

Design Resource

## Wood Carving - Furniture

Craft of Wood Carving - Warangal

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral, Divyadarshan C. S. and

Lija M. G.

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/wood-carving-furniture>

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2. Tools and Raw Materials
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## Introduction

Wood is one of the element that helps in the sustenance of life that supplements the livelihood of the human beings to a great extent. Wood has been seen in a different use with human beings such as fuel, flooring, furniture, utensils and as part of the constructions. Warangal is one of the region in India of the Telangana state where about two hundred families are seen involved in this craft since a long time. It is not that only a particular community is found working on it, but people belonging to different communities are found working on it since a long time.

This place is mostly famous for the hills and lakes that are surrounded around it, such as the Govinda Rajula Gutta and the Padmakshi hills. The famous lakes such as Bhadrakali and the Waddepally for their picturesque beauty and also as a main source of drinking water.

Teak wood is deciduous trees with hardwoods, white odorous flowers and papery leaves. These woods generally have the leather smell like when it is cut. It has a unique feature of its durability, water resistance therefore largely preferred for the furniture, external constructions, small wood projects and boat buildings.

The colour of each species of teak wood varies with its grain patterns like the lines or streaks on the surface of the wood as it grows weighing moderately. Teak wood has the natural oil content in them which prevents it from decaying and also from termites and pests. It also has the high tensile strength that makes it suitable for the outdoor applications in large and also indoor. Leaves of teak are also taken for cooking where the batter prepared is poured and steamed in few of the South Indian dishes of India. It is also used as a food plant for the larvae of few months.

Mostly Teak wood grown in the neighboring villages are gathered at Warangal at the timber locations and cut to the required lengths as per the required sizes by the saw chain cutting machine. They are carried by the craftsman by the old method of rope and thick stick to the Timber cutting machine, the outer portions are cut out and cut to different sizes. As teak wood has the grain portions they are further selected as per the length and width to be taken for their respective portions of the furniture.

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Stack of logs and cut wooden planks.



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Artist carving the negative space of wood to emboss designs.



The base of cot with floral designs on sides.



Artist holding a finished furniture leg.

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A wooden chair with red velvet seating cover.



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## Tools and Raw Materials

Following are the tools and raw materials required for the making of the wood furniture of Warangal:

- **Chain Saw Machine:** It is used to cut the log of wood.
- **Rope:** It is used to tie the log of wood for transporting.
- **Thick Stick:** It is used to carry the log of wood.
- **Chalk Piece:** It is used to mark on the surface of the wood with the required length.
- **Timber Cutting Machine:** It is used to cut the log of wood to the required sizes.
- **Cut Pieces of Wood:** It is used as a support for the cutting of the log of wood.
- **Brush:** It is used to apply the used engine oil on the surface of the cutting machine.
- **Used Engine Oil:** It is applied on the surface of the machine for easy cutting of the log of wood.
- **Measuring Tape:** It is used to measure the length of the wood required.
- **Pen:** It is used to mark the required lengths on the wood surface.
- **Try Square:** It is used to measure the proportions of the wood pieces.
- **Wood Lathe Machine:** It is used in making the design on the wood by turning process.
- **Buffing Machine:** The outer surface is buffed in some cases for smooth finish.
- **Hammer:** It is used to give impact on the wood pieces for the required shapes.
- **Chisel (Uli):** It is used for the basic and the intricate carving.
- **Sandpaper:** It is used to smoothen the surface of wood.
- **Wood Polish:** It is used to give the final finish for products made by the craftsman.

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Chainsaw machine helps to cut to required length of wood logs.



Wood planks are cut in a designed form with help of machine saw.



Wood is put through a machine to slice out outer layer.



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Set of filing tools and gouges.



Butt chisel used to carve wood.



Wood turning machine helps to carve easy and sander.



Artist measuring with the help of measuring gauge.



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Sanding wood with help of mechanical sander.

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## Making Process

Logs of teak wood taken from the neighboring villages are collected where the timbers are gathered and cut to the required sizes with the chain saw machine. Cut logs of wood are carried to the timber cutting machine by the craftsman with the help of ropes and thick stick. When the logs are placed on the machine, used engine oil is applied on the machine for the smooth cutting by the Rift cutting method.

Log of wood are converted to cut pieces as per the thickness, length and it is taken for the parts of the furniture. For the designs of the leg parts of the furniture it is placed between the two joints of the lathe machine. Various files and tools are used to carve the wood pieces as per the required length and width by the turning operation of the lathe machine. Other designs are generally hand carved by the hand carving tools.

With respect to the other parts of the furniture it is hand carved, the craftsman draws the design to be carved on the surface and then the details are drawn. The unwanted portions of the wood are taken out followed by the removal of the unwanted parts by the carving chisels and hammers. Fine and intricate designs are carved at the end where the craftsman takes time and does all things in detail.

After the detail carving is done it is then applied a coat of wood polish once or twice as per the requirement of the polish colour to be obtained. These craftsman does the items usually as per selection and requirement of the customers.

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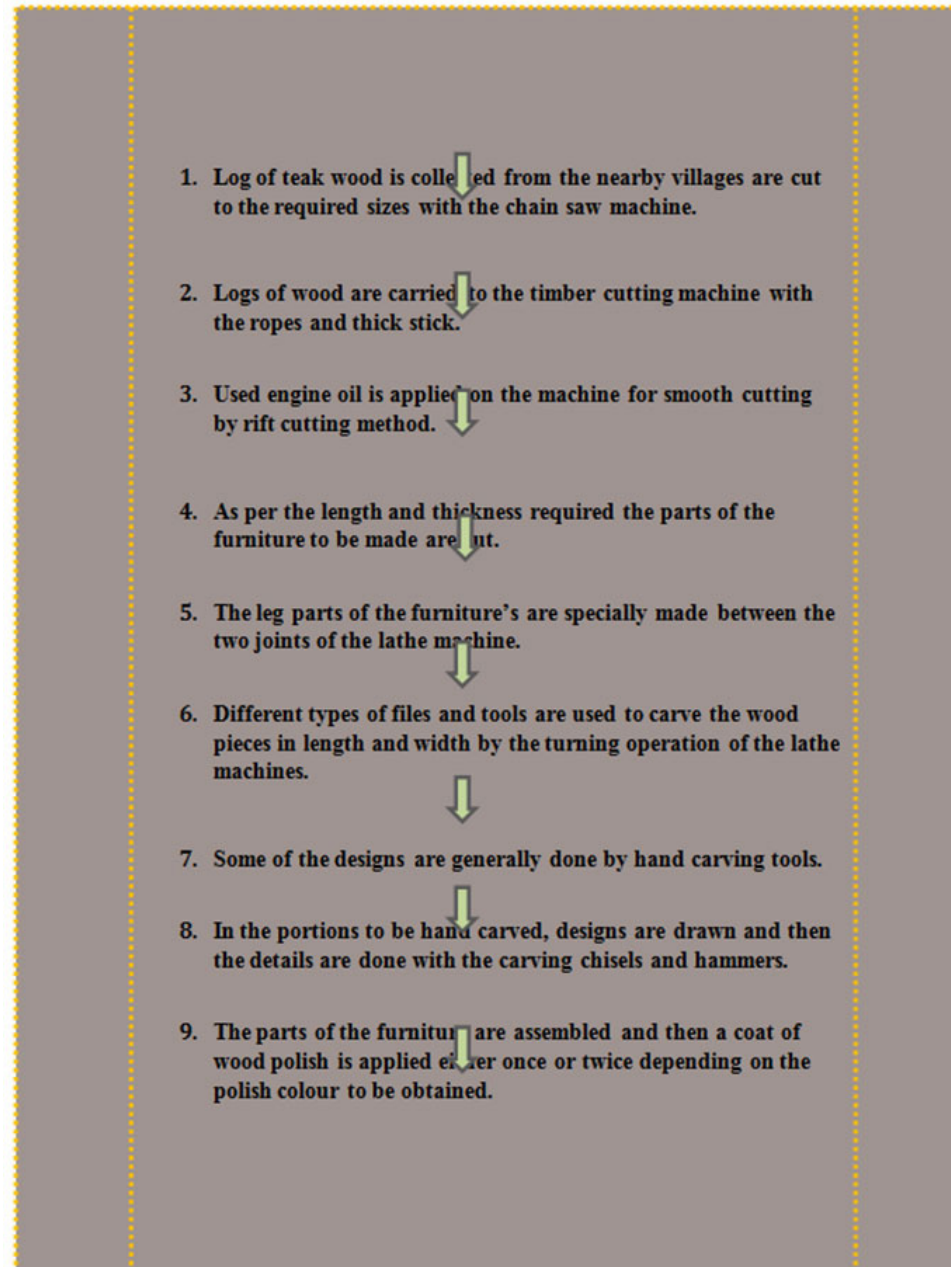
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Flow Chart:



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The wood log is cut with help of chainsaw machine.



The wood is sliced removing outer layer by passing it through a machine.



Wood planks stacked to use for carving.



Cutting a plank of wood with help of saw machine.



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A sketch sheet of floral design placed on wood to be carved.



Artisan carving out wood with wood carving tool to form a thick line.



Artisan carving out wood with help of chisel.



Carving wood evenly to form a flat surface and make design visible.



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Giving a fine finish by rubbing sand paper over the wood.



The making of a leg with help of wood turning machine and filing gouge.



Sanding the leg part of furniture.



Smoothing wood with mechanical sander to give a better shape.



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Measuring with help of gauge.



Making a small rectangular hole.

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Cots with carved designs on head rails and stuff.

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## Products

Generally the primary use of the name plates are, it should be informative and placed on the area's where ever it is highlighted or to be highlighted. Name plates of Warangal are generally made from wood and carved as per the requirement of the customers.

The various sizes of name plates are made by wood pieces with the sizes measuring of about 13cms of length, 6mm of thickness with about 8 letters of writing. Cost of the key chains generally are about Rs.100 each per name plate. This is one of the unique craft observed at the Warangal/ Hyderabad region of Telangana.



A set of variable sized tables.



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A wooden television stand along with a small shelf beneath it.

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A rocking chair.



Puja mantap.



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A low velvet cushion-seating chair.

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## Contact Details

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You could write to the following address regarding suggestions and clarifications:

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