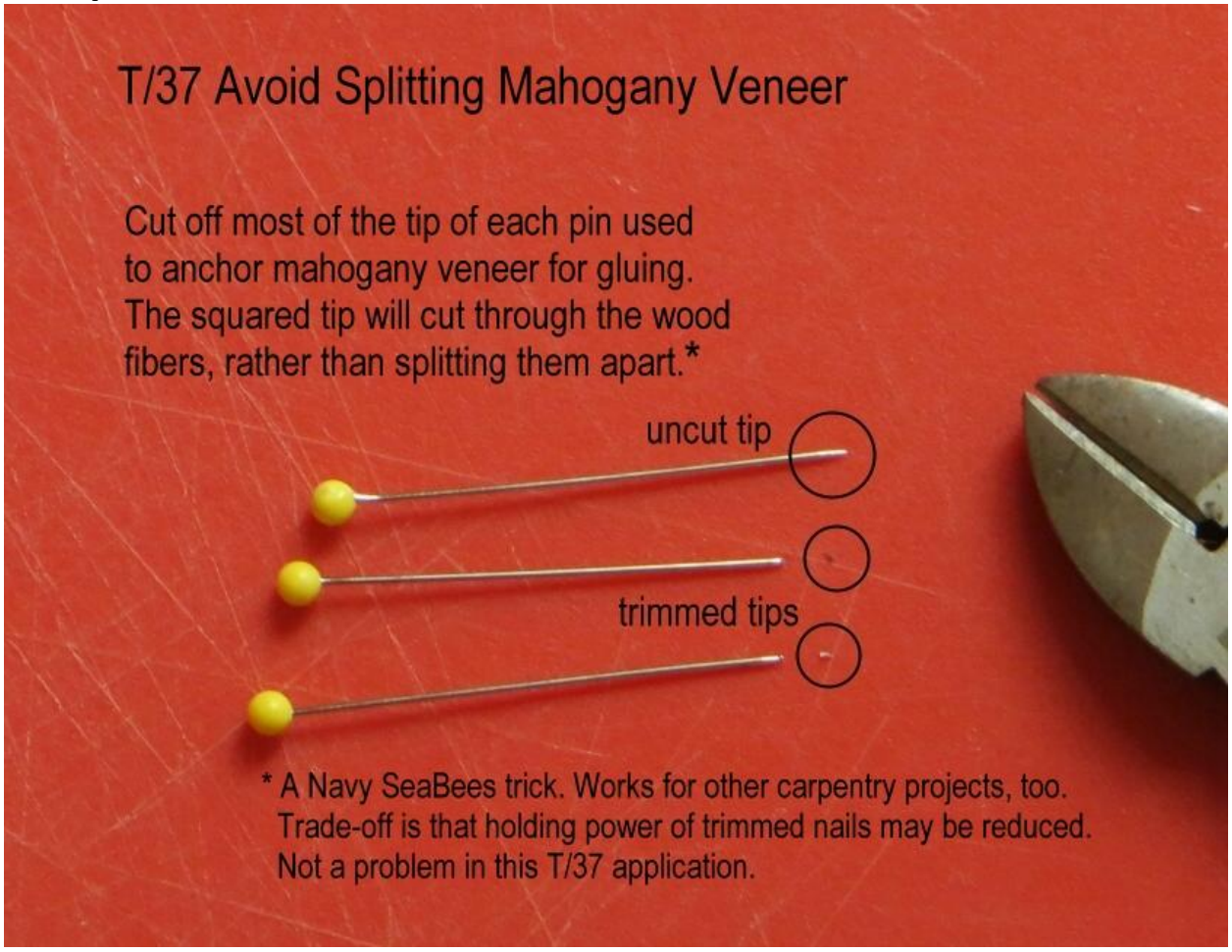
No Split Veneers - Philip Hubbell



Point - Counter Point....

Note from Allan: Another way to minimize splitting is to use thin pins. Thin pins bend easily, so push them to place with needle nose pliers gripping the pin about 1/4" from the point. Cutting a standard pin with side cutters as illustrated results in a pinched cut, like the cutting edge of a chisel. I think the chisel tip of the cut pin, if oriented parallel to the grain would split the fibers as much if not more than the pointed pin?? If perpendicular or angled to the grain, it would cut through the fibers and result in less splitting. So if you cut your pins, aim the pin's chisel perpendicular rather than parallel to the grain. Just a thought.

Response from Philip: Even in the "perfectly chisel" orientation (2 chances out of 360) the result is a blunter entry than the original point. ..and that's the point. :)
The SeaBee application I encountered was in building a deck for Navy sailing with 12-penny nails (or larger?). As a kid, my job was to hold the nails upside down on a hard surface and hammer the tips blunt.

Take your pick of points.