

Measure Twice, Cut Once

J.A. Cooper

Tools to hand, select the timber,
True and square and all worked out.
Clamp it, plane, scrape yet remember:
Twice to measure, once to cut.

Craftsmen for perfection hunger
Though the shortcut would entice.
Long they labour, slow to anger.
Cut once, but first measure twice.

Blow by mallet blow your metre,
Rhyme and reason holding fast –
So ensure, in double measure,
Every single cut's made just.