

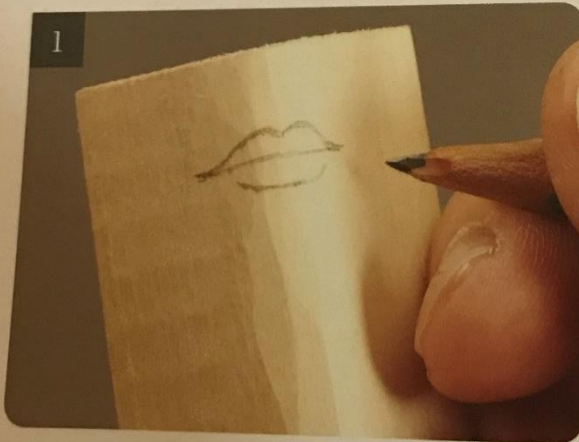
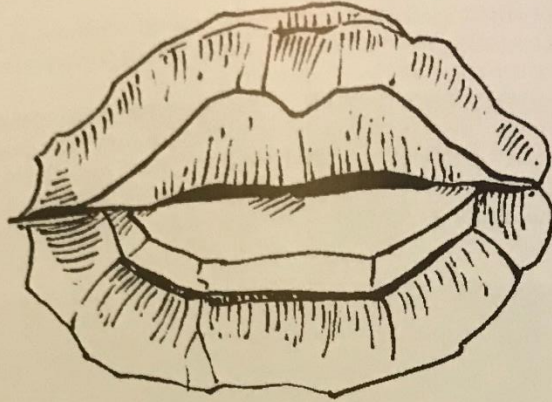
# Lips

Lips can say a lot about a person and a person's mood. Smiling lips suggest happiness; thin lips suggest anger or fear. The opening between the lips can also affect the look of the carving.

Most of the time, a woman's lips will be fuller and smoother than a man's lips. The exception is for an older woman, where the lips will end up thin. Men have all sorts of shapes of lips. Regardless of how much space there is between the lips, or if you carve a few visible teeth between the lips, the lips are carved using the same techniques.



## Woman's Lips



**1** **Prepare the blank.** Round the corner of the blank and smooth the area for the lips with a carving knife. Because women have smoother skin, the area must be smooth. Draw in the lips. The top lip is usually wider than the bottom lip.



**2** **Carve the area between the lips.** Make an angled stop cut along the area between the lips with a carving knife. The curve of the blade makes this cut curve on both sides as you press it into the rounded wood. Taper the upper lip from the top of the lip down to the center cut. Use the same technique to shape the bottom lip, tapering up to the center cut.

## Carving Lips



**Shape the corners of the lips.** Carve up alongside the bottom lip to the top lip with a 3mm veiner. Cut the chip free with the veiner or a detail knife.



**Outline the upper and lower lips.** Carve above the upper lip and under the lower lip with a 3mm veiner. The upper lip is slightly pointed and the lower lip is more rounded.



**Carve the angel's kiss.** Use a 3mm veiner to carve the slight groove between the top lip and the bottom of the nose.

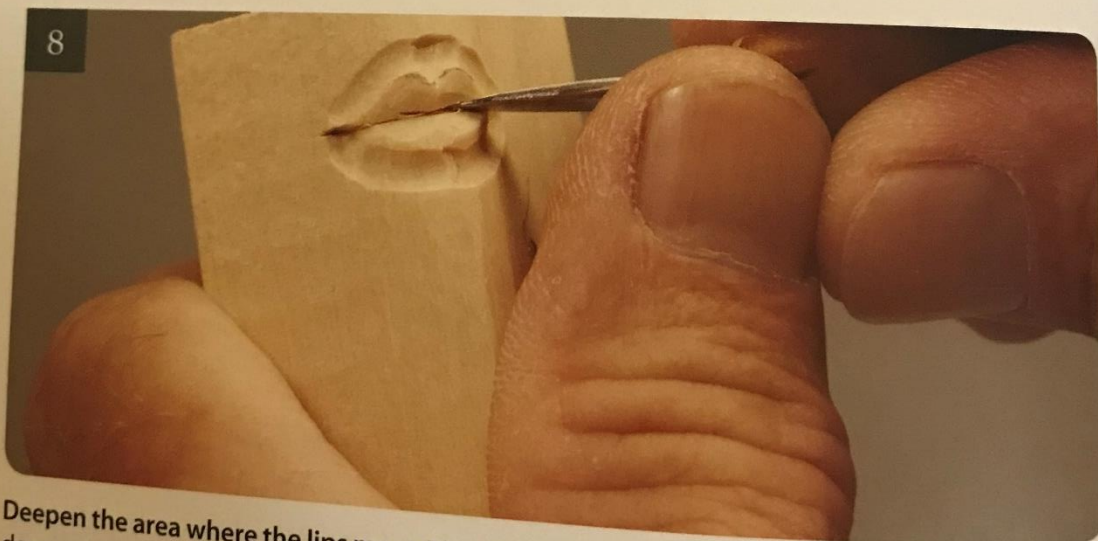


**Continue rounding the lower lip.** Use a  $\frac{3}{16}$ " skew chisel.

## Carving Lips

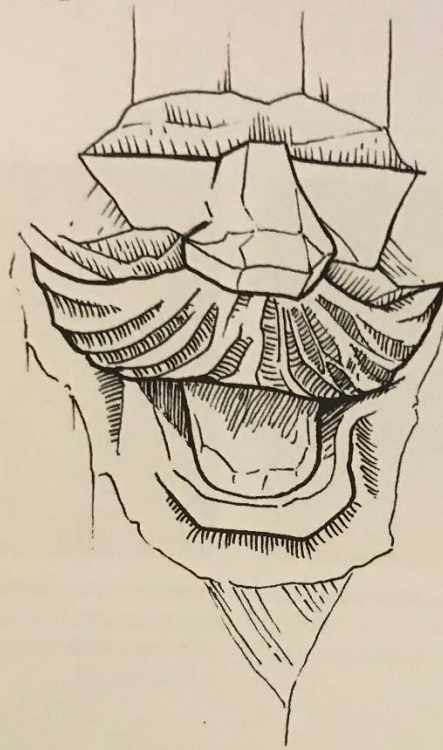


**Shape the center of the top lip.** Create the rounded pouty top lip using a carving knife.

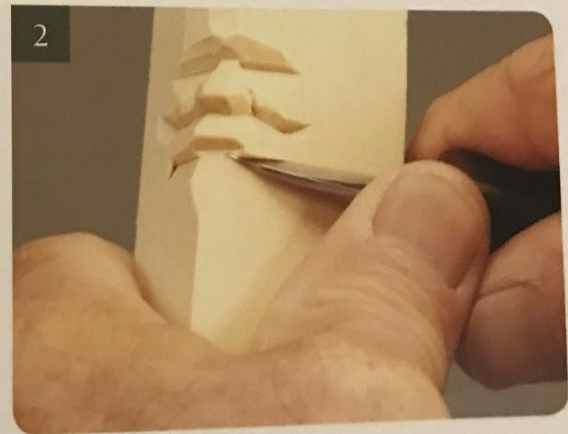


**Deepen the area where the lips meet.** This area is the deepest part of the carving. Make a deep cut at a slight angle from the top with a carving knife. Then cut up to the stop cut from the bottom to create a thin deep groove.

## Lips with Mustache



**1 Prepare the blank.** Round the corners of the blank and draw in the mustache and bottom lip. I carve in a few rough facial features to give the mustache context. Make a stop cut in the bottom center of the mustache with a carving knife.



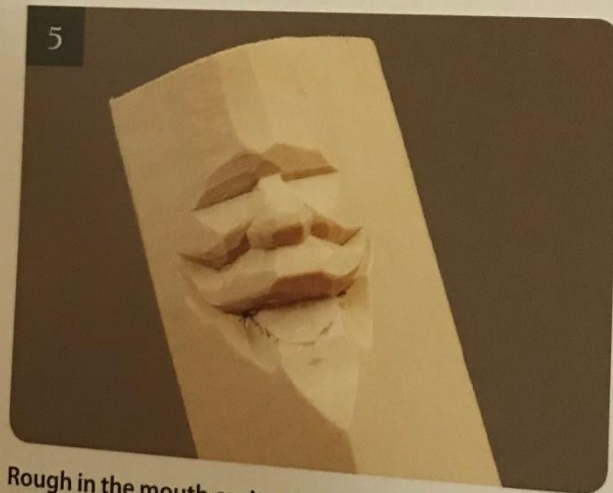
**2 Carve the bottom of the mustache.** Cut up to the stop cut. Then make a stop cut along the entire bottom edge of the mustache and cut up to the stop cut to shape the bottom of the mustache.



**Outline the edges of the mustache.** Carve along the edges of the mustache with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ " V-tool.



**Rough in the corners of the mouth.** Make a deep stop cut into the corner of the mouth with a small veiner. Cut the chip free with a carving knife. Round the mouth area with a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " #3 gouge.



**Rough in the mouth cavity.** Use a carving knife to deepen the mouth cavity area. Then draw in the corners of the mouth and sketch in the bottom lip.



**Separate the lip from the mouth.** Carve along the pencil lines with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ " V-tool to separate the lip from the mouth. Shape the outside of the lip with a 3mm #5 gouge. The lip thins as you approach the outside corner of the mouth.

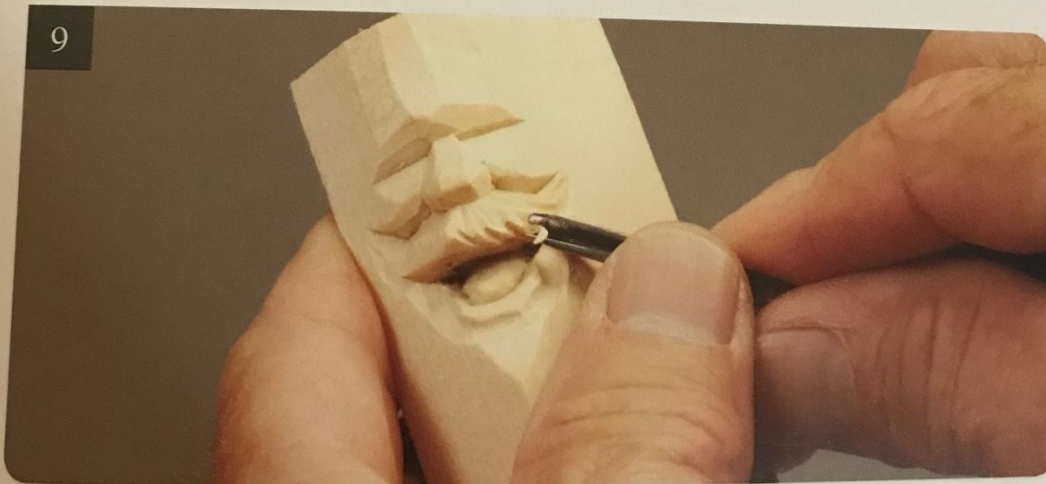
## Carving Lips



**Separate the tongue from the roof of the mouth.** Carve a deep groove at the top of the tongue so it looks as if the tongue extends down the throat. Use a detail knife.

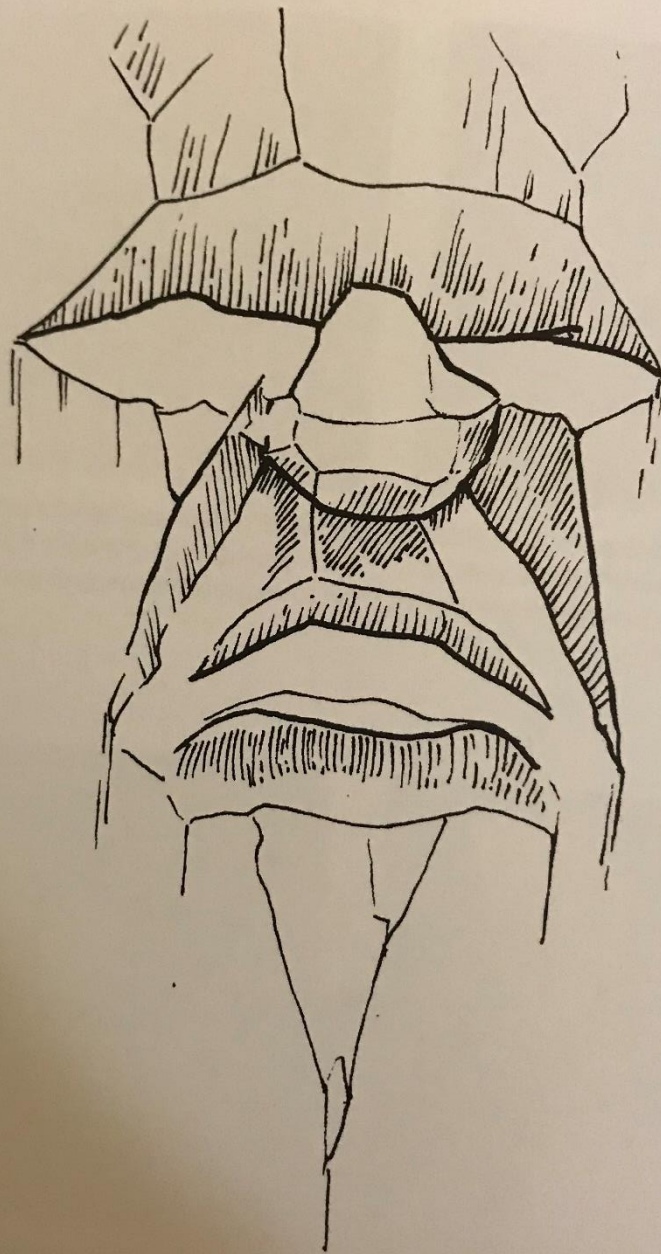


**Separate the tongue from the lower lip.** Make a stop cut between the tongue and the lower lip. Cut up to the stop cut to separate the tongue from the lip.



**Texture the mustache.** Carve a series of grooves with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ " V-tool. Rotate your wrist as you carve the grooves to make curved cuts. Carve a few grooves into the bottom of the mustache with the same tool to break up the flat surfaces. Clean out any fuzzies with a denture brush.

## Frowning Lips





## Carving Lips



**Carve the frown lines.** Rough in the nose to give the mouth context. A pouty mouth needs deep frown lines to convey the emotions. Carve deep frown lines from the corner of the nose downward. Round over the sharp corners with a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " #3 gouge.



**Shape the lips.** Make a stop cut between the lips and taper the upper lip down to the stop cut. Then taper the lower lip up to the stop cut. Make sure the lower lip sticks out. Round the upper lip with a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " #3 gouge.



**Shape the lower lip.** Carve under the lower lip with a 3mm #5 gouge to separate the lip from the area under the lip. Use the same tool to refine the shape of the lower lip. Round the lips with a skew chisel or detail knife.