

Wood carving

Although woodcarving is not a religious art, because Tibetan culture is so linked with Buddhism, many of the popular motifs do have a religious significance. Among the most common symbols to be carved are the Tashi Targye, or Eight Auspicious Symbols. These are also the first designs that any beginning student learns to make.

Below is the basic curriculum for the woodcarving workshop, although the actual time it takes to complete each task will depend on the student. It is not necessary to have any prior experience, it is not advisable for children below 15yrs as it involves working with sharp tools.

1 day:

Students will choose either one of the simpler designs - conch, flower, fish to make a key ring.



3days:

For the 3 days workshop, the students will make one of the 8 auspicious symbols wall hanging (the wheel & treasure vase take longer, so students with no prior experience is advised not to select those two symbols)



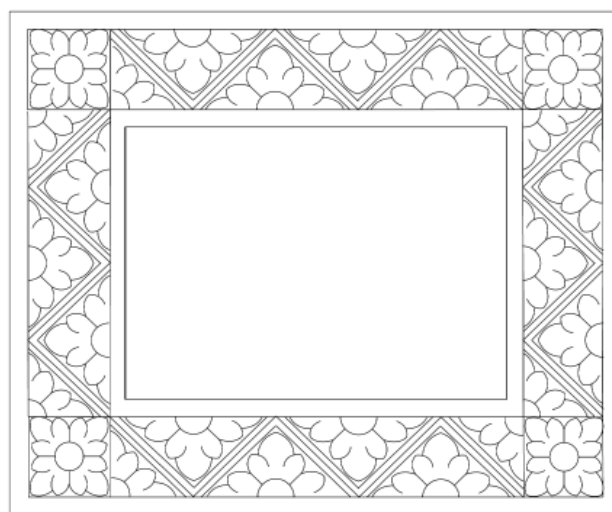
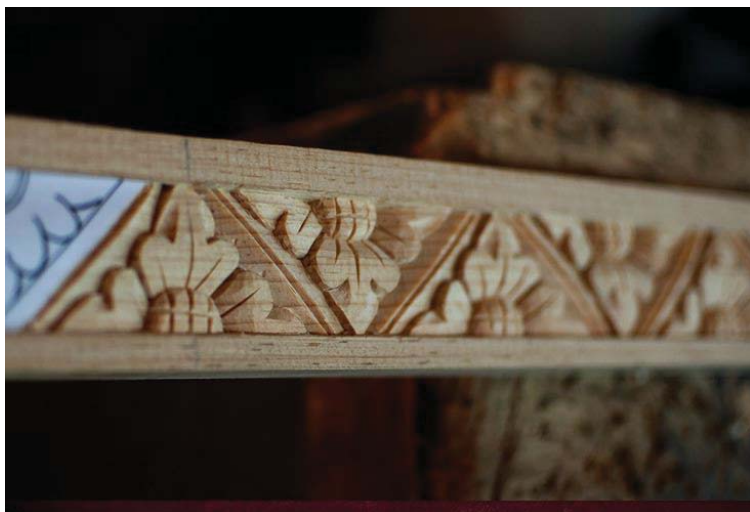
5 days:

Students who register for the 5 days program will complete the 1day short exercise to make the simple key ring and will then start on one of the 8 auspicious symbols available for selection (except for wheel and treasure vase) If they choose to make the wheel and treasure vase, the first day to make the key ring could be skipped. The students will also learn the process of making the traditional tools and how to care for them. They will also receive tips from the master to selecting woods that are suitable for carving.



2 weeks:

For the 2 weeks program, the students will complete the 1 day exercise to make the key ring as a practice session. From the second day, they will start work on either one of the two pieces - A simple carved flower photo frame or a carved wall hanging.



5 weeks:

The students will complete the 5 days program as noted above and then begin a more intricate carved piece. They can choose a design from our series of Mythical creatures of Tibet or the Treasure vase wall hanging.

Those staying for longer period will learn and make increasingly advanced designs.

