

## Carving with Power Tools

Steps for power tool carving.

Everywhere on the work.

1. Draw the pattern or shape with ink. Want a good clear outline.
2. Mark the negative spaces. These are the areas where wood will be removed. It helps to use a different color and one which is only used on the negative space.
3. Remove the negative space areas

Small areas on the work.

4. Review to determine the overlaps of the pieces in the pattern – which items is meant to be on top or below another item.
5. Cut in the outline of the overlying figure to the correct depth. If possible, block-in the items.
6. Angle the lower items to create a ramp.
7. Move to another section and repeat. Work in small sections to a lot of detail rather than the whole piece to less detail. This will result in different sections being at different steps in the carving process.
8. Define any motion in S contours.
9. Carve in detail in the item, e.g., for a leaf the veins.
10. Undercut all items.
11. Sand the piece if desired. A number of options :
  - a) Double sided tape to attach small pieces of tap to end of a thin dowel.
  - b) Small PSA discs e.g., from Fenell.
  - c) Arbor e.g., 6p nail, nylon rod.
  - d) Rotary disc.
12. Relieve the back side of the piece to eliminate sharp edges on the negative space areas, even if not carving the back of the piece.