

Intro to Wood Burning

by [hidethecake](#) on June 6, 2008

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Intro: Intro to Wood Burning

This doesn't go into too much detail, but it will show you whether or not you will enjoy wood burning or if it isn't for you. It's a cheap way to decorate a room, and it is environmentally friendly because it doesn't require shipping and is made from natural materials such as wood. You can get a wood burning kit at Wal-Mart, Michaels, Target or any store like these, or if you're lucky you can pick one up for cheap at a flea market (make sure it's in good shape because you don't want sparks flying everywhere). I got a few pieces of wood with my kit but I bought most at Michaels. You can get small plaques at Wal-Mart and Target also. (Sunkist is also available at Wal-Mart.) Don't limit yourself to just plaques and the like. You can burn anything that's wood, such as a porch swing, a bench, a box, a carving, or a frame. Start out simple though, you don't want to stress yourself out and then get so down on yourself that you don't want to try it any more. It is tough and takes patience and time so don't rush it but it is worth it when you see it every day and know that you put your soul into it unlike if you just went to the store and bought a painting.

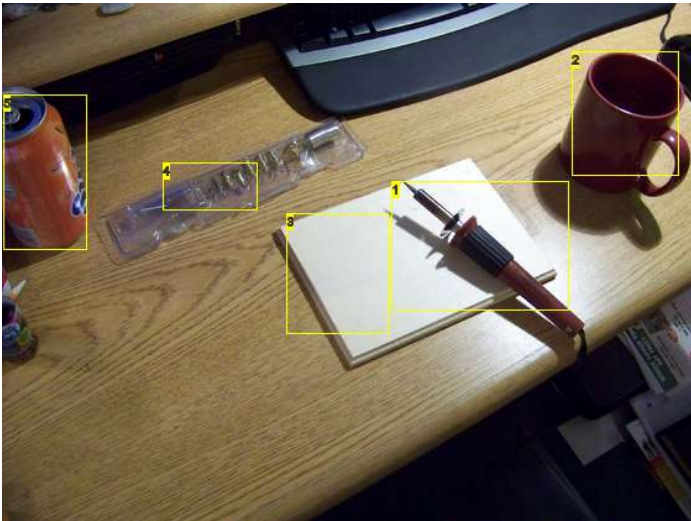


Image Notes

1. wood burner
2. wood burner holder (coffee cup)
3. wood plaque
4. a set of wood burning tips
5. human fuel (sunkist)

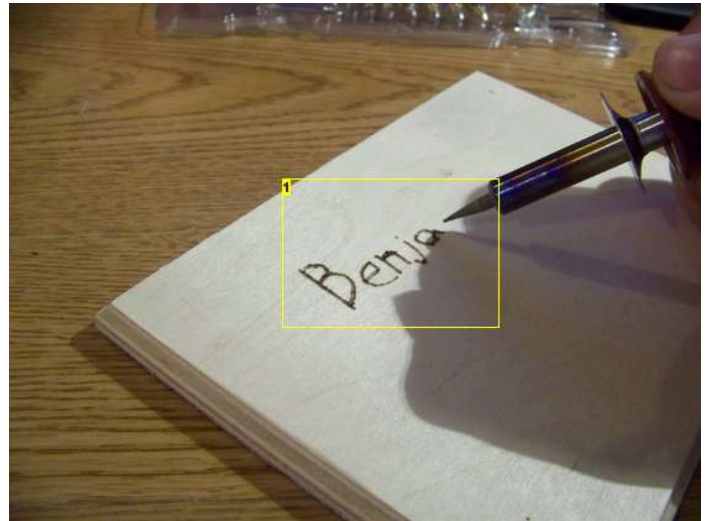


Image Notes

1. add the words first (if adding any)





Image Notes
1. wood burning
2. object being observed

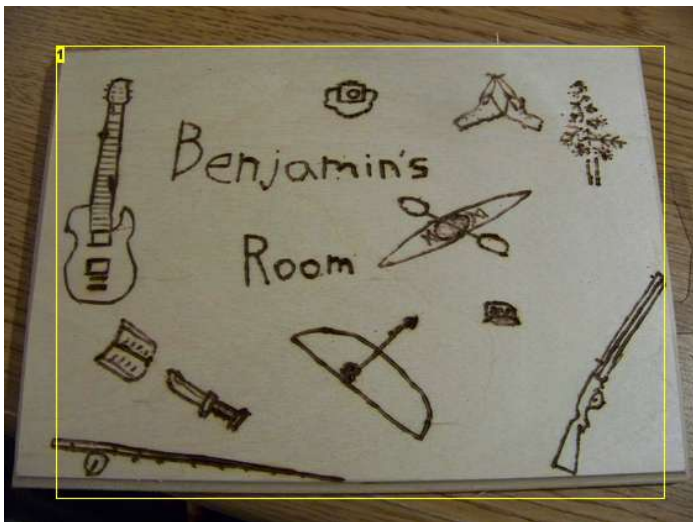


Image Notes
1. finished plaque

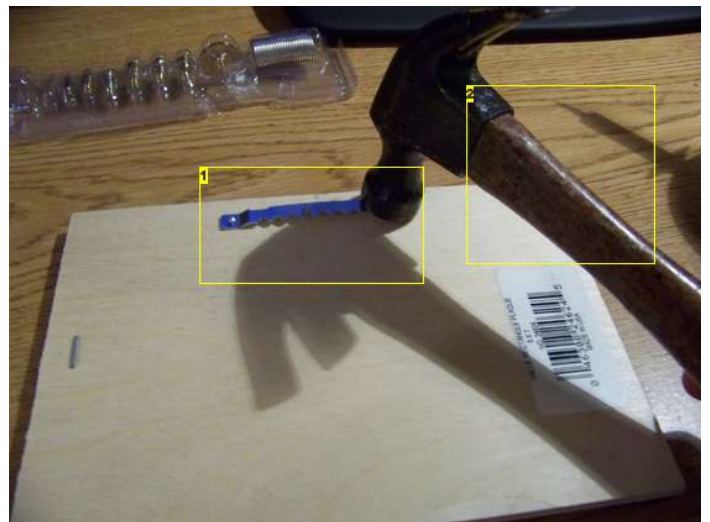


Image Notes
1. preparing for being hung up
2. hammer



Image Notes

- 1. fountain i made today thanks to instructables
- 2. hung plaque

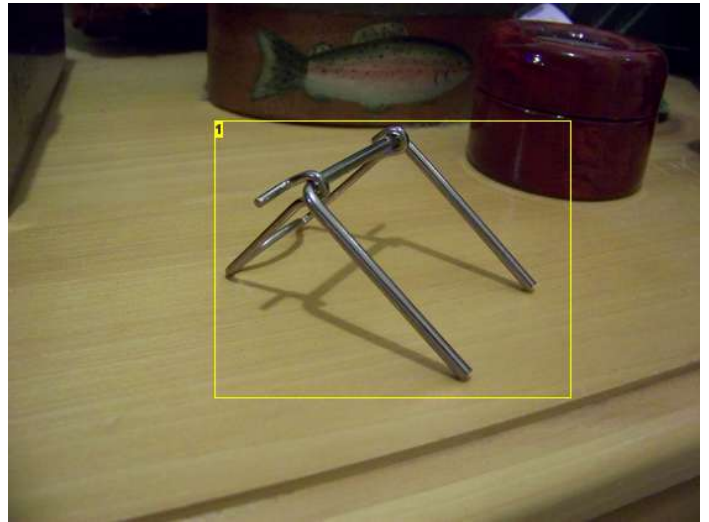


Image Notes

- 1. prop



Image Notes

- 1. propped up wood burning



Image Notes

- 1. my most recent wood burning (other than the plaque i used for the instructable) it required a few different tips, you will need a set if you want to make one this good or better.

step 1: Gathering supplies

for a simple wood burning, you will need a wood burner, a tip (preferably a multi-tip for beginners), a peice of wood that you want to engrave/burn, and a safe surface to set the burner down on while cooling. this is often overlooked and results in fire damage (don't be an idiot and burn down the neighborhood). For this i used a ceramic coffee cup.

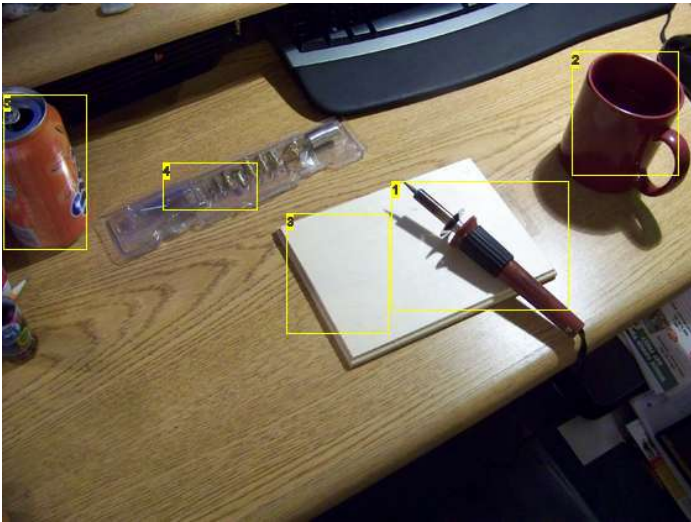


Image Notes

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step 2: The Burning

you need to have an idea picked out before you start wood burning. woodburning, like making a sculpture, is unforgiving. if you mess up you have to start over or cover it up. wood burning requires a steady hand and patience. you can't rush it, some more complex wood burnings take days on end to complete. if you don't have either of these skills, wood burning will not work out for you.

start with the words (if you want it to have any). then add in pictures or a background here are two of the more simple ones i have done.

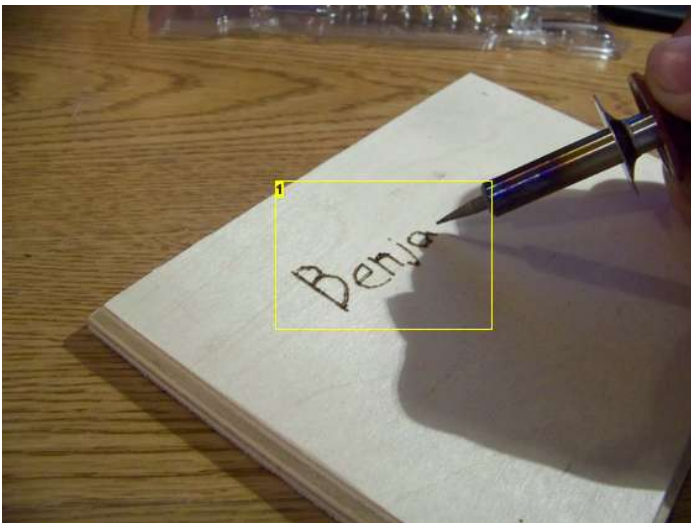


Image Notes

1. add the words first (if adding any)

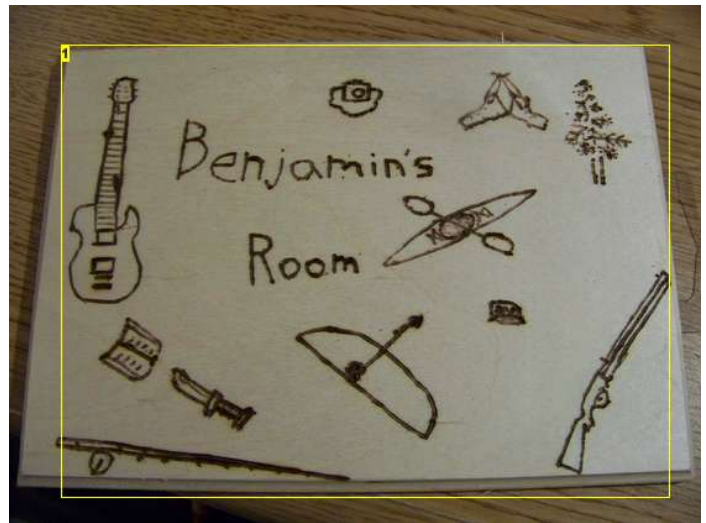


Image Notes

1. finished plaque



step 3: The Burning: step 2

you want to draw out before hand what you will be burning because, as i said, you can't mess up. if you don't have much faith in yourself you can draw exactly how you want it to look and just place the picture over the wood and poke in dots. then its just a matter of connecting the dots. for your first wood burning i would suggest this. if its an object that is in front of you and not drawn, it helps to have it in front of you.



Image Notes

1. wood burning
2. object being observed

step 4: finished

its hard to tell people what to do because wood burning is an art that you have to create yourself. when you are done either hang up the wood burning or prop it up. then sit back and enjoy your homemade artwork. here are some pictures of a few of other wood burnings.



Image Notes

1. preparing for being hung up
2. hammer



Image Notes

1. fountain i made today thanks to instructables
2. hung plaque

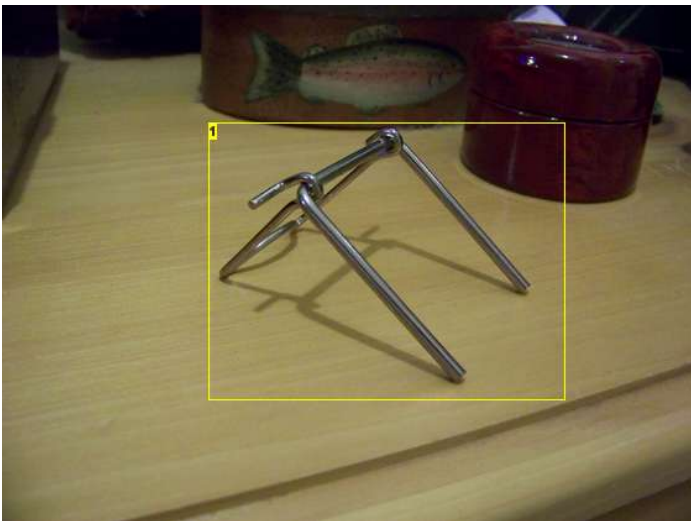


Image Notes

1. prop

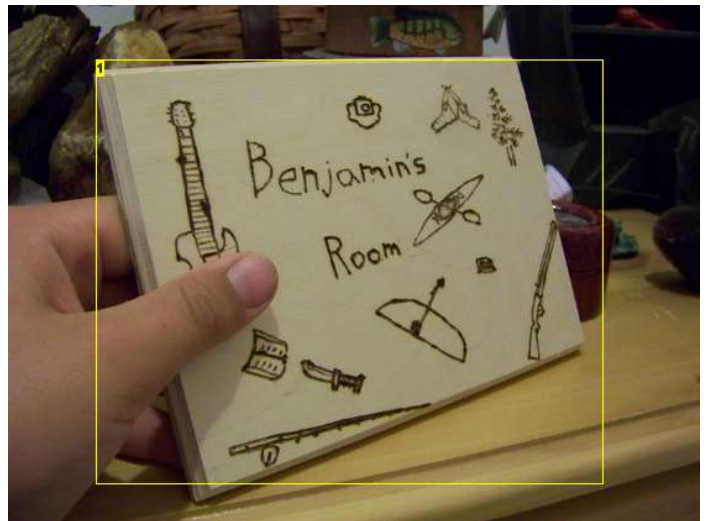


Image Notes

1. propped up wood burning



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Related Instructables



Pyrography: Burning Pictures into Wood by Goodhart



Hanging Incense Burner by Aar00n3y



All-Natural Incense Burner by Firebert010



Make professional gifts from recycled materials with a lazer burner by raven_gangerel



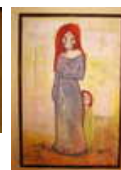
Apple Gourd Head by KathrynJacoby



Making use of blank Cd/dvd roms by paperclip32



Making Your Own Charcoal Powder by nebraska



How to Build a Picture Frame by canida

Comments

[20 comments](#) [Add Comment](#)



jakesllama says:

i wood burn my carvings with a sunny day and a magnifling glass inexpensive and it works

Jun 19, 2009. 8:37 AM [REPLY](#)



Keira_Yagami says:

how much would a good wood burner from Wal-mart cost approx?

Feb 11, 2009. 11:11 AM [REPLY](#)



PyroMaster007 says:

fifteen bucks at the most.

Jun 15, 2009. 11:12 AM [REPLY](#)



wolf555hound says:

I also think I have the same exact one, and I'd like to know..... could it be used as a soldering iron?

Feb 28, 2009. 10:29 PM [REPLY](#)



wolf555hound says:

Also, my dad made a wood burned picture, it was a detective hold a dagger behind a cloak. Its amazing.

Feb 28, 2009. 10:30 PM [REPLY](#)



mg0930mg says:

Do you have a picture? That sounds cool.

Apr 12, 2009. 6:40 AM [REPLY](#)



wolf555hound says:

yes i do! I took 2 pics as soon as I read this.

Apr 12, 2009. 4:26 PM [REPLY](#)



mg0930mg says:

That's really cool. Thanks for taking pictures.

Apr 12, 2009. 5:11 PM [REPLY](#)



wolf555hound says:
no problem, ive been wanting a few pics on my comp any ways.

Apr 12, 2009. 7:55 PM [REPLY](#)



wolf555hound says:
OK, I have found out you CAN use this as a soldering iron. Just hold it there for a bit. WOOT this is gunna really help me.

Feb 28, 2009. 11:09 PM [REPLY](#)



mg0930mg says:
This will destroy your wood burner, though...

Apr 12, 2009. 6:40 AM [REPLY](#)



wolf555hound says:
lol, dont worry, i got a soldering iron like 1 week after posting that comment.

Apr 12, 2009. 4:24 PM [REPLY](#)



Tazo says:
What's the difference between a wood burner and a soldering iron? they look pretty much alike to me

Jan 28, 2009. 9:09 PM [REPLY](#)



hidethecake says:
A soldering iron would work i guess, but with a wood burner you can get specialized tips and it was made to burn wood, and a soldering iron just isn't made for that

Feb 4, 2009. 5:56 PM [REPLY](#)



steed1172 says:
I have the same one too!!.....only.. i broke one of the tips inside :(drilled it out and put another tip in...(its pretty much permanent now)

Jan 27, 2009. 6:47 PM [REPLY](#)



assassin10114 says:
i have the exact same wood burner, although i only have had it for 2 days

Oct 18, 2008. 11:57 PM [REPLY](#)



ilovetea says:
Why not add:
Draw out design in pencil first, then trace with tool
Just my two cents.

Jul 12, 2008. 7:29 PM [REPLY](#)



thewoodcarver says:
I remember as a kid we would do family projects and wood burning one was onemaybe add in where you got your plaques (Michaels maybe online Walnut Hollow) and that they can get a starter wood burning tool at most \$1 store or flea markets with different tips.....Very Nice Workpatterns can be found in books they sell or like i do for my carving just see something you like and make itI burn a bit for some of my carvings so know this is not easy ...Keep up the good work

Jun 7, 2008. 7:57 AM [REPLY](#)



i make shooting things says:
Really good job on the God Bless America and the fishing one.

Jun 7, 2008. 3:36 AM [REPLY](#)



John Smith says:
nice.

Jun 6, 2008. 9:20 PM [REPLY](#)