

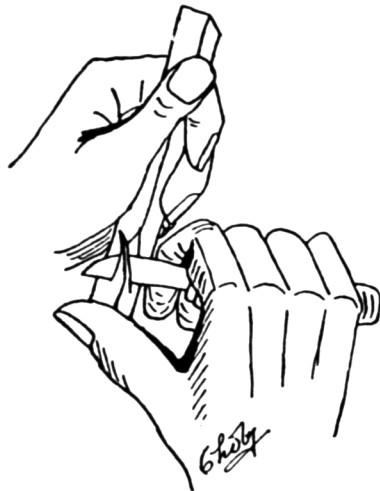
WHITTLING



POINTERS

- Follow the carving instructions
- Use a sharp knife
- Carve slowly
- Make small cuts
- Practice the knife holds illustrated
- Consult with the Craft Specialist
- Keep control of the blade
- Safety comes first

WHITTLING



Whittling is controlled cutting. The blade must be kept in control at all times. There should be no long slices. The blade must pass through the wood slowly with no follow-through. This is most important from the standpoint of safety and accuracy.

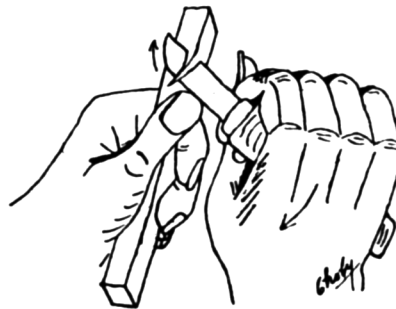
The knife holds that give this control are illustrated for clarity. In the first the left hand holds the block against the right thumb and the knife is worked with the fingers toward the thumb as in peeling potatoes. The beginner will do well to tape the right thumb until control is acquired.

Begin by cutting as little as possible at a time. The cutting should be smooth and easy, and can be, if slight cuts are made. The cutting will be difficult if too much is attempted.

In the second cutting technique the block is held by the left hand in such a way that the thumb (of the left hand) is free to push the blade into the wood.

The back of the blade is kept against the left thumb at all times. The right hand holding the knife works the blade with a slight lever action.

Leaders will do well to have beginners practice on a scrap piece of wood using the above techniques before whittling regular blocks.



ED CHOBY

1544 BERKSHIRE AVENUE

PITTSBURGH 26, PENNSYLVANIA

Phone: FI 1-9976