

S.A.W. Accepted Scrollsaw class Syllabus

I. History of the scroll saw.

- A While a brief overview of saw history will not of itself improve a students skill, it should improve their apparition of the efforts and skill of their predecessors.**
- B Hand cuts and or visual displays are interesting... FUN!**
 - 1 Hand operated equipment**
 - 2 Foot powered equipment**
- C Leads well into a discussion of the types of saws available today and the desirable features for those yet to purchase a saw.**
- D Setting up a new saw for the first time**
 - 1 Safety features and considerations ... read your manual**
 - 2 Squaring the blade and table procedures**
 - 3 General maintenance**
 - (a) Possible lube points**
 - (b) Possible wear points**

II. Scroll saw blades

- A Types of blades**
 - 1 Skip tooth Vs Reverse tooth Vs Crown tooth, etc...**
 - 2 Blade geometry**
 - (a) Single set to most modern blades**
 - (b) Crown tooth differences**
 - (c) Numbering code definitions i.e. 2/0 vs. 5R**
- B Purpose of different blades**
 - 1 Material consideration**
 - (a) Thin or soft material**
 - (b) Thick or hard material**
 - 2 Production or stack cutting considerations**

III. Selecting material (There may be some regional influence involved here)

- A Discuss basic wood types**
- B Appearance considerations**
- C Economic considerations for possible sale**
 - 1 Time factors for completion**
 - 2 Consider what the market wants**

IV. Patterns

- A Where to find**
- B Enlarging or reducing patterns**
- C Transfer patterns to wood**

V. Using a scroll saw

A Introduce practice boards

B Techniques for cutting

1 Smooth outside cuts

2 Inside cuts

(a) Logical location of pilot holes

(b) Use of a backing board for drilling

3 Cutting very small or thin materials

(a) Introduce zero clearance board overlays

(b) Introduce backing boards (sometimes top and bottom) for thin materials

4 Compound cutting

5 Stack cutting

6 Any tips not covered by above

VI. Student project(s)

A Seasonal considerations

B Time available for completion

1 Duration of class

2 Availability of saws for students

(a) Possible homework type assignments

(b) Sharing saws with multiple students

C Finishing the project(s)

1 Safety first (possible fumes & rag disposal issues)

2 Application of finishes or paints Sanding consideration (prior to cutting or after cutting?)

VII. Workshop evaluation by students

A This is a learning tool for the instructor

B Allows students to have an active and positive effect on future classes

1 More likely to recommend to others

2 Generates interest in an advanced class