

What I Have Learned as a New Portable Sawmill Owner

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Why I bought it?

- ▶ I have available timber, 29 acres of 50+ yr old White Pine (*Pinus strobus*) + various hardwoods
- ▶ I had more time available
- ▶ I need
 - ▶ Tractor Shed
 - ▶ Workshop
 - ▶ Storage shed

Resources that I already had available

- ▶ Kubota 3920 tractor , 37.5 hp diesel motor, lift capacity 1144-1500 lbs, it does not have a quick detach bucket.
- ▶ Land – Suitable **FLAT!!** land for mill, log deck, drying racks, kiln, etc.
- ▶ Experience with chainsaws/tree felling logging
- ▶ Experience with tree id/species usage

Start-up Cost/Budget \$5000

- ▶ Woodland Mills HM 126 with 4.5 ft extension and 14 hp motor upgrade/free shipping, cuts 26" logs, 24" lumber - \$4336.40
- ▶ 10 replacement blades - \$233.52
- ▶ Tractor Forks -\$154.08
- ▶ Peavy (Big metal pole with hook for moving logs)- \$79.71
- ▶ Anchor screws for mill footings - \$44.00
- ▶ Wedges – \$14.42
- ▶ Anchor Seal for log ends, 1 gal - \$49.00
- ▶ Cover for mill- \$20.00
- ▶ Oil and gas - \$10
- ▶ 3-point Log skidder - \$349.00
- ▶ **TOTAL -\$5254.38**

Things I have bought since.

- ▶ Log hook -\$79.99
- ▶ Snatch blocks- \$25.76
- ▶ Chain grab hooks- \$61.99
- ▶ Slip Hooks – \$15.99
- ▶ Cable thimble and clamps -\$22.00
- ▶ ½" 100 ft cable- \$129.00
- ▶ TOTAL \$334.73
- ▶ GRAND TOTAL - \$5589.11







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MODEL 26-14 PORTABLE SAWMILL









































“Wish List”- Thinks to buy after I prove to my wife that I can actually build something with the mill.

- ▶ Safety cage for the back of the tractor
- ▶ Blade sharpener
- ▶ Metal detector
- ▶ Moisture meter
- ▶ Log Arch (moves logs without damaging the ground)
- ▶ Drying kiln (Solar design from VT)

Final thoughts

- ▶ The current portable sawmills being produced are incredible and can absolutely be used to produce high quality lumber.
- ▶ This does not mean that everyone that buys one will produce high quality lumber and become rich doing it.
- ▶ To be successful you will need at a minimum:
 - ▶ A strong work ethic and back
 - ▶ Space
 - ▶ A machine that can move around **TONS!** of material
 - ▶ A reliable wood source/market
 - ▶ Time, time, and more time. Did I mention time?