

Perfecting the

“Carve something simple” - woodcarving projects by Peter Pačes

These projects are aimed at woodcarvers who wish to “have a go” at creating relatively easy yet attractive carvings.

Some of these projects are as simple as they get, yet they result in presentable creations, provided the carver possesses enough self-discipline to see the project through. If nothing else, they may serve as sources of carving ideas.

It is not uncommon to see people taking on projects far beyond their capabilities and never really finishing them. Invariably this is due to the wrong type of subject (usually too ambitious), to the lack of adequate preparation and artwork, to the choice of wrong timber, to inadequate tools etc.

Here I offer to help with some of these problems: the idea, the artwork, the wood.

Note that the projects with the difficulty ratings of 1, 2 and 3 are suitable for beginners.

What is on offer:

Perfecting the....

Nº	Difficulty	W x H x D		PC Kit	CD Kit	Extra Blanks	p & p
01	Proboscis	2	125mm	5"			£5 ea. £2.50 min.
02	Pony	3	80x180x25	3x7x1"	£12		£7 ea. £2.50 min.
03	PPPenguin	3	100mm	4"	£12	£13	£7 ea. £2.50 min.
04	Piggy	3	70x 80 x100	3x3x4"	£12		£7 ea. £2.50 min.
05	Pussycat	3	60x 90 x70	2x4x3"			
06	Pretzel Meister	4	175mm	5"			
07	Palomino	5	75 mm	3"			
08	Prod	5	50x120x150	2x5x6"			
09	Puppet	5	300mm	12"	£30+		£22+
10	Paw	4	175mm (75%)	7"			

To make life a bit easier, partially prepared lime blanks are available from the author. These are made to various stages of “readiness”:

Stage 1 - a plain lime block of the correct size with an outline drawing.

Stage 2 - (reliefs) - lime blocks with pre-drilled “depth” markers in waste areas.

Stage 2 - (figures)- basic cut-outs of the main outlines; these are not rough-outs!

Stage 3 - other (further) stages are available on request.

Notes:

1. only the Kits with their prices shown in the table above are available at present; others will be available soon.
2. PC Kit = a printed copy of the carving guide with sketches and pictures plus one "Stage 2" blank;
3. CD Kit = a PDF version of the instructions on a CD plus one "Stage 2" blank;
Note that there is a number of additional relevant pictures included on the CD.
4. Ordering send me an e-mail with your requirements.
Please note that I accept payments by cheques only as I am not a dealer and have no facilities for handling credit/debit card transactions.

This Introduction is reproduced on the author’s website under Projects.

Contact info: mail: ppaces@googlemail.com
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Brief descriptions of the projects

Perfecting the Proboscis.....

A free standing, life-size human nose to be used as a holder for reading or other spectacles. One of the few practical items in the woodcarving universe!

The designs range from the almost realistic to the stylized and humorous.

Difficulty	2
Blanks available	stage 2



Perfecting the Pony.....

A picture-style relief of a stylized seahorse, suitable for hanging on a wall.

Difficulty	2
Blanks available	stage 2 available
Size	75 x 175 x 25 (3"x7"x1")



Perfecting the PPPenguin.....

This is the people's favourite, a stylized free-standing penguin.

Mount a few on a rock to create a pppenguin colony!

Difficulty	3
Blanks available	stage 2 available
(includes a hardwood beak insert)	
Size	100 mm high (4")



Perfecting the Piggy.....

A stylized porker with floppy ears and a cute curly tail.
A Definite Dieting Debacle!

Difficulty	3
Blanks	stage 2
Size	100 long (4")



Perfecting the Pussycat.....

A half-bust of a cat watching the world go by.
Free standing or hanging.

Difficulty	3
Blanks	stage 2 available
Size	90 mm high (3.5")



Perfecting the Pretzel Meister.....

A half-bust of a self-satisfied cook, dreaming
of perfectly boiling another egg.
Free-standing or hanging.

Difficulty	4
Blanks	stage 2 available
Size	175 mm high (7")



Perfecting the Prod

A walking stick handle.

Difficulty	5
Blanks	stage 2 available (includes the horn inserts)
Size	50x120x150 (2x5x6)



Perfecting the Palomino.....

A free-standing, chess-style bust of a horse's head.

Difficulty 5

Blanks stage 2 available

Size 75 mm high (3")



Perfecting the Paw.....

A free-standing human hand giving the "I love you" greeting in the sign language. 75% life size.

Difficulty 4

Blanks stage 2 available

Size 175 mm high (7")



Perfecting the Puppet.....

A variety of articulated puppets such as clowns, pirates, fiends, monsters, knights, princes, princesses, witches etc. is offered. These projects are perfect for learning how to carve body parts, as everything is made separately. And nice looking puppets are created in the end!

A brief outline on clothing the figures is provided, too. The puppets look attractive just "sitting" around or may be "wired up" and used as marionettes.

Difficulty 5....

Blanks stage 2 available *)

Size 250-300 high (10"-12")



*) Note that the hand and esp. the leg cut-outs vary according to the puppet but the bodies are similar for most of the puppets. Also note that the head cut-outs have minimal face details.



An example of a Project guide / instructions:

Perfecting the Pony...

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This straightforward carving project yields an attractive relief of everybody’s favourite – that of a seahorse. The accompanying pictures can be easily scaled up or down on a photocopier to alter the size of the carving.

1. Select a suitable limewood block – 75 x 180 x 25mm (W x H x D) is used here.

Note that the grain runs along the longest dimension, i.e. vertically.

2. Transfer the outline (Fig.1) to the wood either by copying (use carbon paper) or, alternatively, make a cardboard template of the outline and trace the picture onto the block. The latter option

3. Mark the depth of the relief by drawing a line around the perimeter of the block at approx. 13mm from the top.

:
:
etc.

25. If required, stain the carving with a light brown stain. Once dry, rub it down with a clean stiff shoe brush in order to remove any fuzz raised by the stain.

26. Finishing the surface there are at least three options (I usually go for c)):

a) Use a few coats of clear spray varnish(gloss or matt); rub down gently between coats, until spotless. If required, follow with c).

:
:
etc.

Hang on a wall and enjoy! Good luck!



Fig.1

: : : : : etc.

: : : : : etc.

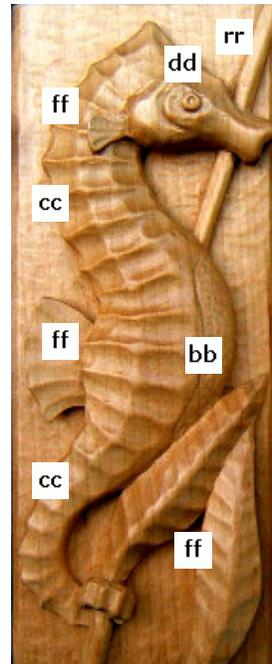


Fig.5