



Many different craftsmen used the timber from our local woods in many different ways.

Can you match the picture of cutting and using wood in past times with the correct name and description?

**Besom Maker**

**Charcoal maker**

**Tanner**

**Carter**

**Hurdle Maker**

**Cooper**

**Clogger**

**Feller**

**Carpenter**

**Wheelwright**

**Sawyer**

Do you know anyone who has a woodland craft surname?

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One of the earliest ways of dividing up a tree was in a sawpit. The man at the top was called the top dog and the one at the bottom was the underdog!

Wood from different trees was used for each part of the wheel. The hub was made from wood that didn't split easily, the rim had to be flexible and the spokes had to be very rigid.

Timber framed buildings were built in sections in the carpenter's yard. Holes were bored to take the pegs which joined the sections together.

Hurdles were made for fencing sheep. Wood for these came from hazel trees grown in coppiced woods.

Charcoal was a very important fuel for smelting iron in blast furnaces. The charcoal makers would live in the woods with their families keeping an eye on the steadily burning stack of wood.

No part of the tree was wasted. Bundles of twigs were tied round broom handles to make besoms.

The tanning of leather needed great quantities of tannin, which came from the bark of oak trees. It was an extremely smelly business!

In order to fell a tree a V shape was cut, with an axe, into the side where you wanted it to fall. Then you saw through the back towards the V shape. Timber!

Making wooden tubs and barrels required great skill. Strips of wood were cut and shaped by hand and fitted together using iron bands. They had to be watertight!

Many people wore shoes with wooden soles. The clogger would cut pieces of alder wood into the right length to be split and shaped to make shoe and boot soles.

Timber was carried to the sawpit slung on a long cart pulled by strong heavy horses. The wheels were broad to take the weight.