:30: lunch
12:30 – 4:30: afternoon session

What to expect:

The school is held indoors with fans and natural ventilation. Classes will alternate between verbal instruction and demonstration followed by hands on practice. During the lab portion several small projects will be made, which you will take home. The Sunday session will include a larger project and some free-forging as time permits. Small class size allows for more individualized instruction. We will have pizza for lunch on Saturday. If you have dietary needs feel free to bring a lunch. We have a fridge and microwave on site.

Please bring the following gear:

- full length pants; preferably jeans (unless the forecast calls for hot weather)
- closed toe shoes (work boots are ideal)
- gloves (leather is ideal, no synthetic materials, must be able to have good dexterity with them, they should come off easily, no large welding gloves)
- shirts should be made from natural materials to prevent melting or flash-burning
- long hair will need to be pulled back.
- camera and note taking material if you wish
- please keep in mind that we will be working with coal which tends to be somewhat dirty, so older work clothes may be best

The following gear will be provided:

- safety goggles, aprons, ear plugs

Also provided:

There will be coffee each morning. Water will be available throughout the sessions. All materials and tools are provided but if you have a favorite hammer you wish to bring please feel free.

The School is located at:

16343 Oakland RD
Henderson, MD 21640
410 – 310 - 4560

Registration and Cancellation Policies:

Due to the possibility of having more people interested in a particular class than we have room for, we prefer to have the paperwork and registration fee sent in as soon as you reasonably can. This will guarantee your spot and avoid any confusion. If the full amount is too much at one time you may send in a 50% deposit and mail in the rest at least two weeks prior to the class. Cancellations more than two weeks prior to class will receive a full refund. Please note that your fee is non-refundable if you fail to attend a class, cancel within two weeks of the class date or are unable to complete the class. Please note that the two week cut off is for cancellations only. Registration remains open for any class up to the day before class, assuming there are still openings.

Hotels:

For local hotel please visit the bottom of the 'Directions' page on our website.

Parking:

Our facility is on a working farm and due to livestock safety regulations certain areas are restricted. Please park in front of the brick house – just off to the left when the road splits - following the signs. The shop is the large brown building just behind the brick farm house. Someone will be there to show you the way. Please note that due to certain areas being off limits, because they are part of the working farm, we ask that all students, parents and other family who may be in attendance to please stay in the designated forge area. There are certain biohazards that can be accidentally tracked in on shoes and clothing which can be harmful to our livestock. Thank you.

Broken Hammer Forge
Holiday Decoration Blacksmithing Class
Registration form:
www.brokenhammerforge.com

Name _____

Street _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

I am signing up for the following 2026 session:

November 14 - 15 _____

Class fee: \$350 / person

- includes full weekend, all materials and meals
- make check payable to Broken Hammer Forge
- We can take credit cards over the phone

Please mail registration form, money and waiver to:
16373 Oakland RD
Henderson, MD 21640