

MINI SPIRAL – Jewelry/Ornament (Dennis Overcash)



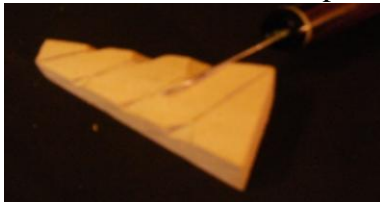
After blank is cut and prepared (lined)



1. Make stop cut at corners on lines.



2. Make small V cuts to stop cut (Example 1)



3. cut away corner edge (Ex 2)



4. Redraw lines (make sure you always have some lines left to redraw) (EX 2)

5. Repeat steps 1-4 until nearly round



6. Round off top and shape bottom as desired (EX 3)
7. Redraw spiral lines.
8. Stop cut along all spiral lines.
9. V cuts along spirals (keep the V as small as possible – preserve as much wood between the V cuts as possible – You can always make wider later).
10. Sand all imperfections – Later it will be delicate.
11. Continue to deepen V cut (NOT WIDEN) I use tip of knife mostly and slice along the groove.
12. Install a hanger in the top while you can still hold the rest tight. I use Jewelry finding gut short.
13. You'll begin to hear or feel it "crunching" as you begin to break through.
14. Continue to deepen V cuts using light tiny strokes. Too long a stroke and you'll slice through a spiral.



15. Super glue as needed if you break a spiral. Hold it gently – most breaks come from:
 - a. Twisting knife in groove to remove debris
 - b. Slicing through the other side. Opposite each point in your groove is a spiral going at 90 degrees so too long or deep or hard a cut will slice it.
 - c. Pressure on a spiral while holding it.
16. Clean up with tip of knife/sandpaper/emery Board/mini file
17. Apply finish as desired.



BLANK PREPARATION:

Use 1" basswood. Decide on length (about 2 inches is the shortest you want to deal with). Measure width of each spiral to be as wide as board is thick. Lay out your rectangle. Draw a taper line from the top to a point on the bottom. You decide on a pointed or a round bottom and make it as wide or narrow as desired. Cut along tapered lines. Turn the blank 90 degrees and repeat the same tapers on the sides. Cut along tapers. If irregular, sand as needed. For a 2" long ornament I measure down from top 1.5 CM and mark each corner. Draw diagonals from point to point. I draw a center line on each side to aid in visualizing my rounding the blank. If making several at the same time you can save material by laying out the shape side by side on your material and cutting along the lines.