## **Carving the Camelia Flower**

by Mary May www.marymaycarving.com *Proverbs 16:3* 

Transfer all lines (even shading lines) onto wood with carbon paper

## LOWERING BACKGROUND

#1: Carve around the outside of the design (leaving the line) with a v-chisel to the depth you are going with the background.

#2: With curved gouges that fit the outside edges of the design, make vertical stop cuts along the line.

#3: With a #7, 14mm, lower down the background at an angle to the flower – start this cut about <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" away from the flower. Make this area where the background meets the flower as clean as possible.

OPTION: Flattening the entire background. With a #3, 12mm lower down the background down to a flat surface, up to the edge of the design. Get the edge of the flower as clean as possible.

NOTE: if you want to make the depth lower, just go through this process again



#4: With a v-chisel, cut on the outside of the flower (area where the leaf and flower meet) to separate the leaf and flower. Make a vertical cut

along the edge of the flower at this point to create a clean edge on the outside of the flower

#5: With a #3, 12mm, round over the leaf so that it appears to go under the flower. Round over the outside of the leaf so it gives the entire leaf a gentle curved appearance.









#6: With a v-chisel, make a curved line down the center of the leaf (the more curved this line is, the more of a 3-dimensional appearance).

#7: With a #3, 12mm round over the leaf towards this center vein to give it a little more shape. Make smaller v-cuts to make the smaller vein lines

#8: With a #3, 6mm soften and clean up the outside edges of the leaf

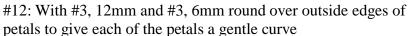


## **FLOWER:**

#9: With a v-chisel, make a cut around the outside edges of all of the interior flower petals, starting from the center of the flower. It would be a good time here to make sure you are understanding what petals are going under what by shading the areas that are tucking under (these lines should have been transfered when copying the original drawing).

#10: With curved gouges that fit the profiles of the individual petals, make vertical cuts along all edges (I used the #3, 6mm for most of these cuts)

#11: With curved gouges, start to carve down the petals that tuck under, starting from the center of the flower



NOTE: it is a good idea to go around all edges with the #3,6mm to just make a very slight 45 degree angle just to clean up any rough edges, and also to remove any marks from the carbon paper. It creates a nice shadow edge.

#13: Last, but not least, at the outside edges of the petals carve a few little v-notches that show a little extra wrinkle at the edge

