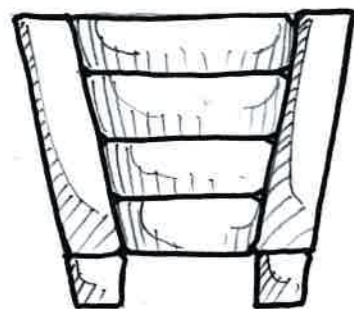


TOP



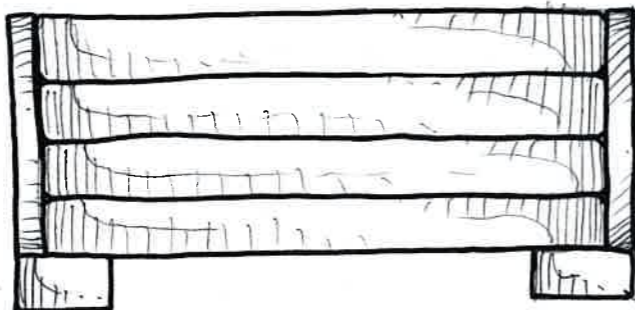
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↑
GRAIN
↓



END

← GRAIN →



SIDE

THE HOLY CHILD



Pattern on Page 40



This project is fairly simple to complete, and shouldn't take you much time. The Holy Child portion of the carving is a good example of relief work, that is, creating the illusion of depth without really going that deep at all.

The Child's face has very minimal features, yet an expression of peaceful contentment is obvious. This is not hard at all to accomplish when the facial elements are correctly placed. Sometimes simplicity says much more than detail would. How ironic it is that the most simplistic piece in the whole Nativity project is the most important conceptually!

When band-sawing out the blank, be sure to cut out the voids that define the manger's feet before cutting the angled sides. The easiest way to define the angles is to saw the blank while standing it on end. Then follow the end view pattern. If you don't want to deal with this, simply eliminate the feet and go with a flat bottom.

Your block before sawing will need to measure $1\frac{1}{4}'' \times 1\frac{1}{4}'' \times 3\frac{1}{4}''$.

Materials List: Carving

- Basswood block $1\frac{1}{4}'' \times 1\frac{1}{4}'' \times 3\frac{1}{4}''$
- Standard carving knife
- Fine detail knife
- #12 $\frac{3}{8}''$ v-tool
- #12 $\frac{1}{8}''$ v-tool
- #11 $\frac{1}{4}''$ half-round gouge
- Very small veiner gouge
- $\frac{1}{8}''$ shallow gouge
- $\frac{1}{4}''$ shallow gouge
- $\frac{1}{2}''$ fishtail gouge
- Pencil or fine marker
- Band saw
- Carving glove or thumb tape for protection

Materials List: Painting and Finishing

- $\frac{1}{2}''$ flat brush for large areas
- $\frac{1}{4}''$ round brush for smaller areas
- $\frac{1}{8}''$ round brush
- Raw sienna
- Antique white
- Corn yellow
- Flesh tone
- Bright red
- Medium gray
- Fast drying satin polyurethane
- Brown gel wood stain
- Disposable stain brush
- Cotton rag