



Cool Tools Show Podcast Episode 296: Mack Reed

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Mark: Welcome to the Cool Tools Show. I'm Mark Frauenfelder, editor-in-chief of Cool Tools, a website of tool recommendations written by our readers. You can find us at cool-tools.org. I'm joined by my co-host, Kevin Kelly, founder of Cool Tools. Hey, Kevin.

Kevin: Hey, it's great to be here.

Mark: In each episode of the Cool Tools show Kevin and I talk to a guest about some of his or her favorite uncommon and uncommonly good tools they think others should know about.

Mark: Our guest this week is Mack Reed. Mack is a veteran startup technologist, recovering journalist, builder of musical instruments, burner, and hopelessly hacky maker who wouldn't know a close tolerance unless he got his fingers caught in it, which has happened more than once. And that has happened to me too as well. How are you doing, Mack?

Mack: Yeah, good. Thanks, Mark. How are you?

Mark: Great, thank you so much.

Kevin: Yeah, we're so delighted that you're joining us, and we can't wait to hear what you have in store to tell us about.

Mack: Ah, very sweet. I'm very happy to be here, guys.

Mark: Yeah, me too. And Mack, I've known you for quite a while. We have a mutual friend, Cory Doctorow, have had a lot of fun hanging out together, and I thought it'd be great to have you on the show. So, why don't you first tell us about the Benchmade Barrage assisted-opening pocketknife?

Mack: Right. So, I've had pocket knives since I think my dad gave me one when I was probably eight, and it was a little, one of those mock horn-handle things with a little flat blade. You'd open it up and fiddle with it, and that was it. And until I found this knife, I just went through a succession of knives. Some of them wouldn't open well enough, someone would get gummed up very easily, some of them wouldn't keep an edge or they'd be flimsy. And I just wanted something that I could carry that would do all those stupid things you do with knives, which is cutting open packages and slicing ropes and cleaning off battery terminals and picking your teeth at 90 miles an hour. And I'm not exaggerating, my wife still just shudders every time I do that.

Mack: It's the cleanest tool I have, and I got something in my teeth now. But it's assisted-opening. It's not actually legal to possess in some states, New York being among them. I just left New York. It's about a two inch blade. It's carbon steel. There's a name on it, Osborne Blade. A 164 centimeters says the marking. And it's got a black molded handle and a nice clip. And the fun thing about it is, the lock mechanism is two-sided. There are buttons on either side of the knife near the hinge that allow you to close it with a thumb no matter if you're right or left-handed, and put it away. And when you go to open it, you move the stud just a tiny bit and it flicks open.

Mack: It's very threatening looking, but it's great to have when you've got one hand full of something you need to cut and you've got one other hand to work with. It's, "I need to cut this thing now because something horrible is going to happen if I don't." So, it's great to have this thing at hand.

Kevin: So, you have directed us to a particular one, I think it's maybe called the Barrage or something, but this maker, they have a bunch of other slightly different models. Is this one superior to them for some reason or are roughly depending on your budget?

Mack: I don't know for a fact. I know Benchmade makes really good blades. I looked at a bunch of them when I bought this, actually in a nice store in Alaska. And had been looking for another assisted-opening one. I had a Kershaw earlier. Kershaw is one level down in terms of both quality and finish. And I looked at some of their more expensive ones. The Spider Codes are a little more expensive. And it's, "You know what, I can just afford this, this'll be great." I tried it out a bunch, and just fell in love with it, and I have not regretted it since. I think I bought it three years ago, and it's been a very good tool.

Mark: How much did you pay for it?

Mack: I think they retailed for 1,75. This one, it was used. Didn't have a mark on it, but it was used, and it was 85. And I thought, well, that's a deal.

Kevin: Yeah.

Mark: Yeah. I like that you bought it used. You bought at a store that sells used knives?

Mack: Yeah, yeah. People, I don't know, man, they get tired of one knife and want to move on to another, or they're swapping them like they swap socks.

Kevin: Is there a store for used knives or a marketplace, or where did you actually find a use knife?

Mack: Yeah. There was a store in Alaska, I'm simply not going to remember the name-

Kevin: Oh, you mean it's actually a physical store where you walk in?

Mack: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Kevin: Oh, yeah. I thought-

Mack: You walk in, they have glass counters.

Kevin: All right.

Mack: No, I'm sure there are aficionado sites and threading posts. You can find these knives on, obviously, eBay and Craigslist and that kind of thing. But if you're buying a tool that's as important as a pocket knife, you really want to hold it, I think, unless you've already obviously tested it in the store.

Kevin: Right, that's a good idea. Anyway. It sounds like this company, Benchmade, has a number of very similar models in blades. So, you might want to just seek that out and then try to find whether it would fit your hand or whatever.

Mack: Yeah. Yeah. And there're all kinds of customization. You can actually, I think, on the Benchmade website now you can customize it to have like Blue Hardware and Damascus Blade and all kinds of handles and grips and things.

Mark: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mack: Have at it.

Kevin: Right. And we should say, of course, this is not TSA compliant.

Mack: This is most definitely not. It's not TSA compliant, and you will get arrested and have it taken away from you if you're so foolish as to get caught possessing it in New York and other states.

Mark: Oh. So, even if you're walking around the streets of New York and you have this in your pocket, it's not-

Mack: Yeah. It's a misdemeanor. It's a misdemeanor.

Mark: Okay, okay.

Mack: Yeah.

Mark: Crazy.

Kevin: What about California?

Mack: Assisted-opening? I don't know what California's laws are on assisted-opening. It's tantamount to a switchblade. I'll open it now and you can hear it, I think.

Kevin: Yeah.

Mark: Oh yeah. It sounds-

Kevin: We're can arrest you right now.

Mark: Yeah.

Mack: Yeah. Well, lots of luck. I'm many miles away from you guys.

Kevin: Okay. Well, this is a great one, thank you. That was really nice. I carry around my 99 cent plastic box-cutter all the time, and this would be a step up, I guess.

Mack: Yeah. No, that's true. It may be a Blunderbuss for a mosquito in many cases, but I love it.

Mark: Okay. So, what's the second tool that you have for us, an app, I think?

Mack: Yeah, yeah. There's a drawing app which is available on iPad. I don't know if it's available on Android, but it's called Paper, and it's by a company, WeTransfer. And it's just an extremely simple drawing app. Obviously things are arranged in sketchbooks. You can create a new sketch or a new sketchbook. You can customize the cover of the sketchbook if you want and change the title and that kind of thing. Then, when you go to the drawing surface, you have a really simple palette. And the tools range from, there's a pen, a pencil, a marker, an ink pen, and then this really nifty tool, the name of which is escaping me, but allows you to draw shapes.

Mack: And if you can roughly draw a circle, really roughly, it'll render it as a pretty perfect circle or a triangle or a trapezoid. It does really nicely with shapes. And these shapes you can then move around if you need to. So, it's very good for drawing flow diagrams, which in my line of work in product development, product ideation, is really helpful. But the drawing tools with it, the pen and the pencil and so forth, make it a pretty good illustration tool. And I'm not an illustrator. I've seen some amazing stuff that people have done with this app, but I find it really useful for just drawing sketches, sketching out instruments when building, sketching what's the backyard going to look like if we redo it, that kind of thing.

Kevin: So, I have become a [foreign language 00:08:41], a recent convert to Procreate on the iPad, and I'm making art every day using Procreate, which sounds very similar. I don't know this one. So, are you familiar with this, and how would that compare to Procreate?

Mack: I am, Kevin, and I've seen your work on Procreate. You drew an apple, you posted an apple on Instagram recently that was, I had to look at it twice because it was pretty photo-real.

Mark: That's so cool.

Mack: Yeah, it was really brilliant.

Mark: Yeah, Kevin, you're getting really good.

Kevin: Well, if you do it every day, that's what happens. So [crosstalk 00:09:14]. Yeah, exactly. So, how does it compare to Procreate? Is it a simpler form? Procreate is only \$10, so it can't be any cheaper.

Mack: Yeah. Well, I think Paper has some subscription model, and again, it's going to escape me with the models, I think it's \$11 for six months or something, which gives you access to some of the more solid tools. But I think Procreate is probably more powerful in terms of the number of tools you have, the flexibility and the adjustability of each and the subtlety of the pallet. But it's also much more complicated. Now, I tried Procreate a few times, and a couple of other drawing tools, and I was just flustered by it. It was a little too difficult-

Kevin: There's a lot going on.

Mack: Yeah. Paper is just dead [inaudible 00:10:06], which is probably not good enough for people that are drawing and painting every day and want to do high art. But it's great for, again, sketching ideas, making notes, roughing out designs for things. I've really found it very helpful.

Kevin: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mark: So, if you want to actually send the drawing to someone or email it or print it out-

Kevin: Export it?

Mark: ... Does it have the tools for that? Yeah, export.

Mack: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, by all means. Yeah. You can export it to a file, you can share from the app. The other thing that's nice as you can actually import a photo into it as a layer and then draw on the photo, shape it. There's a cutting tool where you can cut out shapes, move them around, reposition them. You can cut and paste from one, the Pro version,

that you cut and paste from one drawing to another. So, it's got some really basic multilayer functionality to it.

Mark: It sounds super useful.

Mack: Yeah. It's a nice app. I like it quite a bit. And it's really pleasant to work with. After you've been using for a while you get pretty fluid with it. It's comfortable. It's an old friend.

Kevin: Yeah.

Mark: That sounds great. So, it's just called Paper?

Mack: Paper, by WeTransfer. There's a bunch of other things called Paper on the app store, but if you look up Paper by WeTransfer, you'll find it. And it plays nicely with the iPad pencil as well, if you have an iPad Pro.

Kevin: Cool.

Mark: That sounds good. Well, thanks. So, tell us about the next one. It's a camping mattress.

Mack: Yes. So, Therm-a-Rest, I think for many years has made inflatable camping mattresses, and this particular model, the BaseCamp is the most recent one. I don't know if they even have the BaseCamp model, but it looked like a similar one compared to the website. And the reason I say I don't know is because I've had this thing for 20 years plus. So, the BaseCamp is an inflatable envelope, but it's not like the usual blow-up mattress. It's not six inches thick and has big coils in it. It's, fully inflated, maybe three quarters of an inch to an inch thick. And there's a little screw valve at one end, you open it up, you blow into it, and it actually, because of the way it's constructed inside, it has cells that run vertical in between the top surface and the bottom surface that automatically expand as you open it and allow air to enter it.

Mack: So, it's self-inflating to some extent, and then you can blow it up and adjust the firmness by how much air is in it. The great thing is that when you're done with it, you unscrew the valve, you roll it up tightly, and it compresses down to about, gosh, probably 24 inches by maybe six, seven in diameter, and you can strap it to the back of a backpack or shove it in your car's trunks. And it's really actually pretty comfortable. It keeps the cold away, and it's just enough air, if you let a little air out, it's subtle enough that you never feel there's ground under you. You're pretty much floating on it the whole time.

Kevin: Right.

Mark: How nice.

Kevin: So, it's like a hybrid between those little Accordion foam pads and an air mattress, a full-blown air mattress. So, this is like something in between where it has some of the virtues of both?

Mack: Yeah, yeah. And the next thing, Kevin, have you ever had an air mattress you had to blow up with a blower?

Kevin: Yeah.

Mack: Yeah. Yeah. This is-

Kevin: Yeah. So, I-

Mack: So, take that out of the equation.

Kevin: ... We've had a Therm-a-Rest for 25 years, and here's something that I didn't know. Inside them is a foam core that does the self-reinflating-

Mack: Yeah.

Kevin: ... And our Therm-a-Rests are so old, 25 years, that actually, the seams on the outside envelope have burst-

Mack: Oh, wow.

Kevin: ... But it's still useful-

Mack: Ah.

Kevin: ... Because-

Mack: Is it all there?

Kevin: Well, because there's foam, so it's-

Mack: Yeah.

Kevin: ... It becomes a thin foam mattress. So, even in a weird broken form, we still use them. They're not as good-

Mark: That's amazing.

Kevin: ... But they're useful. So, even in their failure mode, they still work.

Mack: It's like the run flat tires of camping now.

Kevin: Yes, exactly.

Mark: Well put.

Mack: Yeah. And they're just, they're useful as hell, honestly. I punctured one once. I actually managed to puncture one. I was at a BarCamp event and working on ... Don't know if you ever went to BarCamp LA back in the early [crosstalk 00:14:59]-

Mark: No, I haven't, but I-

Mack: But it's sort of an un-conference that would take place. People would show up at a bar and do talks on this and that, and you'd sleep in the bar overnight and there'd be another session in the morning. And there was a nail sticking out of the floor, and I finally traced my mattress getting crappy and feeling thin to that nail. You can order a patch kit from Therm-a-Rest, and it goes on pretty much like a bicycle patch. There's an adhesive and the patch. You let the adhesive cure a bit and slap the patch on and leave it alone for about an hour, and it's good as [inaudible 00:15:33]. And I patched this thing once and it's never lost air since. So, they're really good. It's a great tool.

Kevin: How much did they go for? What's the approximate price here?

Mack: They range from 80 to 130 bucks.

Kevin: Okay.

Mack: I got the extra large. I think I have the largest. It's long, it's seven feet long, so you can rest your arms behind your head without hitting the floor.

Kevin: Yeah. And I also would say that this is for car camping. This is not ideal for backpacking. If I had to carry this up and down, I would use one of those Accordion foam pads, because they're a little lighter, but it's just perfect for car camping kind of stuff.

Mack: Totally. Do you like the phone pass, Kevin?

Kevin: The affordable ones? The Accordion ones?

Mack: Yeah.

Kevin: Yeah, that's what I use when I have to backpack. For me it's the lightest, best for that trade-off. I don't know. But that's been at least 10 years since they've even looked at what's available. I don't know if there's something better than that, but the Accordion foam ones are the ones that I use when I have to backpack.

Mack: Oh. I'll have to try that next time I backpack-

Kevin: Yeah. They're adequate enough, and they're much lighter, and they're a little smaller that you can put onto your backpack. It's much easier.

Mack: Yeah-

Kevin: And I use it on biking too. When I'm bike touring overnight I strap those Accordion ones. Anyways. Therm-a-Rests are legendary, old timy, old school sleeping pad.

Mark: Is that what you use at Burning Man, Mack?

Mack: Yeah-

Kevin: Yeah, that's what I use too. Yeah, I use them. In fact, I ... This is a Burning Man thing, but I would not even bring my tents. I would just lay out my Therm-a-Rest out on the playa-

Mack: Yeah.

Kevin: ... In the walk-in camp area. And-

Mack: Yeah.

Kevin: ... And I would just lay it right on the playa and lay on it, Therm-a-Rest. Yep. It's dusty as anything. Mack, if you look at mine, then you can say they've been the Burning Man.

Mack: Yeah. I was going to say, you wake up with ... Your facial in the morning, it's quite a [crosstalk 00:17:44].

Kevin: Exactly. So, Mack, let's talk about a fourth one here, the cordless drills.

Mack: Yeah. So, DeWalt makes a ridiculous line of tools. Their batteries have been getting better and better and better over the years. Well, the last one finally bit the dust. I think I burned it out probably six, seven years into it's life, and I abused the hell out of them. And I keep buying them because they really stand up over time. So, this is the one I got probably about a year and a half ago was the DeWalt Atomic brushless, cordless drill, and it comes with an impact driver on the combo that I bought. So, you've got these two tools and a little zippy fabric bag. It's a soft nylon. And they're variable speed. The batteries are pretty small, pretty light, and it has a 20 volt battery. So, it's got a ridiculous amount of torque. You can put a half inch drill through a two by four in about six seconds with a bit of extra pressure.

Mack: And I just finished ... We just moved to Seattle, into a house that's new to us. Anyway, it's an old house. And I just finished stripping the front steps with this drill and a wire stripper, a wire brush stripper-head. And I think it tends to ... And the steps are ridiculous. They're eight inch treads. Who makes steps that shallow anymore? I don't know. They're treacherous. They're going to make me fall down there one day. But stripped them off in the space of about, there are 10 steps, I stripped them off in about, gosh, an hour and a half. I think I changed batteries maybe five times, maybe six times.

Mack: So, that's an indication of how long the battery ... And that was a continuous operation, me running a stripper-head on this thing, which is probably not what it's designed for,

but it's ... The moving van hasn't arrived yet. My ancient Craftsman plug-in drill isn't here, so use the battery one.

Mark: Did it get hot, the drill?

Mack: Not especially, no-

Kevin: Yeah.

Mack: ... It was-

Mark: That's nice.

Mack: ... It heated up little.

Kevin: Yeah. I have the 18 volt version of both of those, and-

Mack: Mm-hmm (affirmative)?

Kevin: ... They're just, I wouldn't say indestructible, but I certainly haven't seen no wear over the many years I've been using them. And the other thing that I do is you can get little adapters to buy extra batteries that are the third-party non-DeWalt batteries.

Mack: They haven't DRM to batteries like everybody else has there-

Kevin: Right. Exactly. Because you want to have extra batteries. You can't really have too many batteries going, but you can get adapters. Anyway. These DeWalt tools are really great, fantastic.

Mack: Cool. So, you can plug a Makita battery into it, or a Milwaukee battery?

Kevin: Yeah, you can.

Mack: Ah, neat. That's great.

Kevin: Yeah, look under "battery adapters", and you can go from A to Zs, Z to B, T to W, any combination you can imagine.

Mack: That's cool. That's good to know.

Kevin: Yeah.

Mack: Yeah. I just, I find this thing indestructible and indispensable. So, stripping steps, I built a bunch of instruments, using, its cajons and barimbaulas. I built a road case for, I have a 1902 [inaudible 00:21:43] marimba. It's three and a half octave marimba, it's a beautiful instrument. And I knew we'd be moving. And I built a road case for it out of ... This is another ... Actually, there's a Subcool tool. There's a company called DIY Road

Cases.com, and you could order the aluminum frame parts and the casters and the latches, everything you need, except for the plywood, obviously, to build a Led Zeppelin quality road case for anything-

Mark: A road case, what's a road case?

Mack: Yeah. A case for carrying equipment, the thing with the big heavy chrome latches-

Kevin: Oh, you mean the plywood box outside, the roadies would sometimes be on casters for their-

Mack: Right, right.

Kevin: Yes.

Mack: With casters and with pumper cornered, steel corners on them so the face of the box never touches anything, it just rests on the steel corners-

Kevin: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mack: ... Yeah. You can kick the hell out of these things. Anyway. I used the drill to build one of these things for the marimba. That box is probably, oh gosh, five feet by two and a half by 10 inches, and it's solid stuff. Anyway. The road case parts you can find at DIY Road Cases.com. And I'm not showing for them. I just want you to know that there's this cool thing you can, if you want to build a case for your Fender Stratocaster or your DJ mix panel or whatever, that's the place to go.

Kevin: Okay, that's a great ... DIY Road-

Mack: DIY, yeah. DIY Road Cases.com

Kevin: Okay, fantastic. So, you have a bit of a bonus suggestion here, maybe something that might be, you have to go to Craigslist or somewhere to find it. Tell us about your drill press.

Mack: Oh, yeah. So, at some point we're at the Mexican Swap Meet in Los Angeles, at the LA City College. It's wonderful. It's just all these vendors come out and people [crosstalk 00:23:48].

Kevin: Why is it called Mexican Swap Meet? What-

Mack: It's all Mexican vendors. They're all Mexican-American [foreign language 00:23:58], and they're selling everything from shaved ice to hair barrettes to sound systems to used tools, at the swap meet. And it's just whatever's on sale. And the tool places always have stuff that's been, some of it's been pretty badly trashed, you don't want to use it. But I found a drill press there once, and I needed it for this crazy project I got into, for 60 bucks. And it's just a big stupid machine. It's got pulleys on the top so you can adjust the

speed of the drill. It's a belt-driven thing. And I can't remember what the throw distance is, but you can mount up to a half inch bit into it.

Mack: And I built my [inaudible 00:24:50] I [inaudible 00:24:52] down with this thing, which involves making xylophones out of three inch by half inch aluminum bar stock, recycled aluminum. And when you've got to drill through 84 pieces of metal like that, you want something that's just not going to quit, and this drill press that I got, it's Chinese made, no-named drill press, for \$60, just never quit on me. It was fantastic.

Kevin: Yeah, Chinese, these days, when you say Chinese tools, that's a pretty broad thing because most of every-

Mack: Is that right?

Kevin: ... Including the DeWalts are probably Chinese tools.

Mack: Yeah, yeah.

Kevin: I recently had a no-name, probably, Chinese tool that I upgraded to a brand-named Chinese tools, a Wen-

Mack: Oh, Wen. Right.

Kevin: Yeah. And I'm completely enamored of that because here's the thing, it was a variable speed with one lever, and you didn't have to change the pulleys. You just had to move the lever. And-

Mack: Oh, nice.

Kevin: I know, I know.

Mack: A drill press?

Kevin: Yes. A drill press with a completely variable speed, without having to change the pulleys. It has, I don't know, a clutch or something that does it. So, that was a Chinese thing. And man, that's really been really great. It's not ... The way you've described it, there's a motor, a big motor, and pulleys, and there's this monster motor, and it's just going to drill and that's all it's going to do.

Mack: Yeah. Yeah. But your thing sounds pretty very slick. That's nice.

Kevin: Yeah, yeah.

Mack: What do you make with it?

Kevin: Oh, I use it in my shop for all the ... I'm making a railway around the perimeter of my studio-

Mack: Oh, great.

Kevin: ... So, I'm drilling the metal supports to hang it from the ceiling.

Mack: Oh, what fun. What gauge railway is it?

Kevin: O-27. Basically it's O gauge.

Mack: Okay.

Kevin: It's Lionels. In fact, it is my set of railway trains that was given to me by my dad when I was 10, and I still have them-

Mark: That's neat, Kevin.

Kevin: ... I still have them. Yep.

Mack: Yeah. Yeah, just the same like my dad gave me trains at that age too, and they were Lionels. And he built a bunch of buildings for them, and I still have them.

Kevin: Yeah.

Mack: That's beautiful.

Mark: Speaking of train sets, have you ever seen Rod Stewart's train set?

Mark: Yes.

Kevin: I know. Isn't it insane?

Mark: It's unbelievable.

Kevin: But here's the thing. I tried to do some research on it. It was, did he actually build it himself, or did he just hire someone to build it? I was trying to figure it out because if he-

Mark: I think he did build it himself.

Kevin: ... If he actually did that, I would just be for him, because that is such an immense amount of work. But I thought that maybe he just hired out a lot of that. I don't know. So, I would like to know.

Mark: Yeah, I'm pretty sure he did it himself. It looks like a fictional mid-size city, like Pittsburgh in the 30s or something.

Mack: Wow.

Mark: When you see a photo, you think it's a city until you see Rod Stewart's head six stories tall.

Kevin: I was somewhat inspired by the little town that I built that I have right above my desk right here. I built a town that has 15 or so buildings in it, about the same scale. And that was some of the inspiration for me to build this town here. So, I know how much work it was. To do that whole city, oh my gosh.

Mack: So, what building do you think you spent almost too much time on but you're really proud of it?

Kevin: Oh, none of them were too much time on it, but my favorite building is one where I put a billboard ... They painted on the side of the brick that had that, they would use these for signs, advertising signs?

Mack: Mm-hmm (affirmative)?

Kevin: So, making the advertising sign and getting that right was a project in itself because I used something where I designed the sign and then I would print it out, and then I transferred it to the side of the brick building in a way so that it looked like it had been there, old and faded in some ways. And that-

Mack: Oh, wow.

Kevin: ... That really looks cool.

Mack: Wow, that's neat.

Kevin: So, tell us about, what if people want to follow you, what are you up to these days [crosstalk 00:29:48].

Mack: Yeah. So, let me see, I was in startups for a long time, very unprofitably, and decided to walk away from it, moved to New York, wound up getting into mutual aid work because the lockdown happened, and it was hard to network my way to whatever the next big thing was. So, I worked in mutual aid in New York city for 14 months, and came to understand just how many people were already living close to the brink, and when the economy changed, they were pushed over the brink. There are a lot of folks in New York who are still without homes and still struggling for the next meal. And the mutual aid organization I was working with was just thrilled to help them.

Mack: They would buy groceries, help distribute food, help people find housing, help them with getting vaccine appointments, that kind of thing. And it was really super rewarding work. And we made the decision after a while to leave the work just because it was too expensive. We couldn't afford to be there any longer, and moved to Seattle. And right about the same time, another startup, a guy I worked with for many years, called me in, and we talked for a while, and I wound up taking a job with them full time. So, I'm

working now with the CLIPR, C-L-I-P-R.ai. It's a video analysis and management platform that basically analyzes video, uses AI to detect speech patterns and syntax, and identify the topics that are being talked about so that it then indexes everything in a video.

Mack: And we'll help you find anything through search, and help identify different parts of a meeting, for instance; where the introduction is, where the pitch statement is, that kind of thing. So, it's a really exciting company to be working in. Doing that, and just really looking forward to getting our house in Seattle set up so I can get back to building musical instruments, because that's my passion.

Mark: Wow.

Mack: I have some crazy ideas and want to start playing with them.

Kevin: That's cool-

Mark: That sounds great.

Kevin: Yeah. We need more crazy musical instruments.

Mark: Yeah. We'll have links to your social media so that people can see the stuff that you are working on. Mack, thank you so much for taking some time out of your day to talk to us. I really appreciate it.

Mack: Totally my pleasure, Mark. Thank you both. I really had fun talking with you guys.

Mark: Hey, everybody. It's your cohost mark, and I wanted to let you know that we have a lot more going on here in Cool Tools than just this podcast. We have our flagship website where we review a new tool every day. That's at cool-tools.org. We also have four different newsletters, we have this podcast, we have a YouTube channel where we review tools. And if you like what you hear and see and read, the best way to help us out is by going to our Patreon page at patreon.com/cooltools and donate at any level you wish. You can even contribute \$1 a month, and that would mean a lot to us.

Mark: The money that you give us will go towards paying for our transcribing costs, editing videos, and editing the podcast. It goes towards paying contributors who write the reviews for us. It goes towards our equipment costs, our hosting costs, and it supports our very small company of three people. This week I wanted to give a shout-out to some of our Patreon supporters who have been giving us at least \$2 a month. And if you give us \$2 a month we'll give you a shout-out online.

Mark: And this week I would like to thank Michael [Sucrochia 00:33:35], Molly Star, M Velderman, Opposable Thumbs, Pamela Cooley, Patrick Weir, Paul Hosey, Randy Fisher, Stuart Burrows Brand, Synaptic Sam, Theresa Schwartz, Tom Hawkins, Tom Markham, What Bear, Javier Pangolin, David Lang, Eric Beyers, Sean Hartley, Steven Powell, Greg Lickscheit, John Hopson, Adam Bristol, Adam Nayher, Anonymous, Bill Kempthorne, Bruce I. Niles, Chris Woodruff, C. Colos, Daryl Flynn, Eck Flegoff, Eric Henschrow, Eric

Hoover, Godfrey soldana, Jay Skiles, John M. Larson, Jude Gallagher, Kenneth Gillman and Lucas Frank. Thank you very much for supporting the show, and we will see you next week.