

EYE STUDY WITH GLOSSARY OF WHITTLE-CARVING KNIFE CUTS



~ Whittle-Carving Glossary of Knife Cuts ~

The top of the illustration board shows a series of oblique slice and roll cuts to form dished out texture to simulate the waves in hair and beard or clothing wrinkles and folds. It is called an "ice skating cut" as in laying the cutting edge of the blade on the surface of the wood like it was the blade of an ice skate. As the blade is sliced forward at an oblique angle twist the blade in a rolling action like the twisting of an ankle while skating. With a light slicing cut the cutting edge will grab ahold of a sliver of wood that will scoop out a trough or gully in the surface. On the left side of the illustration board under the oblique texturing there are slicing cuts that give definition to hair and beard that appear to be individual strands of hair. Each one is made with two cuts

beginning with a perpendicular stop cut to the wood surface that is like drawing a line with a pencil. The second cut is an angled cut on either side of the first cut that goes to the bottom of the first cut to remove a thin sliver of wood. Stair stepping the curving cuts (no straight lines) of varying lengths will give a natural appearance of the movement of hair. This cut is more distinctive with its play on light and shadows than the typical "V" cut where the light goes to the bottom of the "V" and dies.

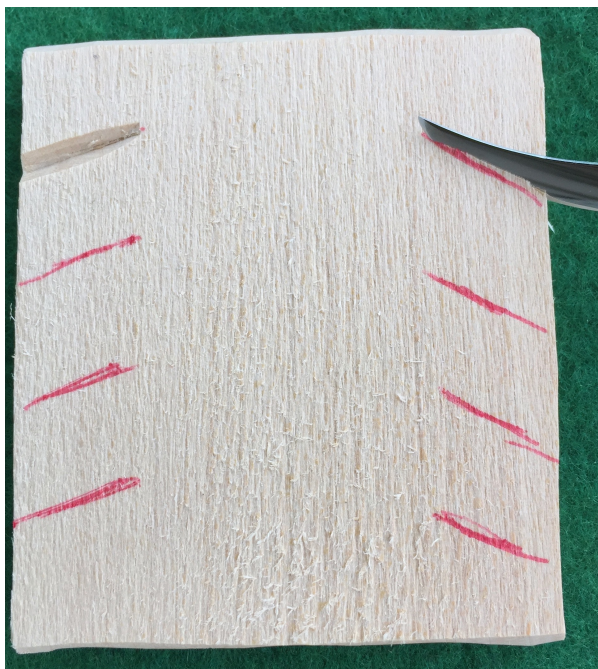
The two chip carved triangles to the right of the hair illustration is the beginning understanding for the use of triangular cuts in Whittle-Carving. Variations of the three cut triangular cuts are used to create an opening so that additional carving can be done. This is illustrated by viewing the eye illustration under the hair on the illustration board as well as the juncture of the nose nostril and the beginning of the smile line with the third cut that removes the triangle chip also forms the top of the dental curve of the mouth mound. Three cut triangular cuts are also

used for mouth opening under a mustache, corners of the mouth, nose nostril openings, and other areas where an opening hole is needed for further carving steps.

The bottom left corner of the illustration board shows the beginning cuts to form an ear with notch cuts outlining the outer shape of the ear. The inner opening of the ear is done by making a reverse triangle cut with the first two cuts forming the shape of the ear tragus and the third cut being an arching cut to hollow out the inside of the ear on the back side of the tragus.

On the right-side bottom corner are three illustrations of notches. A notch is made using length of the cutting edge in a slicing action to make two angled cuts with the second cut meeting at the bottom of the first cut. A curved cutting-edge blade shape is the most efficient for making this kind of notch cut because more of the cutting edge is put into action. A notch cut is used to open up a surface of the wood so that additional cuts can be made in the stair stepping of the surface design of the carving. One cut is not a cut to end all cuts because additional cuts are required to continue the shaping. A notch cut along with the three cut triangular cuts are used for making an opening so that additional cuts can be made.

EYE BROW NOTCH SET UP TO MAKE A FOUR STEP PRACTICE EYE STUDY BOARD



This is an illustration of an eye study practice board. The angled lines are to illustrate where to make a notch cut to simulate the bottom of the eye brow. The top left side of board has a notch already carved with the right side shows a curved knife blade making the first slicing cut along the line. A second angled cut that stops at the first cut will form the eye brow notch. There are four steps in making this style of Whittle-Carving eyes. Note: there are many ways to carve eyes and this is only one method that uses only knife cuts to form eyes.

The next illustration below will illustrate the four steps of carving this style of an eye.

USING THE EYE BROW NOTCH PRACTICE BOARD TO MAKE THE FOUR STEP EYE STUDY PRACTICE BOARD



Step 1: Illustrated in this step is the left and right eye with a nose imagined in the blank middle space. The angled notch at the top represents the bottom of the eyebrow. A three cut triangular cut begins where the bridge of the nose meets the bottom of eyebrow. First cut alongside of nose, second cut alongside bottom of eyebrow and third cut angles towards the inside of the corner of the eye mound.

Step 2: A notch cut begins with first cut slicing across the bottom of the eye mound with second cut slicing down beginning at the ridge of the upper

eye lid. This creates an angled plane into which the eye ball will be carved in the next step.

Step 3: A small three cut triangular cut is made in the inside corner of the eye to simulate the tear duct. This is followed with a gentle stop cut along the ridge of the upper eye lid. This is followed with a gentle slicing cut under the stop cut to remove a thin sliver of wood. A small triangular cut is made at the outside corner of the eye and slicing the bottom eye lid up under the upper eye lid.

Step 4: A pupil is made with stop cut using tip of blade to enter under upper eye lid followed by an arching quarter moon slice under the stop cut to remove a divot of wood. Twist the point of a lead pencil in the pupil divot to give color to pupil. Additional shaping cuts may be made to smooth up the appearance of the eye treatment. When completed apply liquid super glue (*Cyanoacrylate*) to strengthen the eye lid which is prone to breakage due to being thin cross grain.