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# Woodcarving (Kid Crafts)



## Synopsis

Perfect for children or anyone who wants to learn a hobby that lasts a lifetime - woodcarving. With just a few basic tools, scrap wood and the safe techniques outlined in Kid Crafts Woodcarving, you'll be on your way to creating keepsakes and hand-carved gifts. You'll learn how to make basic cuts, how to use tools, and practice each using 7 projects for a whistle, musical frog, snowman ornament and much more.

## Book Information

Series: Kid Crafts

Paperback: 121 pages

Publisher: Fox Chapel Publishing (February 1, 2009)

Language: English

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Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,354,246 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in [Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Crafts & Hobbies > Woodworking](#) #89 in [Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Crafts & Hobbies > Models](#) #374 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Wood Crafts & Carving > Carving](#)

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4-7  
This well-organized and useful book includes occasional boxed notes to adults, who are advised in the interest of safety to be present any time sharp tools are being used. Carvers are bluntly warned, Never put anything that can bleed in front of the blade. The first half of the book introduces wood and how it grows and describes the supplies, tools, and techniques that are used in the projects. The second half is comprised of the projects themselves. The first one is the easiest, a soap-bar boat carved with nonmetal tools so that a supervising adult can assess a young person's skills. The seven Scout-like projects then progress in difficulty, building sequentially on skills and using a greater range of tools. Quality paper, full-color photographs, and illustrated step-by-step instructions enhance the presentation. There is a mention of a DVD by the author that is available

for purchase, but the Resources list of five suppliers provides contact information and seems unbiased. —œJoel Shoemaker, South East Junior High School, Iowa City, IA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Part of a new series targeted to teach children traditional crafts, this 122-page softcover book (ISBN: 978-1-56523-366-9, \$14.95), written by award-winning carver Everett Ellenwood, includes diagrams, patterns and step-by-step photos for projects such as a croaking frog, snowman ornament and wooden train whistle. Get a bunch of woodcarvers sitting around with a cup of coffee in hand, and one of the issues that often arises is the future of woodcarving, particularly with regard to the number of young carvers (or lack thereof.) Go to almost any club meeting or carving show, and likely you'll find the vast majority of people are baby boomers or older, with sprinkling of 20- and 30-somethings, and relatively few young carvers. Largely gone are the days when a youngster sat on the back step, pocket knife in hand, learning the first steps in carving from Grandfather. The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) does have a woodcarving merit badge, but from my days as a merit badge counselor, I can tell you that badge is not one of the more popular ones. We're fighting a battle for attention against organized sports, computer games, and the like. One aspect of this problem is the relative dearth of carving books aimed specifically at young people. The folks at Fox Chapel Publishing, fortunately, have put into our hands a new book that might help turn the tide. Fox Chapel has launched a new Kid Crafts series, and one of the first volumes is Woodcarving, written by Ev Ellenwood. This is not an adult book dumbed down, but rather built from the ground up for young people. There is, of course, the expectation that the book will be used under adult supervision, at least with preteen and younger children. At a 128 pages, this book is as thick as your average carving book, but at 8" x 8" is a size better suited to young hands. Contents Introduction Chapter 1: All About Wood Chapter 2: Woodcarving Supplies Chapter 3: Tools Chapter 4: Projects The Introduction starts out with Look What You Can Carve, a page of project photos designed to catch the attention of the youngster. Also included is a How to Use This Book page and a Note to Adults. Chapter 1 presents a good overview about wood - the anatomy of a tree, vessels and grain, and the best woods to carve. Chapter 2 begins a discussion about woodcarving supplies and presents the first of many skill building exercises scattered throughout the book. The concept here is good - it breaks a particular skill down into a step-by-step process that the young carver can practice. The first of the Skills is Gluing Wood Together, something we take for granted but which may be an unknown skill for a young person. The chapter goes on to review sandpaper and sanding, pattern transfer, and finishing supplies and skills. Chapter 3 is about Tools. As is most appropriate, Safety is

the first article of discussion in the chapter, with a good discussion about gloves and thumb guards. The chapter continues with information about caring for tools, measuring and marking tools, clamping tools and a carver's hook, saws and drills, and carving knives. Included here are an important series of skill builders about various types of knife cuts. The chapter then turns to a discussion of gouges and gouge cuts and ends with an excellent section on sharpening (as you might expect from an Ellenwood book.) Chapter 4 begins the projects. The first is a soap boat carving project using handmade wooden tools. This project serves as a good reality check for an adult to determine if a young person has the dexterity and maturity to move on to sharp carving tools and wood carvings. The wood carving projects begin with a simple relief snowman ornament, then a carved wooden whistle, arrowhead, name plaque, a relief eagle head and an in-the-round musical frog. Each has good detailed directions with quality step-by-step photos. The book concludes with a glossary page and a resource page, which includes three of our WOM sponsors.

In Conclusion There is a lot to like about this book, and very few nits to pick. I could only really find one - the pages on that nasty "S" word. (That would be sanding.) Other than that, I found the book to be well written and well designed. If you have a child or grandchild whom you'd like to interest in woodcarving, than this book may be the perfect Christmas or birthday present. If you have no young children or grands, but would like to help spread the art and craft, consider becoming a BSA woodcarving Merit Badge counselor; this publication would be an excellent adjunct to the merit badge handbook.

Everett Ellenwood's *Kid Crafts: Woodcarving* teaches more than just how to carve a block of wood. It instills confidence, develops a can-do attitude, and establishes problem-solving skills that will last a lifetime. Part of a new series targeted to teach children traditional crafts, including leather crafting and basic woodworking, *Kid Crafts: Woodcarving* helps kids ages 9 and older discover the fun they can have creating with their hands. Among the affordable, easy-to-follow projects which require only a simple set of tools and basic skills, new carvers will find everything they need to create some fun projects, including a croaking frog, a snowman ornament, a wooden train whistle, arrowheads, name plaques, and more. Author Everett Ellenwood is an award-winning carver and nationally recognized instructor for more than 30 years. He has written *Complete Book of Woodcarving* and produced two best-selling videos, *Beginning Woodcarving* and *Sharpening Simplified*. *Woodcarving* (\$14.95) is part of the *Kid Crafts* series from Fox Chapel Publishing. The book is recommended for children over age 10. Author Everett Ellenwood suggests having the child work a soap-carving project from the book to test his maturity level and ability to do the other projects in the book. Special emphasis is given to safety and skill development, as the tools used in woodcarving must be very sharp. The introduction provides some basic guidelines for the book's

use. Don't overlook these pages in a craft book; they're the key to making the book--and the crafts covered in it--safe and fun. The first chapter gives an overview of the sources of wood for carving, beginning of course with trees. Ellenwood explains the differences between hardwood and softwood, tree growth, and the best woods to carve. The next two chapters cover the supplies and tools used in woodcarving. Simple and clear instructions explain the care and use of the tools, and carving skills are covered in depth with step-by-step illustrations. If you don't know the ten parts of a gouge, this book will identify them and give a concise description of each. There are even instructions for skills related to sharpening and maintaining tools. The first project, mentioned above, is a boat carved from soap. It is a safe and simple way to apply some of the basic skills covered earlier in the book. Next is a simple snowman Christmas ornament requiring a few more tools and more carving skills. Each project includes photos of the tools to be used along with lists of materials and supplies needed. Skills used in each project are included in these lists with page numbers your child can refer to for step-by-step explanations of the skills. Be sure to read through the whole project before gathering tools. Some of the tool lists are incomplete. Some of the projects in Woodcarving are practical for a child. A wooden whistle, percussion frog, and name plaque are among these. All of them are engaging and reinforce the knowledge and skills presented in the first part of the book. Woodcarving is a great way to introduce a child to craft skills that can serve him for a lifetime. Sometimes craft books are more about making memories than about building knowledge and skills. Woodcarving is a perfect example of one that does both. They are fabulous! What I really like about these 3 Kid Crafts titles: Starting with basics how to use the book, the note to adults from each author, the origins of leather/wood The half-tone subject headings at the top of the left-hand pages for easy navigation Complete introductions for each craft: types of each material, processing, how to select, supplies needed, skills to master, what specific tools are and how they are used to create a particular effect, SAFETY guidelines!... esp. good in the woodworking books where they're really needed and they are repeated in each step where needed Each book takes the readers from beginner to advanced skill level and projects And these are real projects not just cutesy kid crafts these are items that will be of interest to the intended audience The layouts on each project are very clear: supplies, tools, skills, patterns, step-by-step photos to refer to Glossary and resources librarians love backmatter like this websites and suppliers are valuable for rural crafters The Woodcarving title starts off well, with the 2 page spread of colored photos of "look what you can carve" and "here's all you need to get started" who can resist? This one also includes great tips on skill building to keep beginners encouraged. Excellent job

Cool book like it make a a lot of the projects in the book sone

bought for 10yr old son. too complicated for him. he gets very frustrated with it. he really enjoys this kind of activity so I thought it would be okay but just too hard for him. would not recomment for younger then 13 or so.

This book has so many fun projects. What's more they have so many tips and facts about wood to really help kids get started. We love it!

I was needing a work book to help show the boys the basic steps in carving. I teach wood carving in scouting and this is a great help. Lou Folkerts

Recommened by a life-long wood carver for my son who is showing interest. He has enjoyed looking through the pages for ideas and easy lessons. Good pictures.

Easy to understand directions

I'm new to carving but after reading some of the pages I think this would be a great book even for me. I bought a whittling book for my son (14) I thought he would enjoy but he isn't patient enough. For any hand craft you do need patients if you want to get some where with it. As for the review that I read for the ten year old,carving is not for everybody. I know a 60 year old who could not do it if he tried (he wont)he has no patients for this kind of thing.I might buy this book yet for myself I found information in there I could have used.

We liked this book a lot. There were many helpful ideas on homemade tools for the soap carving, and ways to store all those sharp tools safely. I liked it educating you a little on the types of wood that are good for carving. Simple enough, my son is having fun carving up!

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Chris Pye's Woodcarving Course & Reference Manual: A Beginner's Guide to Traditional Techniques (Woodcarving Illustrated Books) (Fox Chapel Publishing) Woodcarving with Rick Butz: How to Sharpen Carving Tools (Woodcarving Step by Step with Rick Butz) Woodcarving (Kid Crafts) Crafting: 365 Days of Crafting: 365 Crafting Patterns for 365 Days (Crafting Books, Crafts, DIY Crafts, Hobbies and Crafts, How to Craft Projects, Handmade, Holiday Christmas Crafting

Ideas) Easter Kid's Audio Bible-Free Easter DVD a 2nd Free Audio Bible on MP3-Bible Stories for Kid's-Bible Stories for Children with 103 Kid's ... Home School Curriculum 15 Audio CDs-1MP3-1DVD Lettering: Beginners Guide to Lettering and Calligraphy Fonts for DIY Crafts and Art (Typography, Hand Writing, Paper Crafts, Thank You Notes, DIY wedding, Drawing, Hand Lettering Book 1) Wonderful Wire & Bead Crafts (Jewelry Crafts) Bead Crafts (Creative Crafts for Kids (Paperback)) Earth-Friendly Clay Crafts in 5 Easy Steps (Earth-Friendly Crafts in 5 Easy Steps) Kids' Crafts: Polymer Clay: 30 Terrific Projects to Roll, Mold & Squish (Lark Kids' Crafts) Earth-Friendly Wood Crafts in 5 Easy Steps (Earth-Friendly Crafts in 5 Easy Steps) Paper Mache: The Ultimate Guide to Learning How to Make Paper Mache Sculptures, Animals, Wildlife and More! (How to Paper Mache - Paper Mache - Paper Crafts ... Mache for Beginners - Arts and Crafts) The Big Book of Bible Crafts: 100 Bible-Teaching Crafts Using Economical, Easy-to-Find Supplies! (Big Books) Crafts N Things, By Editors of Crafts 'N Things August, 1999, Volume 24, No. 9) (Single Issue Magazine) -Best-Sellers for your Craft Fair or Boutique; 11 Angels You Can Make Heaven Scent Patty (How To Make Your Own Potpourri) DIY Crafts (2nd Edition): The 100 Most Popular Crafts & Projects That Make Your Life Easier, Keep You Entertained, And Help With Cleaning & Organizing! Upcycling Crafts: A Compilation of 197 Upcycling Crafts for Beginners - Includes All of Kitty Moore's Best Selling Upcycling Books! Treasury of Tips & Tricks (Leisure Arts #15947): Paper Crafts? magazine & Stamp It! (Paper Crafts & Stamp It) The Big Book of Holiday Paper Crafts (Leisure Arts #5558): The Big Book of Holiday Paper Crafts SC WOODWORKING: ONE DAY WOODWORKING MASTERY: The Complete Beginner's Guide to Learning Woodworking in Under 1 Day! (Crafts Hobbies) ((Arts & Crafts Home Wood Projects)) Easy Crafts for Halloween and Fall - Crafts for Kids and Adults

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