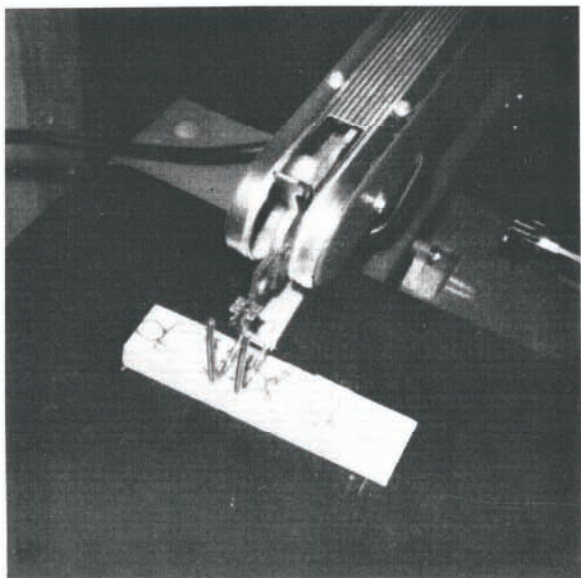


(Superintendent of Plans Note: The following is from the May-June 1978 LCW and was referred to in the clown article and is included for clarification.)

Nothing is easier than carving in any scale, once you have learned a few simple tricks. Hopefully most of the secrets will be revealed in three simple pictures:



(1) With a Sharpie marking pen or pencil roughly draw the shadow shape of man, woman, child, dog etc. on stock wood appropriate to your own scale. This can be lath, pieces of orange crate, or any scrap of soft wood such as pine. Don't draw details -- only the rough outline, as if it were a shadow. These are then cut with a coping saw, or scroll saw, or hack saw, or whittled by hand. When I am doing many pieces, I use a Dremel hobby saw.



(3) When the first two steps are finished, your figure is ready for drawing and painting. First draw the details with a razor tip drawing pen, or a round toothpick dipped in black acrylic paint. Details include the eyes, hairline, ears, mouth, neck, outlines of the clothes. Only draw the details mentioned -- no fingers or other fine details that are never seen even with a closeup camera! The painting is simple. I like acrylics -- or very often I use opaque water colors, such as illustrated. These are easiest to use.



(2) The next step is simply to round out or champfer, file, or sand, or whittle, or use a Dremel moto tool with standing drum as illustrated. Again, no details!

If all of this really sounds too easy, it is! The toughest job in woodcarving or whittling is getting over the fear of just getting started. The second hardest job is learning not to be too critical of your first attempts. After years of model building and carving each piece is simpler and with less and less detail. Every mistake adds more personality and charm to the finished show.

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Carved Spectators and Clowns for Your Show

DATE: None	SCALE: None	SCANNED & REVISED: 05/08/2008	Pg 1 of 2
Circus Model Builders			DRAWING NUMBER
Drawn By Henry D. Magnin			#0275

If you have favorite clowns you would like to have appear in your own model circus it is easy to arrange. Few parts of my own model circus give me as much continuing joy as the clowns in my specs, the walk-arounds, the carpet clowns, clown alley, and all of the beautiful whimsical acts that have come down through the ages. Refer to page one for the simple basic technique of shadow form cut-out, sanding or whittling, then simple painting in of details. These pictures illustrate how easy it is to “clone” clowns by the same methods.

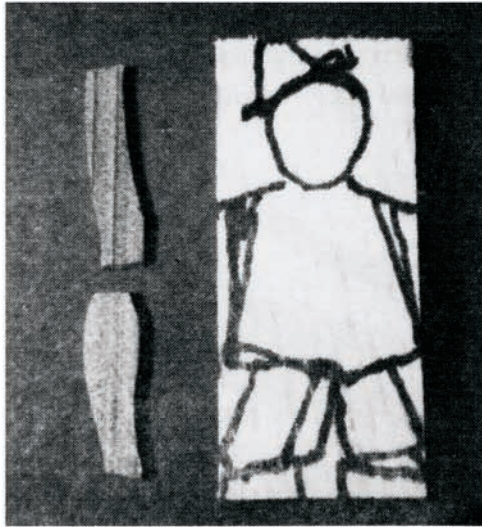


Figure 1 shows the head, torso and legs in one piece. Two little scraps for arms.



Figure 2 illustrates the shadow form cut made with a coping saw.

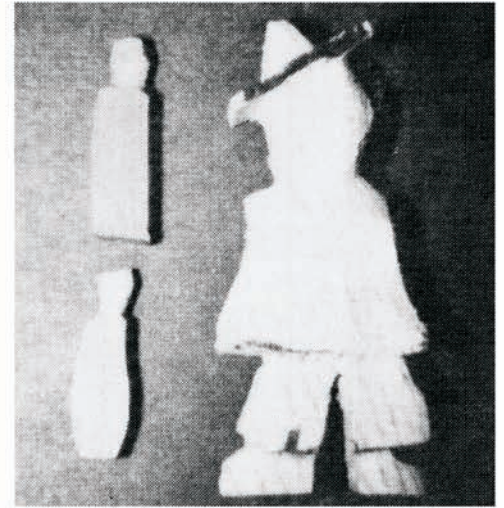


Figure 4 The brim of the hat is rounded and the arms sanded round. Arms are now glued on to the body.



Figure 3 The rough round shape of the head and cap -- indent the chest and neck under the chin. Indent the pants, roughly rounding the legs. Indent the ankles between the pants and bottom and the tops of shoes. Round the ends of the arms and indent to form hands that begin to look like fists.



Figure 5 Prime the roughly sanded figure with white gesso and mount on a piece of dowel for easy handling and painting. The details are painted on very crudely with opaque water colors. Fine outlines are drawn with black chiselpointed pen or with black acrylic paint using a pointed round toothpick for a brush.

The entire process should not take you more than two hours, even the very first time. Use your favorite photos or circus programs or posters for the models of the clowns you want.

Carved Spectators and Clowns for Your Show

Pg 2 of 2

SCALE: None

SCANNED & REVISED:
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