



The Process of Woodcarving

OK, the workshop is a lot more like a lecture. I really didn't know how to talk about this very important idea in any other way so forgive me.

Here's the thing:

You can see by the wide variety of projects the range of carvings that I tackle in Woodcarving Workshops. Over my career as a woodcarver I've been asked to carve many much more complicated things.

Most of these *I've never carved before!*

But I'll have a go anyway. And the reason I have the confidence is an understanding of what I call the 'process' - AKA the 'journey' or 'how carving works'.

The process, the path, is similar from carving to carving and I really have got this to an unconscious level. You, as a carver, may never have thought about the process, but it may be one of the best things you do to deepen your own work.

Your task!

I was thinking that I would draw you out a flow diagram to print off, based on the video, but sitting here I think it far better if you draw one out on your own. Seriously, do it. It doesn't take very long.

- Get yourself a big piece of paper and draw a line vertically down the middle.
- The line is 'Ready to carve'. In the space on the left is 'pre-carving'. On the right is 'carving'.
- Think it through and fill it all in, in your own words. Try to add even more than I say.

This is a terrific exercise that works into your understanding of woodcarving. Do relax about it and have fun giving your brain a work out!