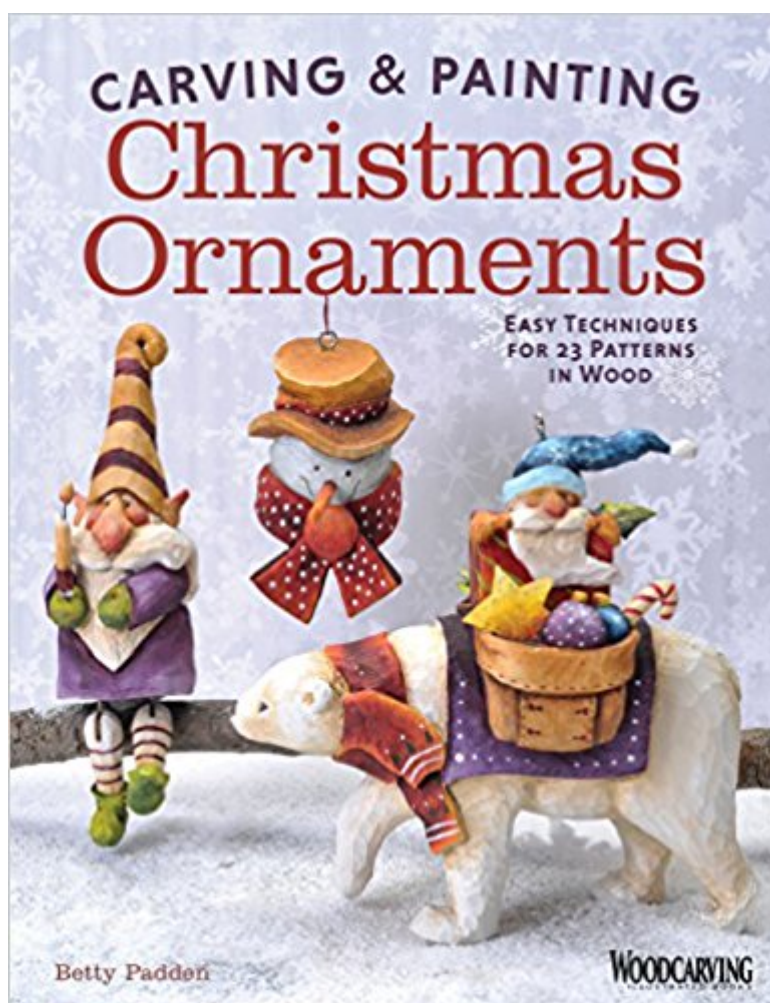


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# Carving & Painting Christmas Ornaments: Easy Techniques For 23 Patterns In Wood



## Synopsis

Get inspired to create a wonderful collection of handmade holiday decorations for a child or grandchild to treasure. Popular woodcarving teacher and author Betty Padden shows how to carve memorable ornaments to keep or give to family and friends. Imagine a tree decorated with your own beautifully carved angels, elves, polar bears, poinsettias, and more. Youâ™re sure to have a merry carving experience with these fun projects, color photographs, and original patterns. Step-by-step projects are divided into three categoriesâ”beginning, intermediate, and advanced. A special section on painting covers basic concepts of blending, highlighting and shading, so that even a novice can get great results. The best ornaments on the holiday tree are always those that are handmade. Giving these hand-carved Christmas ornaments will be almost as much fun as making them!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

**Carve Your Own Treasured Holiday Ornaments** Get inspired to create a wonderful collection of handmade holiday decorations for a child or grandchild to treasure. Popular woodcarving teacher and author Betty Padden shows how to carve memorable ornaments to keep or give to family and friends. Imagine a tree decorated with your own beautifully carved angels, elves, polar bears, poinsettias, and more. Youâ™re sure to have a merry carving experience with these fun projects, color photographs, and original patterns. Step-by-step projects are divided into three categoriesâ”beginning, intermediate, and advanced. A special section on painting covers basic concepts of blending, highlighting and shading, so that even a novice can get great results. The best ornaments on the holiday tree are always those that are handmade. Giving these hand-carved

Christmas ornaments will be almost as much fun as making them! Get inspired to create your own beautifully carved ornaments, with:

- 6 complete step-by-step projects, arranged by skill level
- 23 original patterns for delightful Christmas ornaments
- Angels, elves, polar bears, snowmen, poinsettias, and more
- Painting tips for highlighting, shading, brushes, and mixing colors
- Festive ideas to hang on a branch or display on a shelf

Betty Padden is a professional woodcarving artist and woodcarving instructor. Her commissioned works are displayed at Disneyland, Disney World, Faneuil Hall, and Busch Gardens. She is the author of *Lettering & Sign Carving Workbook* (Fox Chapel Publishing, 2011).

It seems as if the author was trying to be very ethnically or religiously correct. You will not find a Santa or Christian symbols. Even a polar bear replaces a reindeer. There are elves, and even one with a white beard. This is not a complaint just an observation. What does trouble me are the patterns. All have the expected front and side view and the details of the patterns is good. The problem is that they do not match up. As an example, in the side view of the elf on the left side of the cover, the mustache is very large, on the front view it is much smaller. If you align the nose, then the bottom and hat don't line up. The same problem exists in every pattern I tried. On another point, the ornaments are large. Too large for my tree. Many of the patterns say to enlarge for table top, but most are already that size. I really like the patterns, but I will be needing to do a considerable amount of redrawing to use them.

When I buy a new carving book, I usually only find a few projects that I like well enough to justify the time and effort required. Not so in this case. Almost every design is a winner and well worth the effort of carving. When I purchased this book, I was looking for quick and easy ornaments that I could make in multiples of 3 and in different sizes, but that would be cute and sophisticated enough to adorn our carving club's Christmas trees and wreaths; that was a tall order but this book was a great choice. So far I have made multiples of 6 different ornaments from the book and they have all turned out well. One of my favorites is the Christmas stocking which I have made in 2 different sizes. I also love the star and have made it in 3 different sizes and then gold-leafed it as suggested. She has a unique technique in that some of the designs, such as the reindeer and the polar bear, are cut in halves and then joined after the carving is mostly complete. This has the advantage of avoiding the tedious business of taking the wood out from between the animals' legs as in traditional animal carving. So far, I have completed the reindeer and the joint is not discernible once the

ornament is glued together. Once I finish the club ornaments, I plan to try some of the more involved projects for gifts, such as the polar bear and to attempt her oil painting techniques that appear to result in heirloom quality ornaments. But even if you don't want to tackle the oil paints, the patterns alone are well worth the purchase.

I am always looking for Christmas Ornament carving books and I think this one is the best I have ever acquired. It has many great looking projects from beginner to advanced, some of which will get done very quickly, yet still look great. This is a must have for your library if you are into Christmas carvings.

There is very little detail for actually carving the projects in the magazine. I had seen at least one project in a copy of the 2014 Holiday edition of Woodcarvers Illustrated. The carving had very little detail and suggested getting this magazine in the article to see more. To me, it was promoting this magazine to get the details for the carving. This magazine for that actual piece showed even less detail than what was in Woodcarvers Illustrated. But on the plus side, it is full of some very great ideas. If you can fill in the blanks for yourself and are just looking for carving ideas, this is the magazine for you.

Everything in this book is absolutely adorable - I can't stop carving. The painting is beautiful - however - I only paint in acrylics (throw back to tole painting) so the painting instructions are not useful to me, but are very well presented.

The painting techniques with the layering is something hard to find. This book does an amazing job on the painting and the ornaments are great. My favorite ornament book, it has lots of details and many how to carve pictures on more than one project. Has a reindeer, several snowmen, the polar bear, elf, house, angel that is very pretty, and several others. If you are into carving ornaments this is a good book to have on hand even if its just to take your painting to the next level!

Lot's of patterns and ideas for decorating. I want to carve most of them. Painting guide and full color pictures. Clear instructions.

The designs were adorable. However some of the patterns did not line up with the pattern on adjacent sides. I had to adjust the patterns on photoshop which was not particularly fun to do

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