Materials



Decorative piece of wood - you only get 1 piece, circle or square format.

Pencil, ruler, carbon paper and masking tape to make and transfer the design.

Sand-paper to prep the wood.

Woodburner with various tips for burning the wood.

Lastly, water colors, spray finish

Step 1: Image Procedure

- 1. Search for an image of an animal or creature up close head view.
- 2. A image with a lot of texture, hair, scales, patterns to recreate. Image must be realistic. NO cartoon like images or word allowed
- 3. Image should be as large as possible it is hard to woodburn small images.
- 4. If you can draw well, draw the animal yourself, otherwise go to the Library and print out the photo in black and white sized to fit your wood shape. You can also use your home computer and printer.





Step 2: Prepping the Wood



To prep your wood, if it's a "raw" piece like this, you'll want to sand it very well, and also decide which way you want the grain. It's much easier to burn with the grain than against it.

Step 3: Get Familiar with the Tool



A woodburning pen is a very simple tool. It's a pen-like device with a metal end through which heat is transferred to a removable tip. With any kit, you'll get 4-7 different tips for various methods of burning: straight lines, rounded lines, shading, etc.



Step 3: Get Familiar with the Tool

Get a piece of scrap wood, plug in the woodburning tool and let it heat up for about 5 minutes, and test out "drawing" on the wood with the various tips just like you would with a pencil. It's that simple. (Be sure to let the tool cool down for 5 minutes before changing out tips; it'll then have to be heated up again for a few minutes.) The key is to go slow and steady. If you're jerky, it'll show. If you go too fast, the wood won't really burn like you want it to. Just like the tortoise, slow and steady wins the race.

A Few Safe Pointers to Keep in Mind...

- Keep a wet paper towel on hand to wipe off the end of the tip every once in a while as residue from the wood builds up.
- If you're getting a lot of smoke, the pen is too hot. Try turning down the heat for a smoother, smokeless burn.
- Be mindful of safety. The tip gets extremely hot several hundred degrees F, at minimum, in fact. So when the tool is plugged in, always be mindful of where the hot metal end is. Be sure it isn't touching anything and always have it resting on the metal stand when not in use.
- When changing tips, use pliers wrapped in electrical tape, as the tips stay hot for a long time.

Practice on the Back of your project

- 1. You will watch a demonstration on what to practice.
- 2. Sign your name with the wood burner. (print or write cursive)
- 3. Practice making vertical, horizontal and diagonal lines.

4. Practice making curves

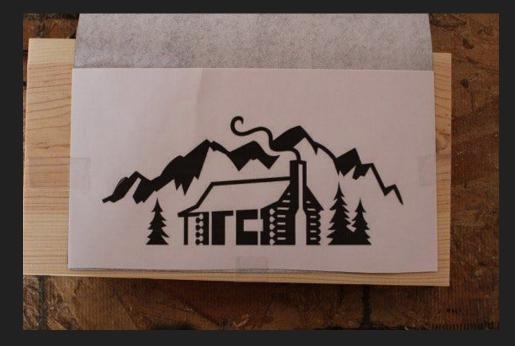
5. Then use a ruler and draw 6 one inch boxes.

6. Hatch lines in same direction, show 3 boxes with different values.

7. Cross Hatch lines show 3 boxes with different values.

8. Stipple dots and show 3 boxes with different values.

Step 4: Transferring the design to the Wood



Tape your cut out design (a photo copied image is fine to use) to the carbon paper, and then to the wood. Be sure image is large and fills the wood and that the carbon side is facing down.

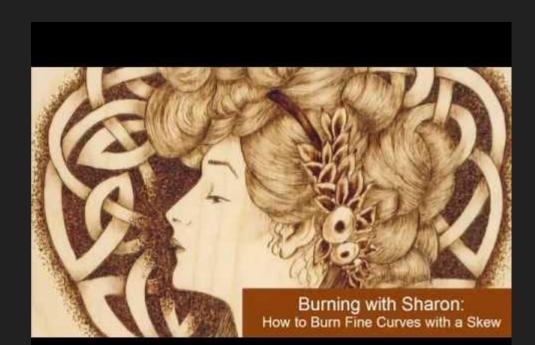
Step 4: Transferring the design to the Wood



Use an ink pen to transfer the design from the carbon paper to the wood. It will produce a black outline of your image.

Step 5: Burn the Outline

Check out videos by the same artist below. She will show you how to burn all kinds of things such as animals noses, whiskers....



Step 5: Burn the Outline

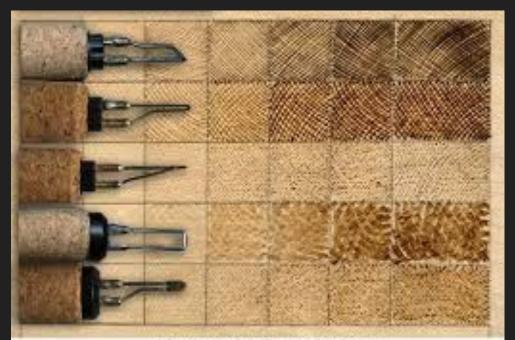


Watch the video then use the smallest tip to make burn the outline.

Remember to go slow.

Always place pen in metal pen holder. Go with the grain as much as you can

Step 6: Add the details and Shade



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Once you have the outline done you will use the tips to shade, add texture and details. The most points will be given for textural techniques used hatching, cross hatching, stipple and areas that show value changes.



Step 7: Final Touches (Optional) Once you are done burning use watercolor pencil to add light hint of color to your work. DON'T use bold color that will distract from your wood burning.

