

How To Build a Longship

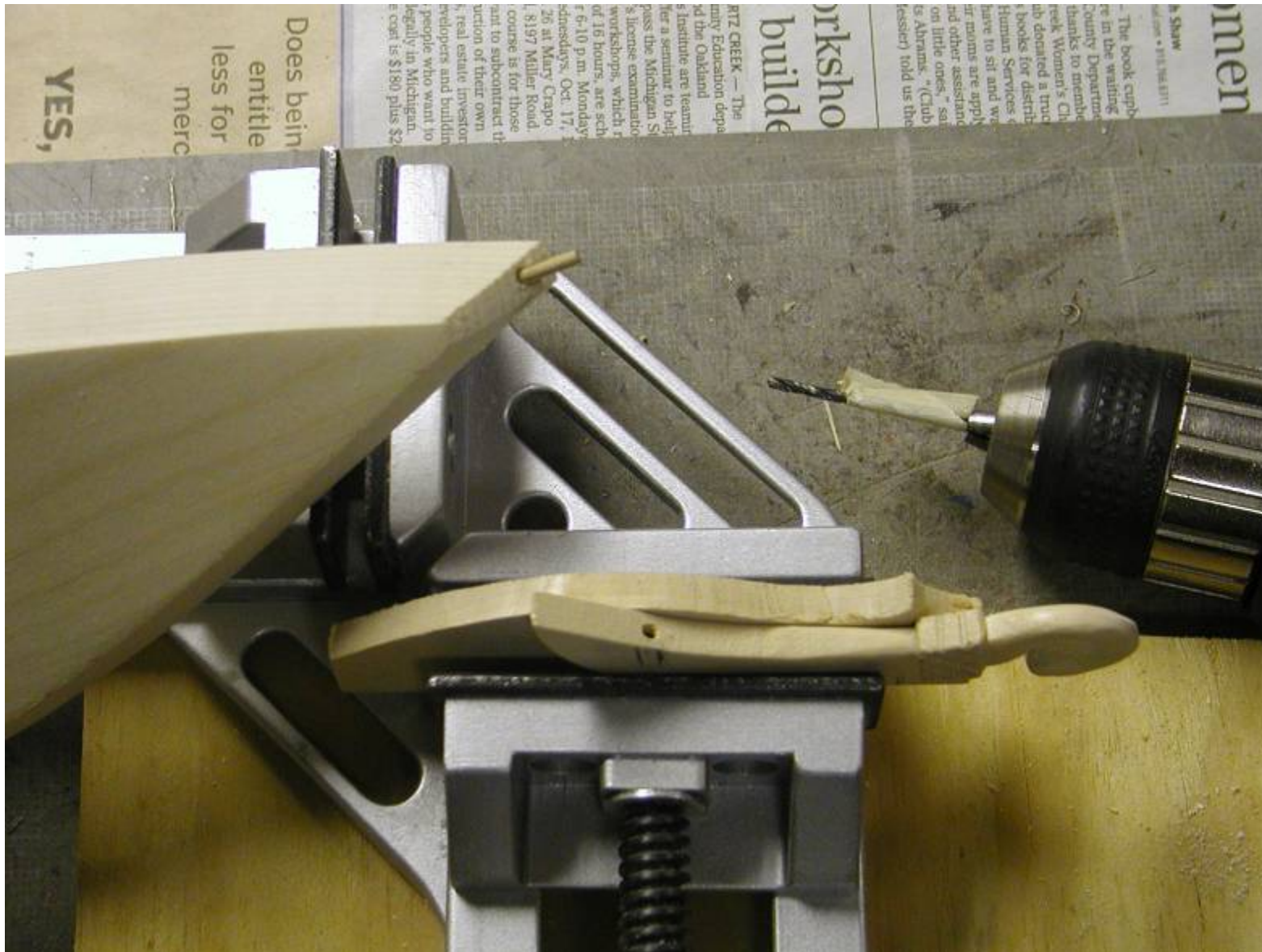
Chapter 2

By Glen Cooley and Rod Cain

The planking is made from 1/32" thick Basswood, cut into 1/4" strips



When mounting the stern and bow you may want to peg them for re-enforcement



Position the mast support in the center, peg it to keep it in place.



Starting in the center mark off one inch increments.



Cut 1/8" strips of 1/32" thin basswood place them across the hull on the one inch spacing. (optionally you can scribe these lines like the longitudinal markings)

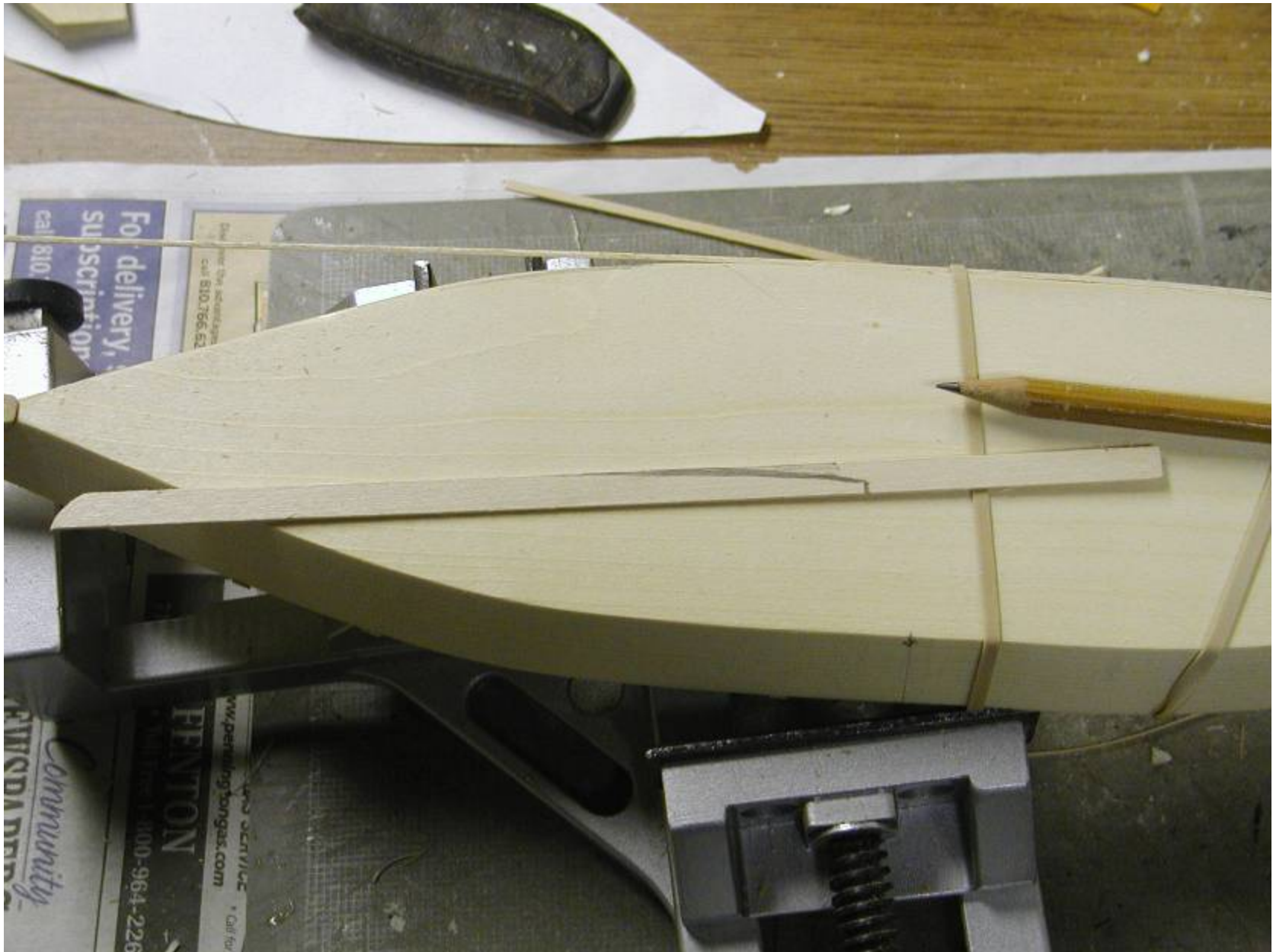


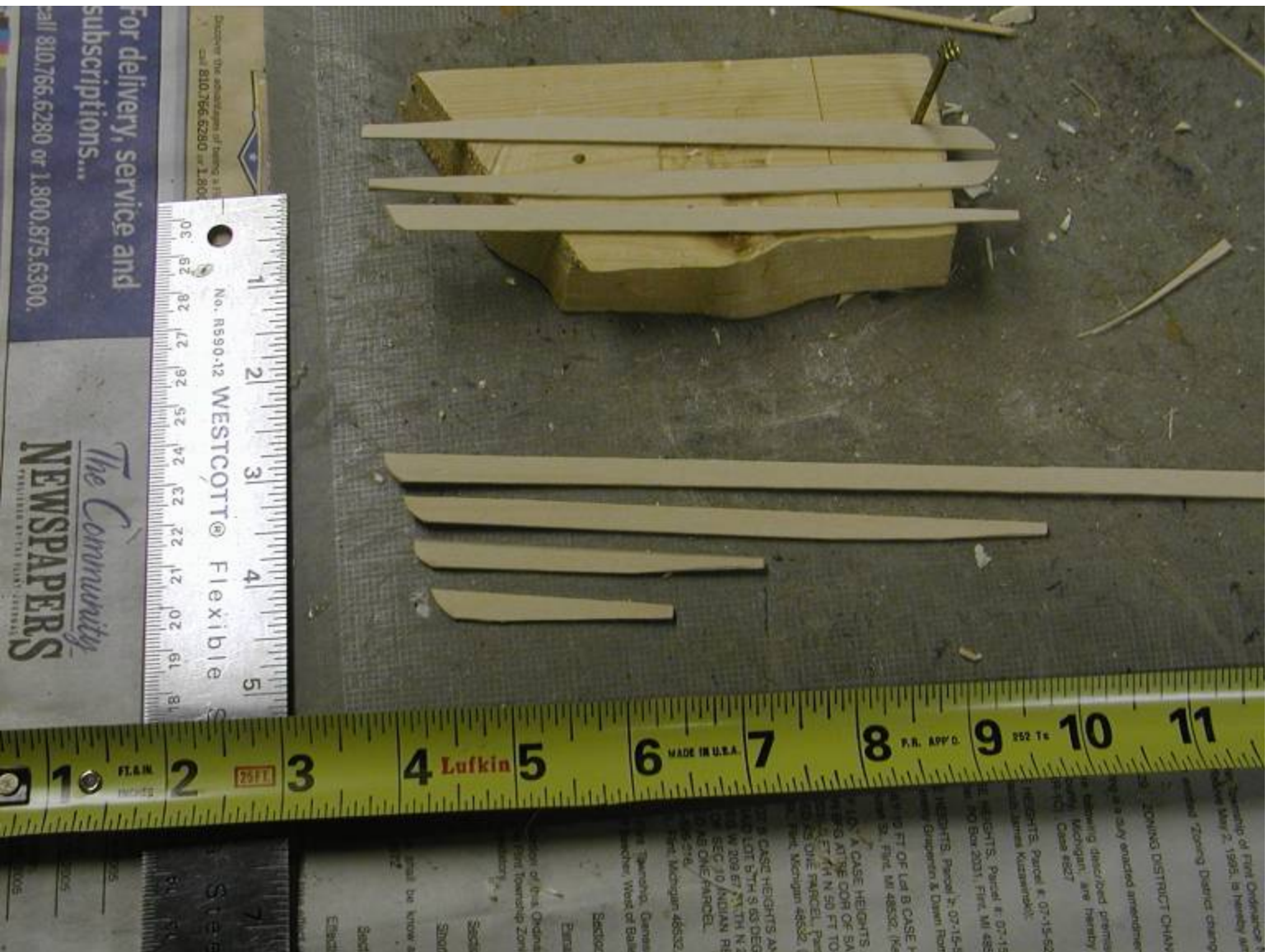


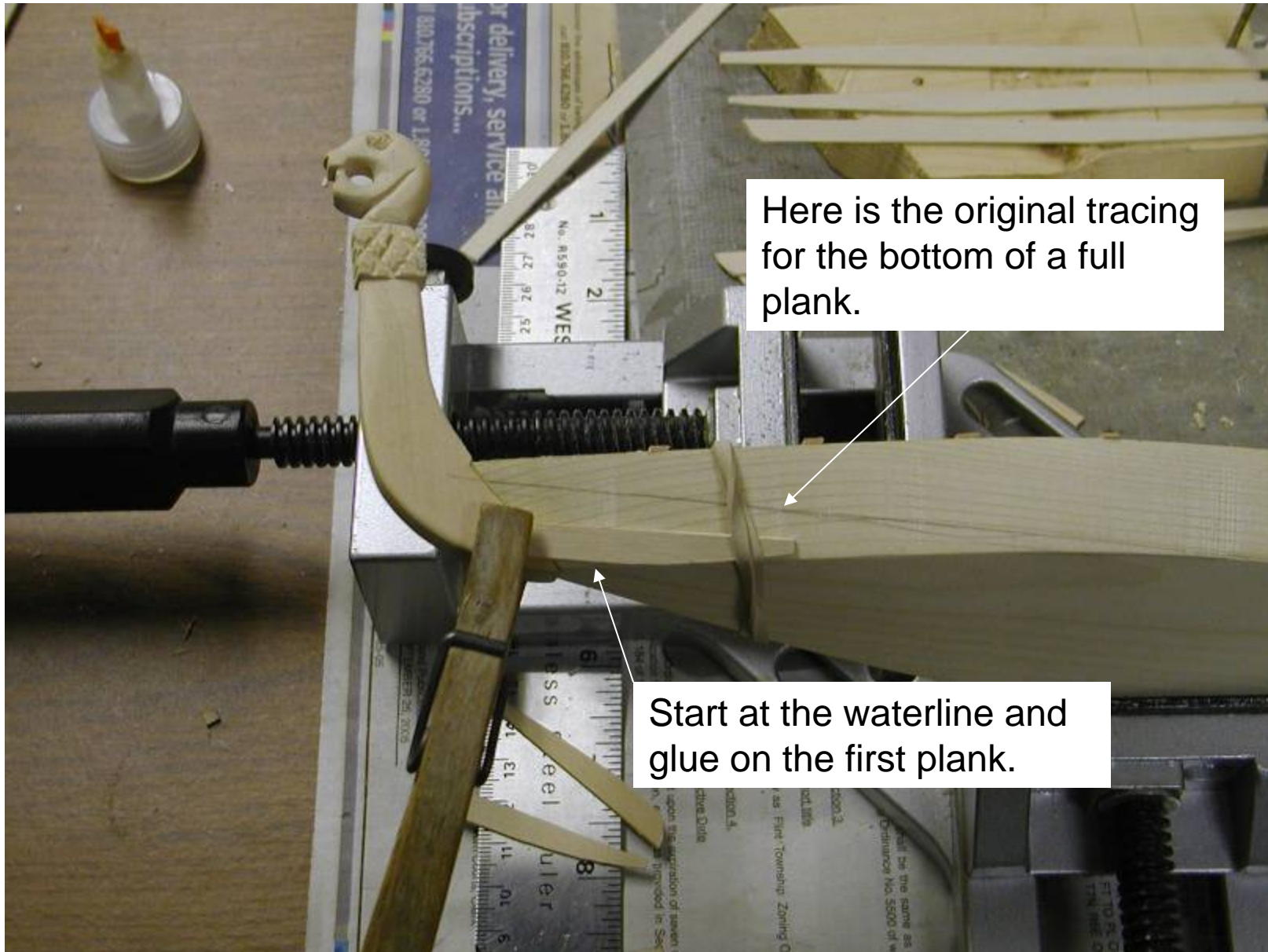
Take a single plank and place it on the hull so that it is flush with the bottom at the center.

Just clamp it for now and trace the bottom edge of the plank at both ends of the ship.

Now you will have to trace a series of planks to go on the ends of the ship.





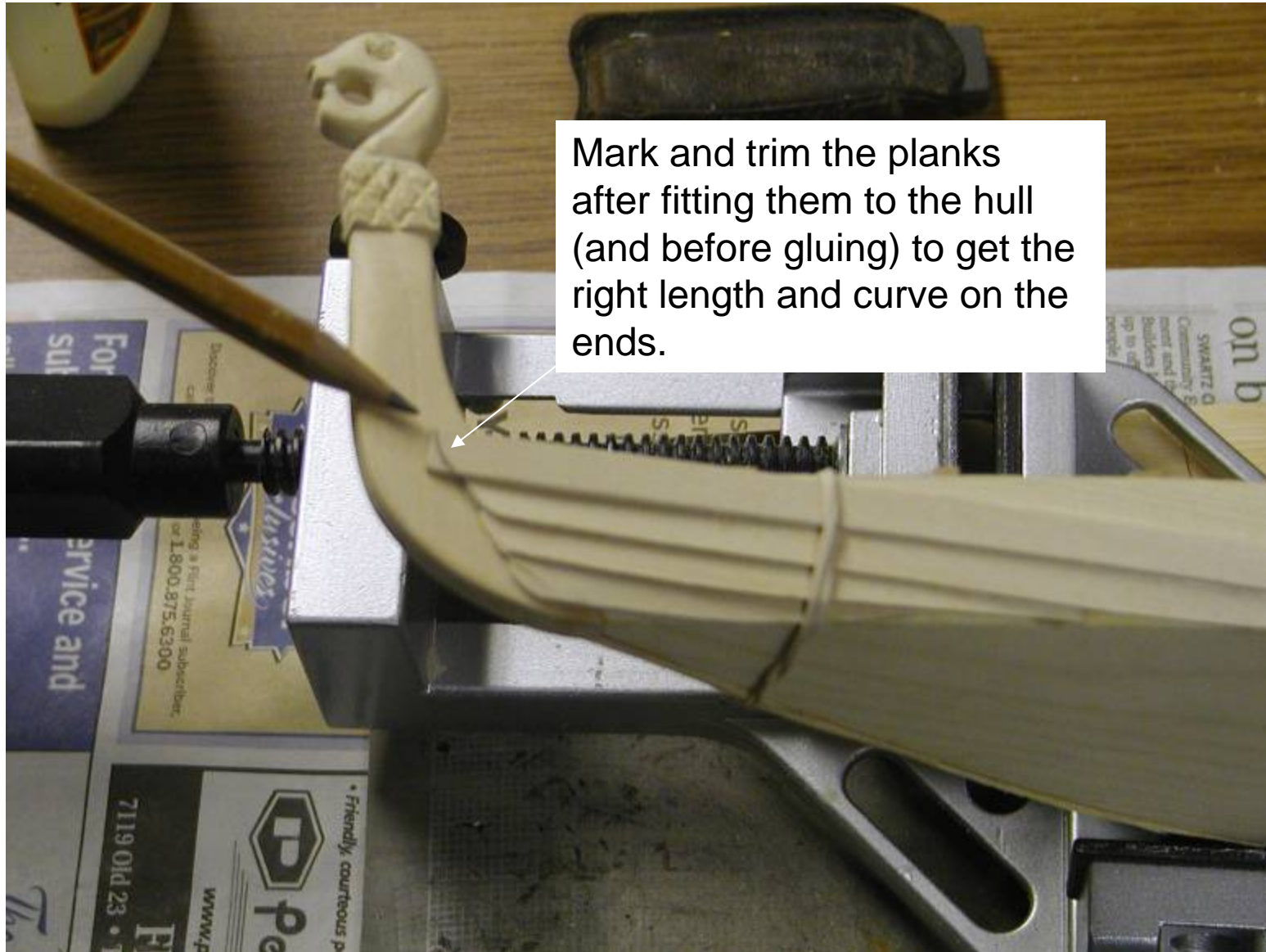


Here is the original tracing for the bottom of a full plank.

Start at the waterline and glue on the first plank.

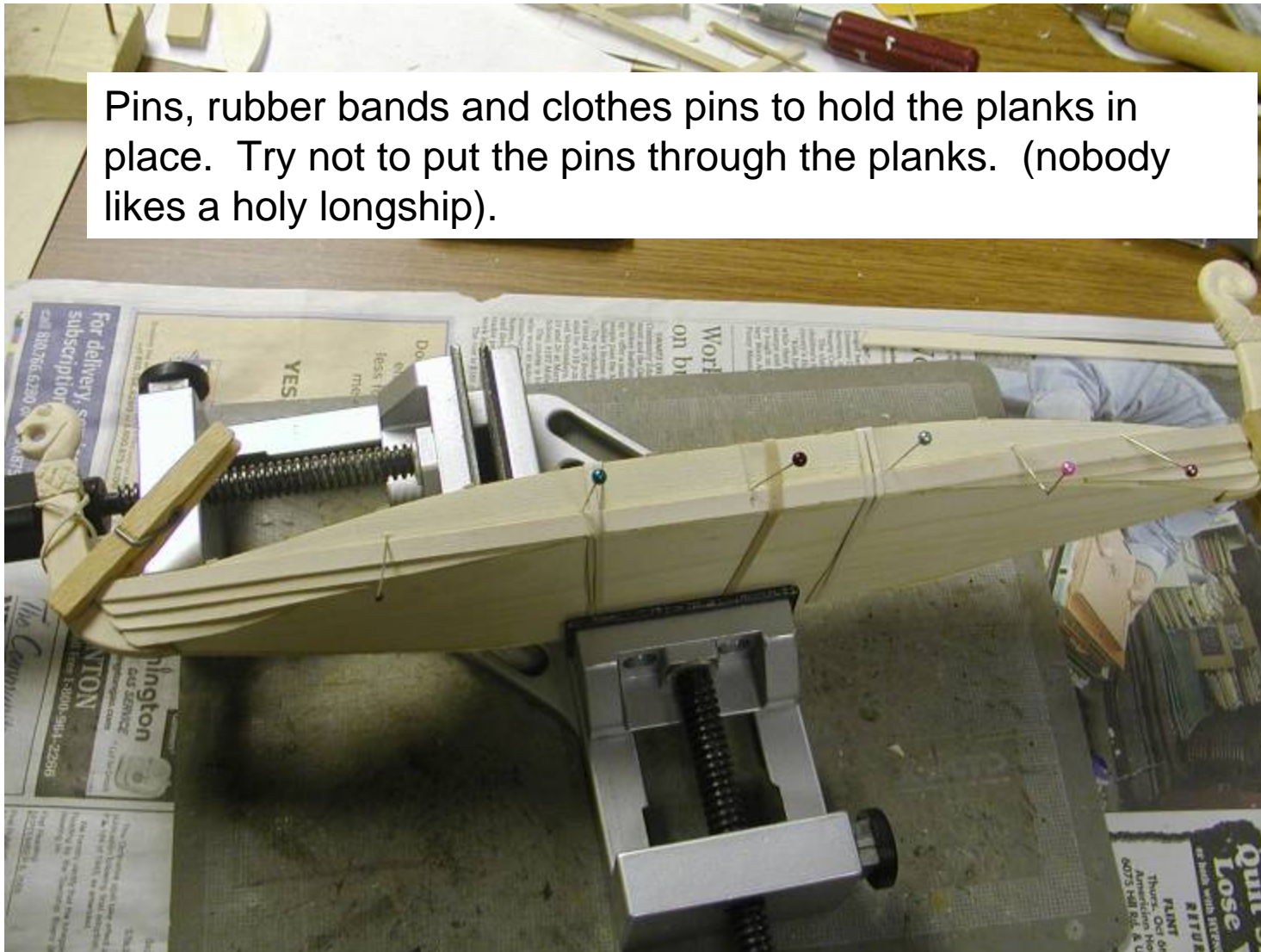


To simulate the proper klinker built hull each plank goes slightly over the previous one. You have to let the glue dry between each plank.



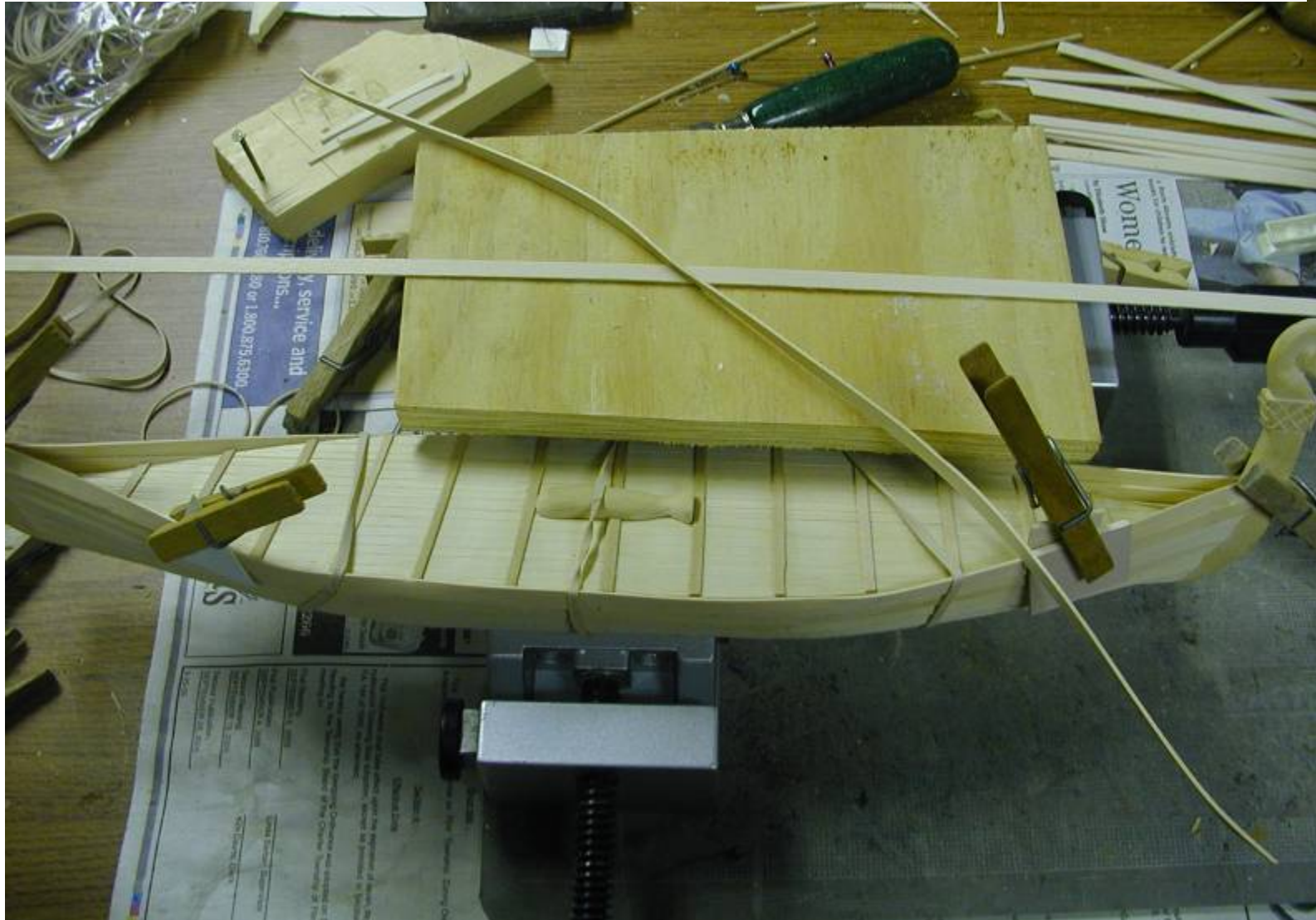
Mark and trim the planks after fitting them to the hull (and before gluing) to get the right length and curve on the ends.

Pins, rubber bands and clothes pins to hold the planks in place. Try not to put the pins through the planks. (nobody likes a holy longship).

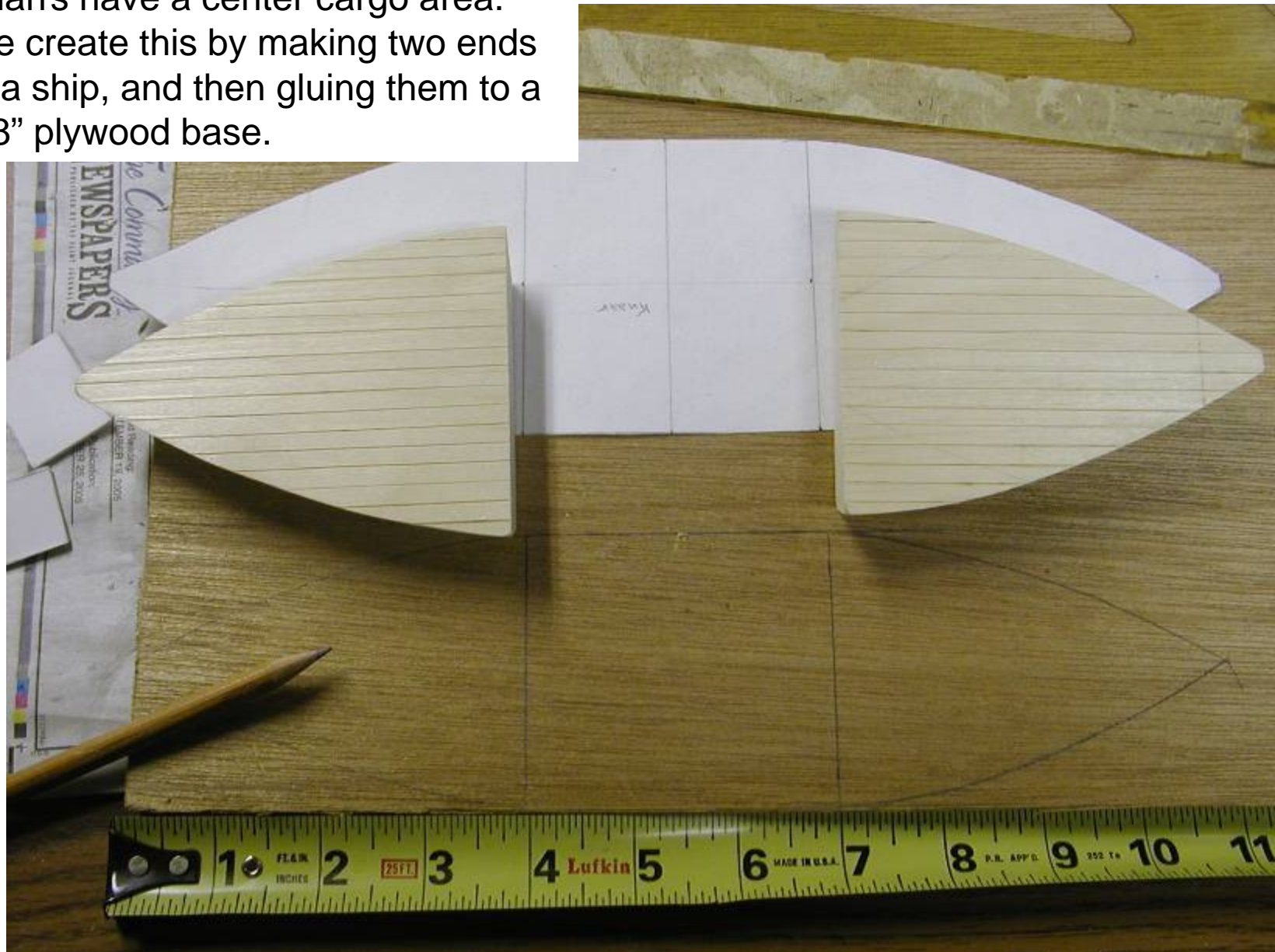


Once you have placed your first full plank you will need to warp the planks (like a real ship). Use steam, or boiling water to soften the plank.

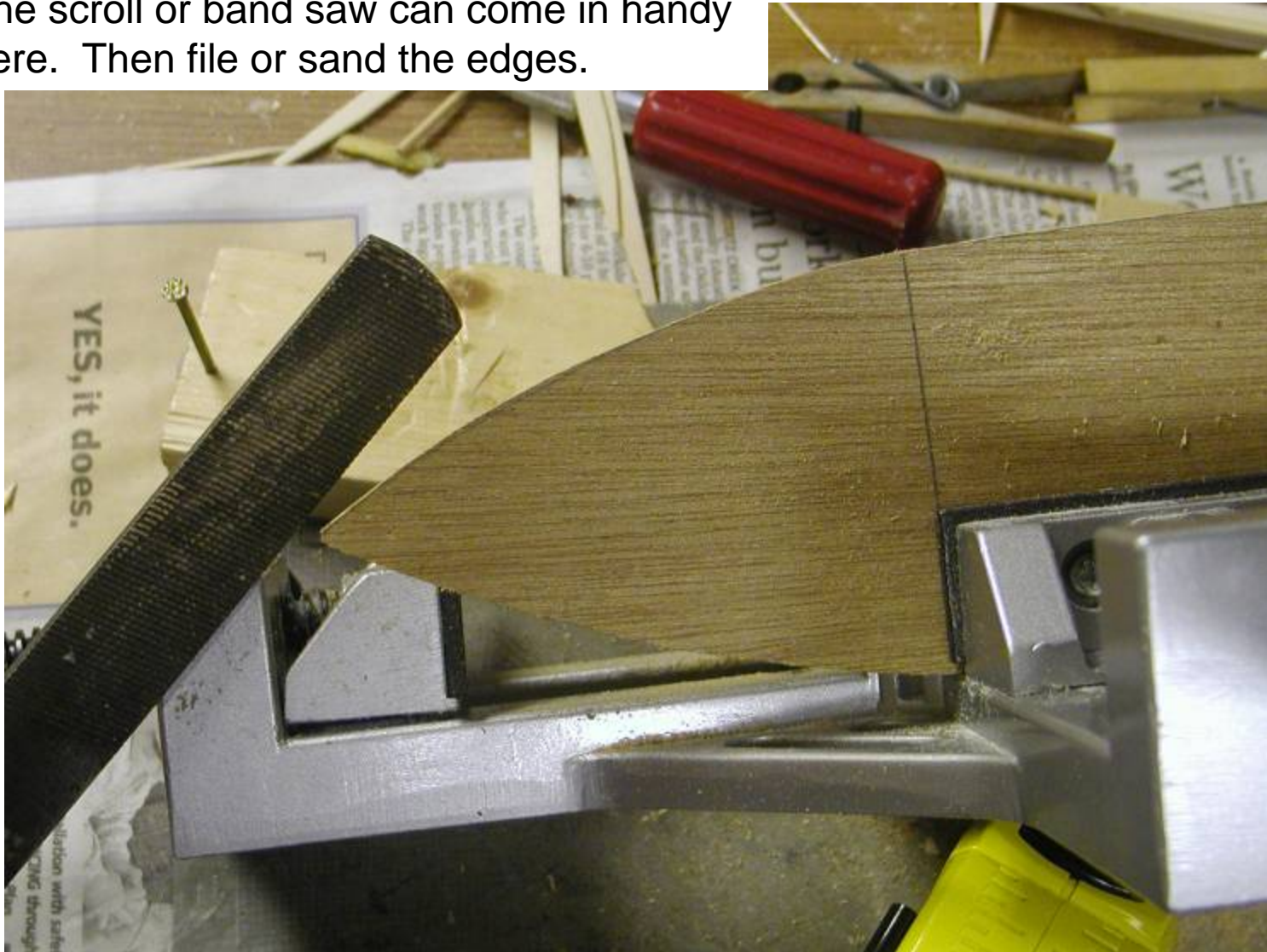
Use clothes pins with cardboard to hold the upper planks in place.



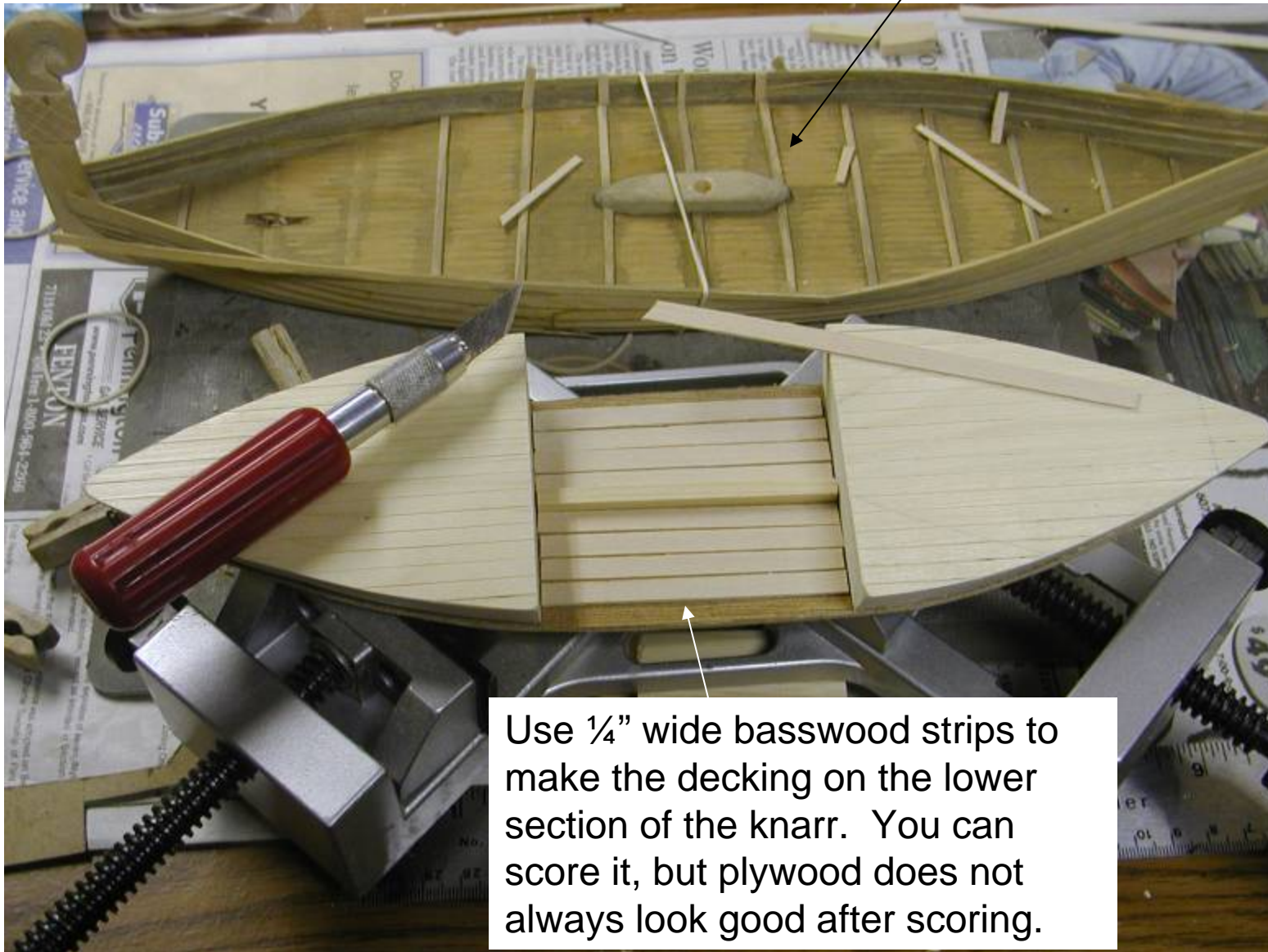
Knarrs have a center cargo area.
We create this by making two ends
of a ship, and then gluing them to a
 $\frac{1}{8}$ " plywood base.



The scroll or band saw can come in handy here. Then file or sand the edges.

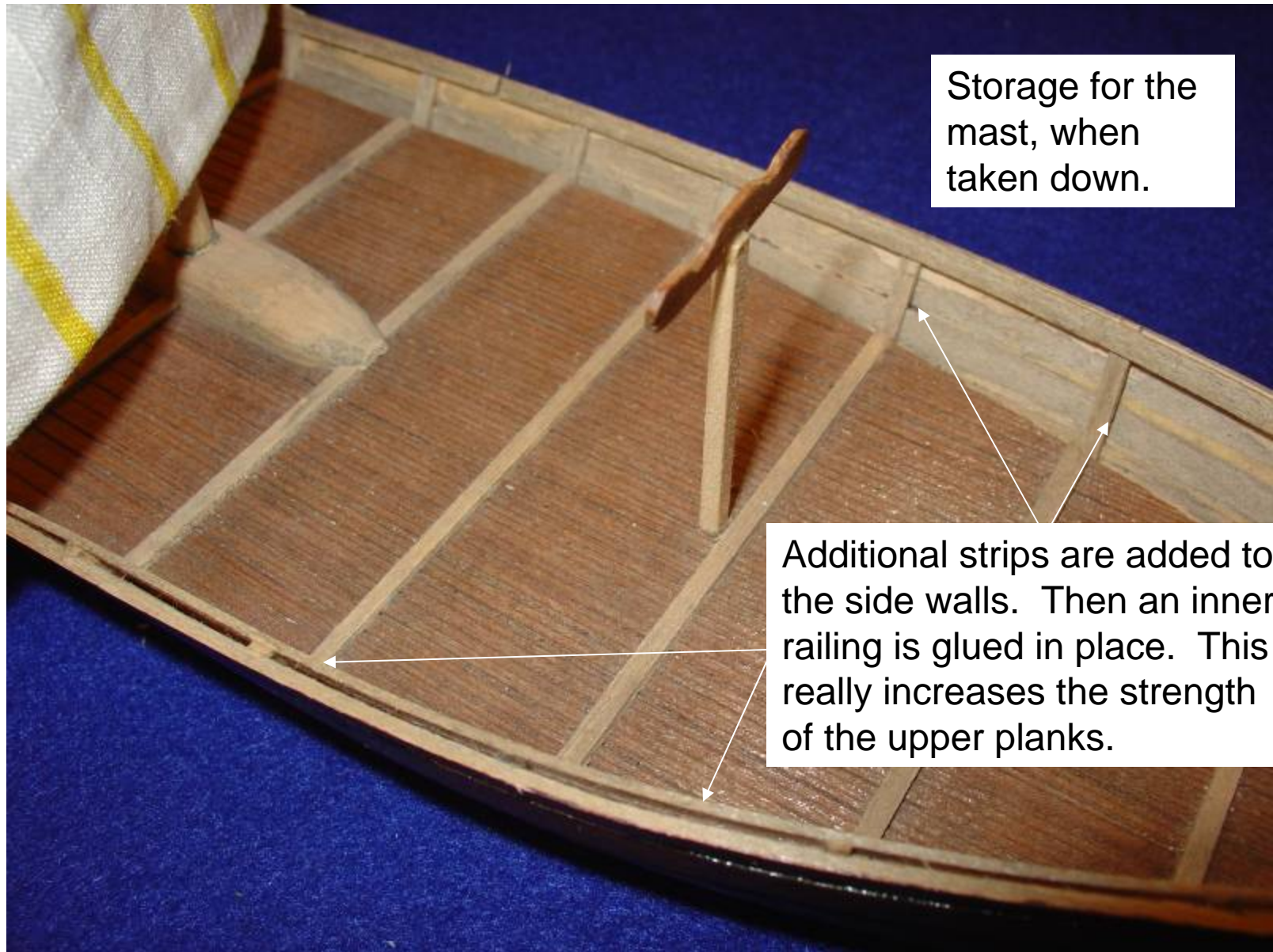


An old ship in dry-dock for repairs.



Use ¼" wide basswood strips to make the decking on the lower section of the knarr. You can score it, but plywood does not always look good after scoring.

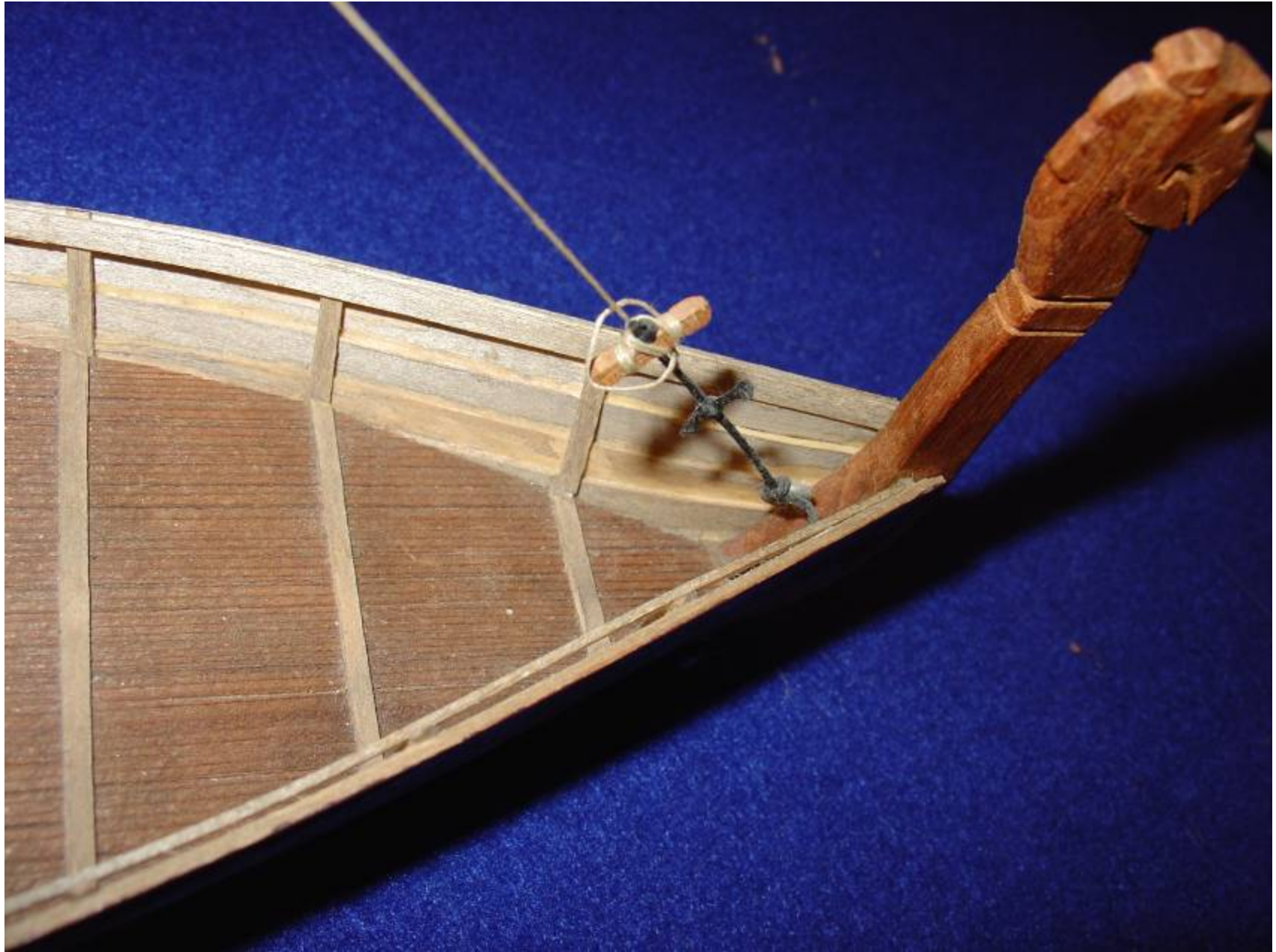
On to the finishing touches.



A detailed wooden model of a boat, likely a Viking longship, is shown against a blue background. The boat's hull is constructed from dark wood planks, and its interior is reinforced with a grid of lighter-colored wooden ribs. A large, curved wooden steering oar is attached to the stern. A rope, part of the rigging, runs from the oar's handle towards the front of the boat. A small, light-colored sail is visible at the rear. Two text labels are overlaid on the image: 'Rigging' near the rope and 'The steering oar.' near the oar's blade.

Rigging

The steering oar.



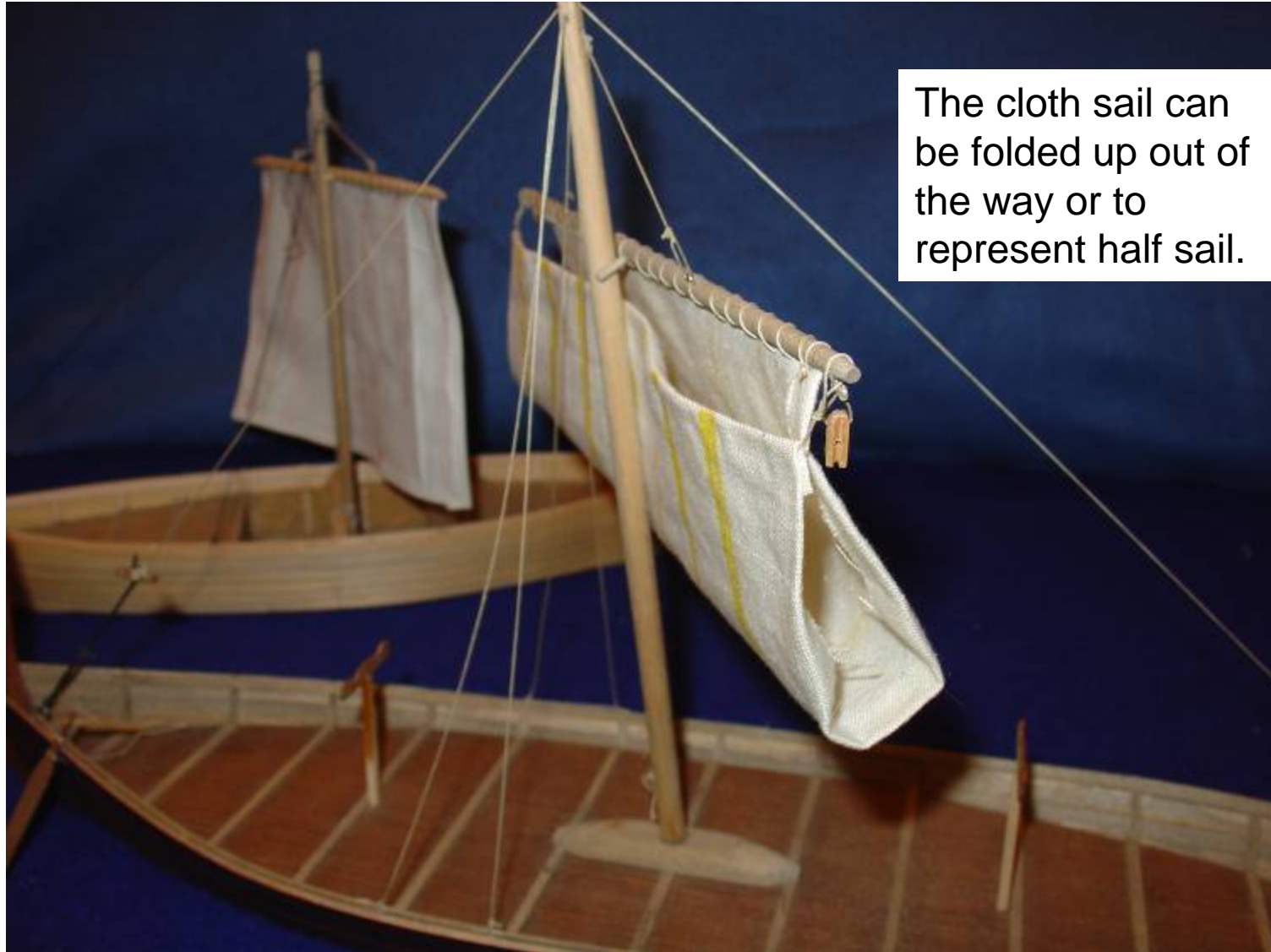
Cargo hold of the knarr with
mast support.



A little rope work adds a nice touch of detail.



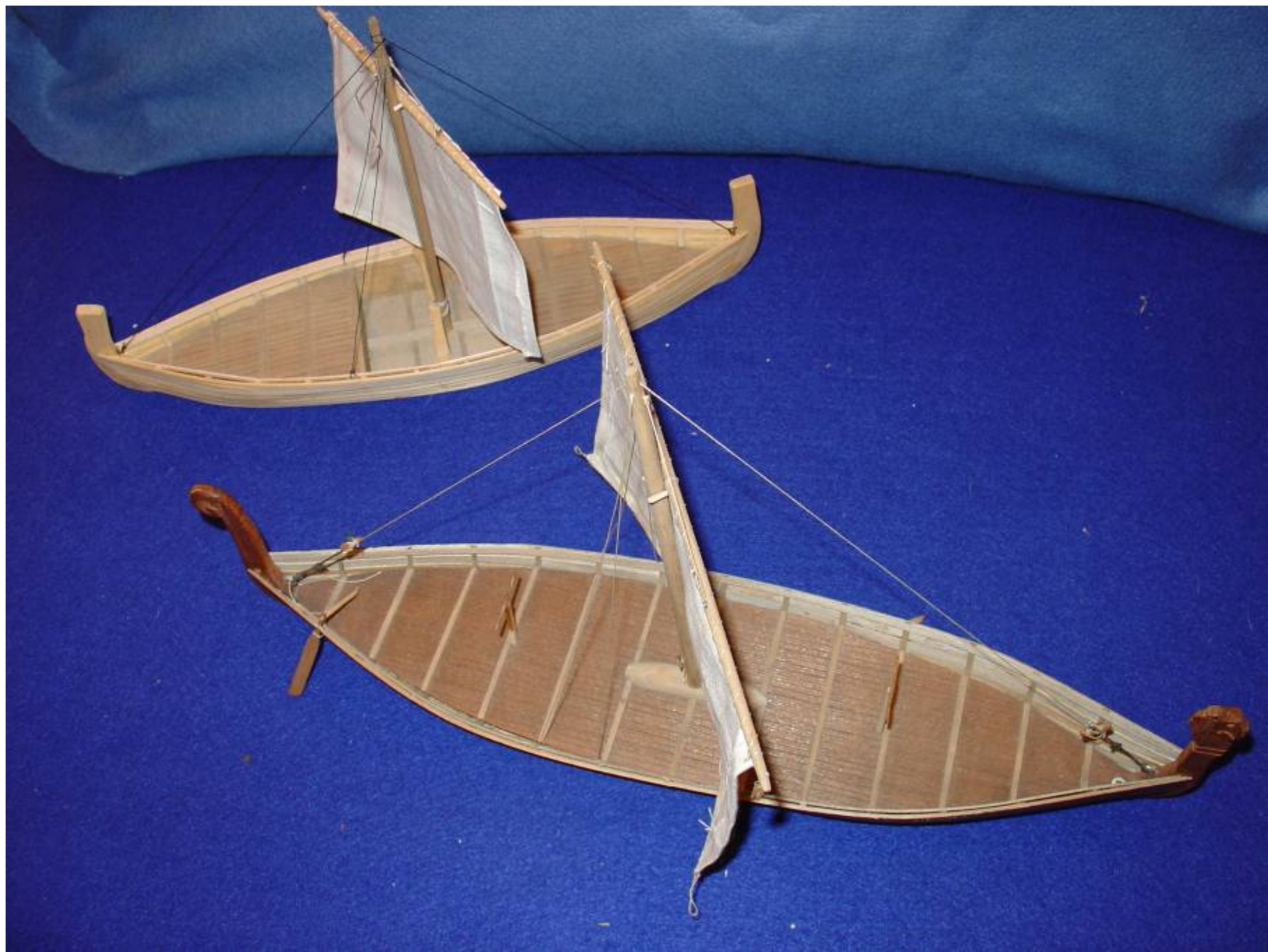
Details like mast supports, rudders, and rigging are great looking but, If you plan to use the ship primarily for sea battles it can get in the way.



The cloth sail can be folded up out of the way or to represent half sail.

This model is fully rigged and detailed. The slightly less detailed version has a removable mast and sail for gaming, storage and transport.







A little white
canvas (or linen)
and some paint for
the sails.

We hope you enjoyed these articles, and wish everyone luck with their building projects.