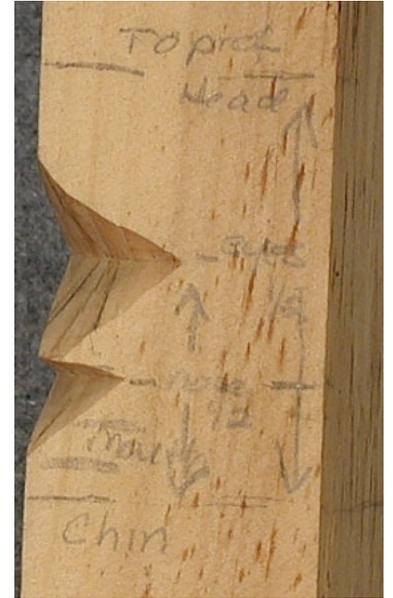
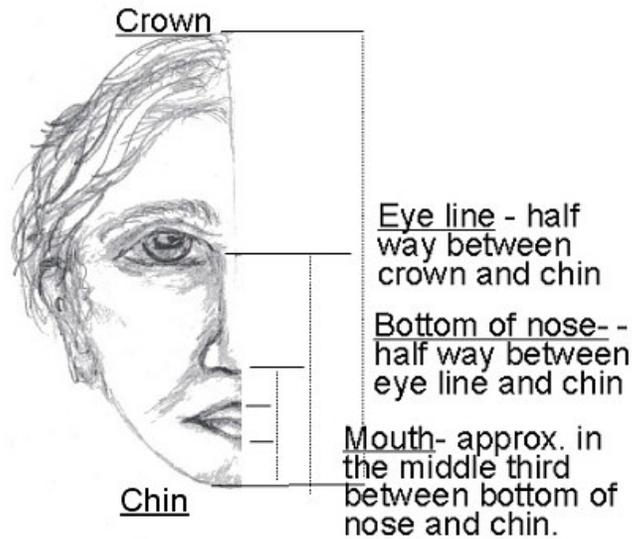


Carving Faces

1. On the corner of a piece of wood, mark top of head (crown), eye line, bottom of nose and bottom of chin according to the proportions shown and draw a vertical line down the center of the face.



2. Make a notch at the eye line. The top of the notch will form the brow.

3. Make a stop cut at the mark for the bottom of the nose and carve up to it from below to form another notch.

4. Mark lines for the sides of the nose allowing ample room for nostrils. Make stop cuts along those lines, being sure to slant your knife AWAY from the nose in order not to undercut the nose. Carve away wood from the sides of the nose to make the nose protrude and form the cheeks. Make small triangular cuts at the sides of the nose to form a laugh line and define the nostrils and cheeks. Angle the bottom of the nostrils slightly upward and round over the nose and nostrils. To form the nostrils, use a gentle scooping motion towards the nose with the point of your knife where the top of the nostril will be.



5. Mark a point on the eye line on each side of the nose just above where the outside of the finished nostrils will be. On each side mark another point on the eyeline about a nose width from the first point. These 2 points mark the location for the eyes.

6. With the tip of your knife (or a deep gouge) gently arch each eye line upward between the two points you just made to form the upper part of the eye socket and the eye crease. This line does NOT go all the way to the nose.

7. Just above half way down the length of the nose you will carve the lower lid. The lower lid does not curve as much as the upper lid, and the outside of that line will be slightly higher than the inside. But at this point, the lower lid line DOES NOT meet either end of the crease line that you carved in step 6. With all that said, carve a stop cut along



the lower lid line. Round up to the crease line from the center of what will be the eye ball, and round down to the lower lid. Also round the inside and outside corners of the “eyeball”. It is important to think of the eye as a small ball, and the lids as just thin coverings.

8. Now draw on the upper lids and do a stop cut along that line. To avoid tearing the lids out, be sure that your knife is sharp and that your stop cuts are carved straight in and not angled under the lids. Again, round the eye ball up to the upper lid, down to the lower lid and to the sides, with the inner corners of the eyes being so deep that they cannot be seen from a profile view. The lower lid goes under the upper lid at the outside corners. On unpainted carvings, draw on the iris and pupil, and use a gouge with the matching contour to hollow out the iris. Be sure to stop cut at the eye lids to avoid tearing them out.



9. Round the wood below the eyes. With a medium to deep gouge remove some of the wood below the lower lid to emphasize the lower lid and to enhance the roundness of the eye. Add wrinkles using a small v-tool.
10. Round the brow line. Note that the sharper (lower) the angle of the brow, the more sinister your carving will look.

11. With a deep gouge, take away some wood from below what will be the lower lip to form the lip.
12. For beards, draw in where you want the beard and moustache, and stop cut along the lines. Use veinners of different sizes to texture the beard keeping in mind that hair is comprised of separate clumps that fall on top of each other.....carving hair in another lesson 😊



Just a note 😊 You probably noticed that, thanks to a “helpful” parrot my sample carving is missing part of his nose.. One of these days I’ll get to replace it!