

Sheila Landry Designs

Pattern by Keith Fenton

RR 1, Box 47, Meteghan, Nova Scotia, Canada B0W 2J0

Phone Number: 902-482-7174 Email: sheilalandrydesigns@gmail.com

Website Address: www.sheilalandrydesigns.com

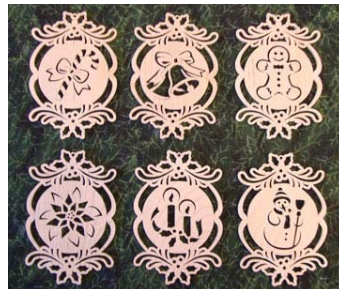
Filigree Cross Ornaments Sample Pattern



An Original Pattern With Complete Instructions

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Filigree Cross Ornament Sample Pattern

Materials and Supplies

- Tight-grained hardwood of choice 3.5" X 8.5" planed to about 3/16" to 1/4" thick for one set of ornaments. Maple was used in the example.
- Scroll saw blades – size #2/0 and #2 reverse-tooth recommended
- Temporary adhesive spray glue
- Blue painter's masking tape (2")
- Clear Packaging tape (2") (optional)
- Drill press and small bit for entry holes
- Hand-held orbital sander and various grits of sandpaper
- Mineral oil for finishing (optional)
- Spray varnish of choice (you will need shellac or lacquer if you are using mineral oil)
- Small cord of choice for hanging

Introduction

These filigree crosses can be cut as shown to make a beautiful addition to your Christmas decorations. If you feel they might be a little too daunting to cut, you can always enlarge them to where you feel comfortable and hang them on your wall or in a window as a suncatcher. They have plenty of detail and will still look great even if you enlarge them by a lot.

You could choose to use thinner hardwood, however the resulting ornaments will be quite fragile. If you want to stack cut two or more layers at once, clear packaging tape can be used around all the edges to hold your layers of wood together. If using less than 1/4" material it is highly recommended that you stack cut at least one extra set. This is recommended because such thin wood can be difficult to cut accurately on its own as it offers little resistance to the blade.

Procedure

-Make photocopies of the original patterns and keep them for future reference. Patterns may be reproduced for the purpose of making the project – not for resale purposes. Finished items that are made by hand may be sold for profit, but not mechanically manufactured. Credit to the designer is encouraged.

Preparing the Wood

-Use 100 grit sandpaper, sand both sides of your wood with your hand-held orbital sander to remove the planer marks and smooth out the wood. Graduate up to 150 grit paper. Use a soft brush attachment to vacuum all the dust from your wood.

-Place a layer of blue painters masking tape over the entire surface of the design to help prevent burning and to facilitate removal of the pattern after cutting. If you prefer to use packaging tape to prevent burning, you may find it easier to put the tape over the pattern rather than under it.

-Apply the pattern over the masking tape layer by lightly spraying the back with a misting of temporary spray adhesive. Allow the spray to tack up for a few seconds until it feels sticky like masking tape and apply the pattern to your wood pieces.

-If you are stack cutting: Use packaging tape all around the edges to attach additional layers of wood under your first layer. Cut up the work piece into comfortable sized pieces for scrolling if your board is too big to manage comfortably and re-tape newly exposed edges with packaging tape to be sure your stacked layers stay in place.

Cutting

-Use a small bit in your drill press and drill the entry holes for the interior cuts. After drilling the holes, turn over the pieces and sand the backs so that they sit perfectly flat while cutting.

-Use the 2/0 reverse-tooth scroll saw blade and cut out the designs, beginning with the interior cuts. Be sure to cut all the interior cuts before cutting the perimeters. The easier inside cuts and the perimeters can be cut with a slightly larger blade such as a #2 if you prefer.

-After cutting use a sanding block or orbital sander to carefully sand the burrs off. You can start with 150 grit paper if required and finish it off with 220 grit. Be careful not to catch an edge in the delicate fretwork areas. Use a knife or sanding stick to remove any burrs that still remain. When sanding is finished, vacuum all the dust from your wood.

Finishing

-**Optional mineral oil:** *If desired, you can coat the ornaments in mineral oil to darken them and bring out the natural wood grain. You can either brush the oil on or dip the ornaments into it. After the ornaments are coated, place them on a rack and let the oil soak in for a few minutes before wiping them thoroughly with paper towels. After you wipe off all the visible oil, leave them to dry for at least 24 hours before varnishing. They must be dry to the touch before applying varnish. When varnishing over mineral oil, you must use shellac or lacquer.*

-Spray with several light coats of a varnish of your choice, allowing ample drying time between coats. For a smoother finish, you can sand lightly by hand with 400 or 600 grit paper and clean off the dust before applying the last coat if desired. Allow the varnish to dry.

-Tie a cord of choice for hanging and enjoy!

