

**YOUR ORGANIZATION HERE**  
OFFERS  
**MARK ASPERY**  
**SCHOOL OF BLACKSMITHING**

**Title of the course**

Location

Date

**Student package**

Inquiry letter

What to bring

Waiver

Registration Document

Course description

# YOUR ORGANIZATION HERE

Your representative  
contact details

Hello,

Thank you for your inquiry about the Artist Blacksmith course *Mastering the Fundamentals of Blacksmithing* offered by the **Your Organization** featuring the Mark Aspery School of Blacksmithing this **MONTH**. The course will be held at **Name** shop in **Location**. The cost of the course is \$**AMOUNT**. It is five days long starting **DAY, DATE** at **TIME**. All materials are provided for within the course fee. Course days run **DAY** thro **DAY, TIME** a.m. until **TIME** p.m. Unless it's really hot/cold in which case we'll start and finish later!

**Students are expected to provide their own safety equipment. Safety glasses to ANSI 87.1 standard with side shields are required. If you wear prescription lenses, you will be required to provide goggles or prescription safety glasses. Hearing protection is strongly recommended.**

If you have your own forge, anvil etc. you are encouraged to bring it. Mark will be supplying the specialized tooling required for each project. You will also be making some tools that you will use on the course. These you get to keep.

Each project or skill is demonstrated at the start of the session. The student is then given the tools and supervision necessary to complete the project. The demonstration can be repeated at the end of the session for those that require a second look. Step by step progressions are usually available for inspection during practice.

Most blacksmiths are not "mighty men", but persons of average stature, male or female. Blacksmithing is not a test of strength, but of skill and perception. The scale of your future work may relate to your physical prowess and interest, but these courses can be enjoyed by all. A sweat equity is required in all projects made by the smith, either in time spent attaining a skill or in the job itself. The smith is kept humble by the dirt on her or his hands and by the job in hand. 'With life so short and the craft so hard to learn.'

Thank you for your interest. Feel free to contact me with any of your questions.

Yours faithfully,  
**Your contact**

# MARK ASPERY SCHOOL OF BLACKSMITHING

## Equipment

### Required

- \* Safety glasses to ANSI 87.1 spec. with side shields,( available from most hardware stores. *If you wear prescription glasses, you will need to provide safety goggles to wear over them or get a prescription pair of safety glasses.* Walmart carries prescription safety glasses at a reasonable price.)
- \* Non synthetic clothing for in the workshop. 100% cotton or wool.
- \* Long pants are required.
- \* I recommend leather boots, but if you will be wearing shoes, the pants need to cover the tops of the shoes
- \* 12 or 14 inch half round file (rough or bastard cut) *with handle*
- \* Depending upon the weather, you may need some insulation layers. Again these must be of a natural, non-synthetic, fiber construction.

### Recommended

- \* Hearing protection is *strongly* recommended. An anvil rings over 85 dB's.
- \* Leather boots (3/4 top).
- \* Cross peen hammer and farriers rounding hammer. If you are unsure about the weight or styl that you need, wait and try some at the school.
- \* Horseshoers rasp (used if you can get it). *with handle!*
- \* 14 inch Half round basterd cut file *with handle*
- \* Gloves. Leather work gloves are very useful in handling steel. If you intend to use them while forging, they must be a loose fit, able to be shaken from the hand quickly. I prefer cotton hot mill gloves or Kevlar gloves. The Kevlar gloves are a little spendy, but are the better forging glove.
- \* An old towel or rag. If you sweat, glow or generally perspire, this is a nice thing to have.
- \* Water bottle and a coffee/tea cup.
- \* Sports drink powder. This makes a big difference on a hot day.
- \* Tool box or bag. Something to contain your "chunks."

*If you wish to use any of your own tongs or other tools, they must be in good condition with dressed heads and handles firmly affixed to comply with the schools safety standards.*

# Mark Aspery School of Blacksmithing

General Release.

*\*Who this releases from liability:*

This release applies to Mark Aspery School of Blacksmithing, his staff, agents/officers, and the YOUR ORGANIZATION, their staff, agents /officers. The persons named above are jointly and individually termed "releasees" hereafter.

*\*Why do we require you to sign this release:*

**Blacksmithing is a dangerous activity.** Persons participating in blacksmith classes, workshops or other Mark Aspery events, or present in a blacksmith shop or on the premises where blacksmithing is taking place in the ordinary course of events, face many dangers. Among the dangers are handling metal at extremely high temperatures (sometimes in excess of 2000 degrees F), working in and around forges which operate at extremely high temperatures, working around and using hammers, tools, anvils, treadle hammers or other powered hammers, grinders, welders, metal saws and sharp pieces of metal, etc. There are often fumes from the fire present. This list is an example only and does not intend to list all dangers that a person may face while on the premises where blacksmithing is being conducted.

In order for the Mark Aspery to present programs involving blacksmithing, it must be able to do so functionally. The dangers associated with blacksmithing are **something for which the undersigned participant is to assume the risk** as a condition of participation in the activities or being on the premises where such activities are taking place.

*\*Assumption of the risk:*

Assumption of the risk is a legal term which means in this case, that the undersigned assumes all the risk of any injury or illness to his or herself or to his or her property which he or she may encounter as a result of participating in, or being on the premises while, any of the activities sponsored by or presented by any of the releasees.

*\*Negligence is included in this general release:*

The undersigned assumes the risk for all liability and damages she or he may suffer, whether in the nature of personal injury, illness or damage to property, that may be caused by the negligence of any of the releasees while sponsoring or engaging in any blacksmithing event or actions related thereto.

*\*General terms:*

The undersigned further agrees that:

The forgoing release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the law of California and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall continue in full force and effect.

This release shall be interpreted and enforced pursuant to the laws of the state of California.

This release shall remain valid and in full force and effect as to any number of activities from the date signed for a period of one (1) year unless nullified in writing, signed by the undersigned and delivered to the Mark Aspery

No oral representations, statements or inducements have been made. All terms of this general release are included herein.

The general release is consideration in addition to any monetary consideration that may be required for the right of the undersigned to participate in any Mark Aspery event.

The undersigned has read the foregoing release and accepts all the terms and conditions and voluntarily signs this release and waiver of all liability, whether based on negligence or otherwise.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*If the person is under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian must also read and sign this release.*

Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# YOUR ORGANIZATION HERE

## Registration

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone numbers (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact and relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone numbers and times \_\_\_\_\_

Intended course dates and type \_\_\_\_\_ Course Title and Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Cancellation & Refund Policy

There is a twenty-five (25) percent cancellation charge for this course. If the participant cancels 30 days of less prior to the start of the course, the entire fee is non-refundable.

If the Association cancels a course or workshop, participants will receive a 100 percent refund.

There are a number of reasons why this policy is necessary. The association incurs expenses in arranging courses. Among these are the cost of materials and workshop facilities. In addition there may be travel and lodging costs for the instructor. When we schedule a course we have a contractual obligation to the instructor and other course participants.

Course fees are set to cover the actual costs incurred. The association does not attempt to make money on our course offerings. The number of participants is critical to the success of our courses. In some cases the withdrawal of 1 or 2 participants will jeopardize an entire course offering.

I have read the Cancellation & Refund Policy and accept these terms and conditions \_\_\_\_\_ Initial

Please make checks out to Your Organization here

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Check number \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to;

Your Treasurer

Address

# YOUR ORGANIZATION HERE & MARK ASPERY SCHOOL OF BLACKSMITHING

## Course Description

### *Mastering the Fundamentals.*

This is your point of departure into the blacksmith's art. With these core skills you can go anywhere, and our other courses build upon these basics. These courses offer the blacksmith a full range of skills, Oh, there'll be tears of course, impromptu explorations of the finer points on appropriate expletives, blisters, aches, pains, and a few short moments of pure joy. Sound sleep and healthy appetite are guaranteed.

Explore the fundamental tenets of blacksmithing as the course takes you through a variety of technically progressive projects, each building upon the last. These courses are appropriate for novice and beginning smiths.

You will learn: Forging Forming Cutting and Joining. Projects for the course include Tapers (the only exercise) hot chisel and heat treatment, wizard head bottle opener, scrolling tongs or scrolling wrench, monkey tool, flux spoon (your first forge weld) and a tenon. Emphasis is placed on dressing the hammer for success and an efficient hammer swing. In short, when you have completed all of these courses you will have a very comprehensive foundation in the skills of a blacksmith and should feel comfortable working in your own shop.

These skills can be acquired by all, regardless of stature, strength, sex, and stamina. This course is designed to build successes for beginning beginners but will prove invaluable and even challenging to many intermediate smiths who have never received formal training. You can expect to improve your hammer control, learn to work more efficiently, and generally feel more well-rounded.