

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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



1. Introduction
2. Place
3. People
4. Process
5. Products
6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom
byAbhey Singh
IDC, IIT Bombay**Source:**<http://www.dsource.in/resource/wood-carving-sikkim/introduction>

Introduction

The Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom was founded in 1957 by Sikkim government in an effort to preserve and promote traditional arts and crafts. With time it evolved as a centre for sustainable development of the region focussing on utilising the traditional knowledge and human resources. In modern perspective the centre serves as a important tool for providing employment and self-reliance across the strata of society covering diverse region, income rang and education. The centre has now expanded to 32 training centres with 650 trainees and 13 production units. The head office is located in Gangtok, the capital city of Sikkim. It provides training in carpet weaving, handloom, thanka painting, handmade paper, wood-carving, cane & bamboo craft, soft toys and multi-crafts. Training period ranges from 2-4 years depending on the craft. After that the artisans can either work in the centre's production units or work outside on their own. In order to promote the initiative the government also gives stipend to the students.

Wood carving is an ancient art form of Sikkim. It was initially patronized by buddhist monasteries where you can still see the ornate wood-work. Wood carving is done on Choktsis (carved table), Bakchok (square table), wooden masks, decorative screens, lucky signs, altars, lamp stands and other decorative items. Three types of wood are used for wood carvings - tooni (toona celiata), rani chaap (macalia exelsa) and okner (walnut). The designs usually have figures of dragons, birds and phoenix.

The training for wood-carving is of two years. First year, you learn about the design and process, in second year you learn carving and cutting.



1. Introduction
2. Place
3. People
4. Process
5. Products
6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom
by
Abhey Singh
IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

Place

Sikkim is 2nd smallest Indian state located in the north-east India. Sikkim chose to remain independent when India got independence in 1947. In 1975 it became the 22nd state of India after a treaty with the then Prime Minister of Sikkim. Sikkim has been very successful in protecting its cultural heritage along with embracing the modern ethos. The state has a very diverse flora and fauna and occupy a special place in India for it.



Directorate of handicrafts and handloom head office at Gangtok.



Hoarding explaining the mission of directorate of handicrafts and handloom.



Mannequins wearing traditional tribal costumes.



Bamboo exhibition at directorate of handicrafts and handloom.

1. Introduction
2. **Place**
3. People
4. Process
5. Products
6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. **Place**

3. People

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Plaque installed in corridor of directorate of handicrafts and handloom.



Sales emporium which sell all the items produced at DHH, Gangtok.



Inside the sales emporium at DHH, Gangtok.



Sales emporium selling wood and bamboo products.

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. **People**

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details

People

Palden bhutia are members of the instructor team. Students in the wood-carving are mostly male keeping in mind the slightly mechanical nature of the work.



Wood carving classroom.



Wood carving instructor.



Wood carving instructor.



Wood carving instructors.

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

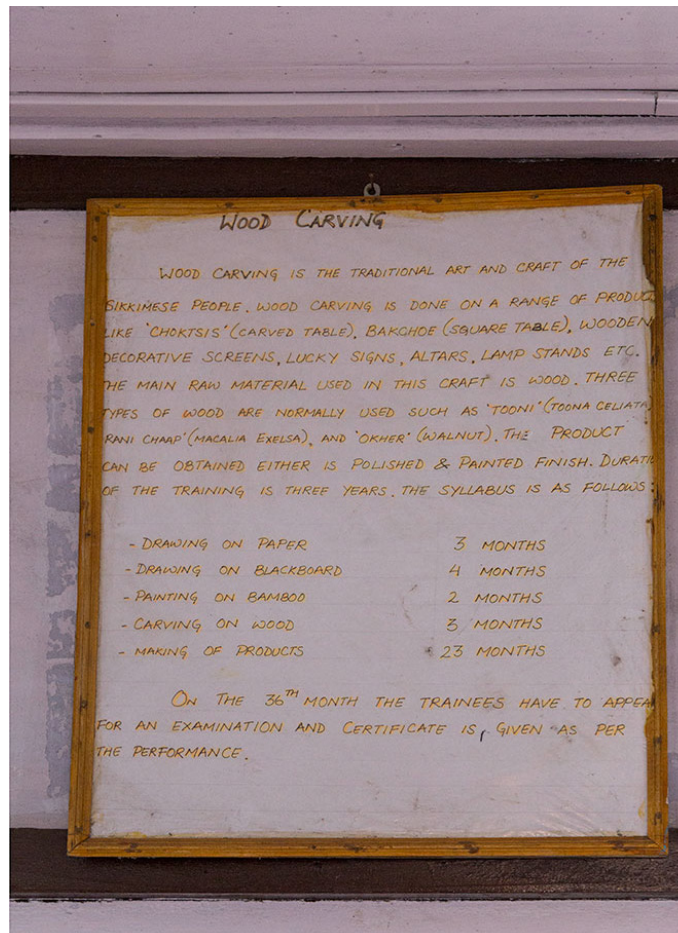
Source:

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

1. Introduction
2. Place
3. People
4. **Process**
5. Products
6. Contact Details

Process

The process of wood-carving starts with sketching the composition on paper. Holes are then made on the outlines of the sketch which is traced on the wood using charcoal marks through the holes. The sketch on wood is then completed and refined by joining the marks. Using a drill machine holes are made into the wood, through these holes a wire is passed to cut the wood in shape of the design. After preparing the wood carving is done on it using different tools. The tools have different types of nib with flat, curved and angular nibs. They are used to carve different parts of the design.



Poster at wood carving classroom listing the schedule of the program.



Notice board of wood-carving classroom.



Sketching on paper.

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

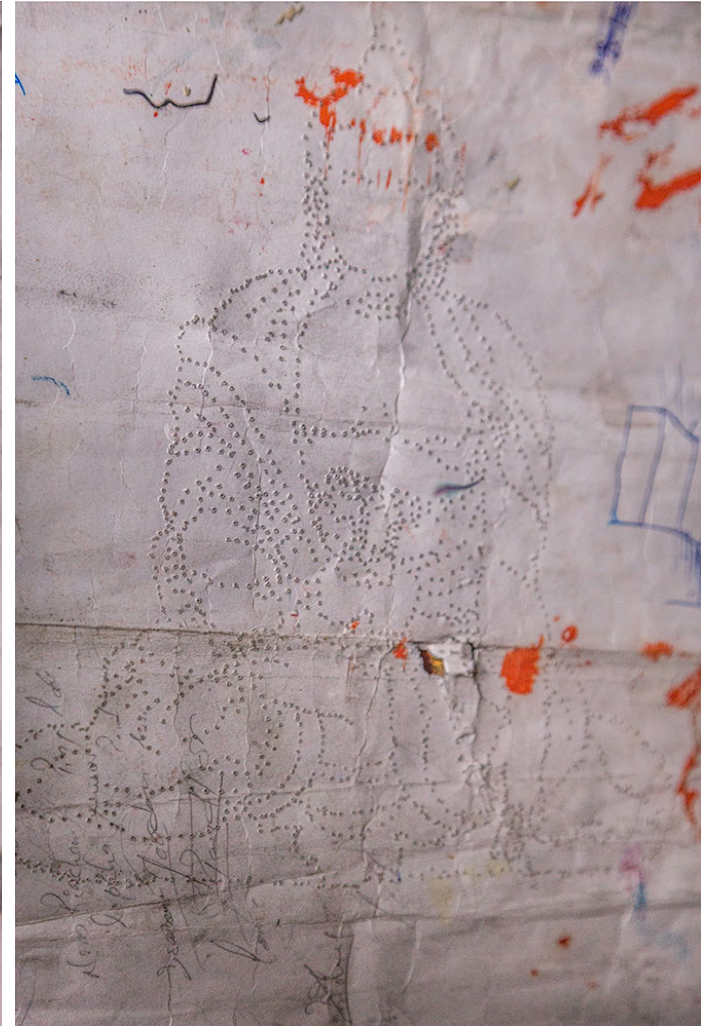
4. **Process**

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Sketching on paper.



Holes along the outline of the sketch.

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. **Process**

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Sharpening the wire by putting cut marks which gives it more friction.

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. **Process**

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Drilling machine to cut holes in wood.



Holes made by drill machine.



Cutting the wood using jue (wire).



Wood cut using wire.

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. **Process**

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Tools for carving.



Curved carving tools.



Tools with flat and angular nib.



A trainee carving the wood.

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. **Process**

5. Products

6. Contact Details



A trainee carving the wood.



A special wooden hammer is used sometimes to carve hard areas.



A wooden carving of dragon.



Painting on the carving.

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. **Process**

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Painting on the carving.

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

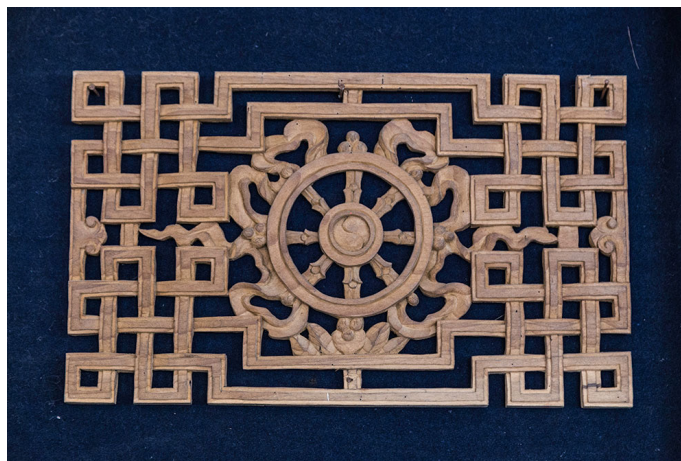
IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

Products

Wood carving is done on Choktsis (carved table), Bakchok (square table), wooden masks, decorative screens, lucky signs, altars, lamp stands and other decorative items.



1. Introduction
2. Place
3. People
4. Process
5. **Products**
6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. **Products**

6. Contact Details



Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. **Products**

6. Contact Details



Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. **Products**

6. Contact Details



Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

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

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. **Products**

6. Contact Details



Design Resource

Wood Carving - Sikkim

Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom

by

Abhey Singh

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/wood-carving-sikkim/contact-details>

Contact Details

This documentation was done by Abhey Singh, M. Des. at **IDC, IIT Bombay**.

You can get in touch with him at [abheysingh333\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:abheysingh333[at]gmail.com)

See his work at www.abheysingh.com

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

Mrs. Ganga Devi Pradhan

Director

Directorate of handicrafts and handloom

Gangtok, Sikkim

Mobile : +91-81458-89499

Email: [directordhhsikkim\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:directordhhsikkim[at]gmail.com)

Helpdesk Details:

Co-ordinator

Project e-kalpa

Industrial Design Centre

IIT Bombay,

Powai

Mumbai 400076

India

Phone: 091-22-25767820/ 7801/ 7802

Fax: 091-22-25767803

Email: [dsource.in\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:dsource.in[at]gmail.com)

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. Products

6. **Contact Details**