

RUDDY TURNSTONE LESSON NOTES

by:

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First Week: LESSON

The head is the most important part of our carving to get established correctly so we'll move slowly. REMEMBER TO KEEP THINGS SQUARED OFF!

Al has a not-so-great study skin and a good wing from the ROM. Handle them with care as we are financially liable.

Cut in the eye line a bit. Cut down from the lines on top of the head to the eye channels. These head lines taper towards the back of the head so the back is wider than the front. At this rough point, the front should be about 10mm wide and the back 15mm wide. We'll come down to about 8mm and 13mm in our detailed work. Note that we have left wood under the eye line for the cheeks.

Removing the chip from our shoulders: Measure 4mm down from the bottom of the head to the shoulder. Trim that wood off being careful not to get in tight to the head. Your cut will roll forward.

Forehead: Cut it back 2-2 1/2mm on an angle so that the bill will slide in nicely. Keep it straight. Stay on the centre line. Round off the forehead just a bit at the face and bill.

HOMEWORK: Between the end of the beak and the forehead = 10mm. Trim back 3mm of the 4mm only. Keep it squared! Do not round it!!!

WEEK 2:

Lesson 1: The red line on the pattern is the cut line. There are approximately 2 extra mm of wood on the mini-mini and 4mm extra on the mini. Check the side notes on your pattern for measuring directions. There are three head levels--the top and narrowest, the ear lobe, and the part near the body which is the widest. Measure 8mm from the top of the head and draw in the eye line that angle upwards towards the back of the head.

Measure 23mm down to the breast and draw a line that swoops down from the back of the head to the 23mm mark. Cut in that line being careful not to take too much wood so that the neck will be able to have the correct blend into the body. **ALWAYS TRY TO KEEP AND MEASURE FROM THE SQUARE!** This has to do with Al's methodology, not his personality. It makes measuring easier and more accurate.

LESSON 2 Habitat: Tim says to make a sand bar out of wood-- 3" X 7" for a full sized bird; 1-1/2" X 3 1/2" for the mini bird; 1" X 2" for the mini-mini bird.

These can later be mounted on a darker piece of wood for presentation purposes.

Tim is working on a sand type and application best suited to this habitat and will get back to us.

HINT: Tim uses 3 lamps when he works so that he can have a cool light, warm light and incandescent light. This is very helpful when painting the bird, too.





