

MODULE – 5

Other Mediums
of Painting



Notes



11

PAINTING ON WOOD

Dear learner, in the previous lesson you learned about the Painting on Clay. In this lesson, you will learn about Painting on Wood. The human race has been utilizing various wood products from the ancient period. Among the priorities of materials made of wood come first. Artisans in every corner of the world prepare various materials and household items out of various types of wood. In almost every village, district and state of our country, one finds a number of persons involved in the wood-work activities whom the people of India call carpenters. Carpenters take care of preparing various items as per the needs of the people of the society.

In India, a number of handicraft items are produced every day. One finds various types of artisans all over the country. Earlier, they worked under the patronage of various Kings, Maharajas and Zamindars.



OBJECTIVES

After studying this lesson, you will be able to:

- prepare various items in wood;
- locate the areas of India famous for wood crafts;
- identify the trees which provide the right kind of wood for this craft;
- name some utility items of wood;
- paint the wooden objects.

11.1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

First, you need to understand the general description of the wood painting. One can come across an idol carved out of one piece of wood, a temple completely

made out of wood, and a palace made of wood in some states of India. In Kerala, one can see a whole temple made out of wood. In Odisha, the trinity Lord Jagannath, Lord Sudarsan Balabhadra and Subhadra are carved out of wood collected from neem tree. Each year the Lords visit their birthplace, Mausima Mandir, in three huge chariots made of wood. The traditional painters of Puri paint these chariots beautifully for the ceremonial Yatra every year. These chariots remain almost more than 45 feet high. Besides the carpenters cum-wood-painter beautifully paint various household and decorative items of people like wooden doors, chairs, Sinduks, Gods' palanquins, Simhasan (ceremonial thrones), Palang (bed) etc. At present artisans and wood painters of various states have developed a good market for handicraft items made out of wood by producing beautifully etched out decorative items for homes. Artisans of Punjab, Rajasthan, Odisha, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Kerala remain the frontrunner in this field. Artisans of these states attend various Handicraft Exhibitions organised by various government and non-government organisations in the country, and sell their products. One can see the handicrafts of all the Indian states in the form of toys, lampstand wall hangings, and other decorative items in famous exhibitions like Surajkund Mela of Haryana, Delhi Hat of Delhi, Craft Museum of Pragati Maidan in Delhi etc., around the year and at other places in India.

Woodcraft is seen in three varieties. Firstly, general household items like wooden bed, table, chair, bench, palna etc. Carpenters colour or polish it as per the demand of the customer. Secondly, large decorative items like small boxes (cash or jewellery box), various idols of gods and goddesses, dolls, animals like horses and elephants, flower vases, incense vases, Vyasasan (for reading scriptures like the Gita) etc. Finally, there are typical and traditional items carved and painted by the artisans. For example, Pidha (for sitting on the ground), Baitha (to keep oil lamps), Sindur Farua (used by women for vermilion), Belna pedi and kathi (to make roti or chapati), typical wooden Jewellery Box, Sinduk, etc. Students can now purchase ready-to-use Pencil Boxes, and Pen stands, Puzzle Boxes and Alphabets carved and painted by woodcraft experts from the market. These items would undoubtedly attract you as they would be simply shining.

11.2 TRADITIONAL MOTIFS OF WOOD PAINTING

Let us recognise different kinds of motifs used by artists to paint wooden objects. These are some of these motifs.

1. This is a stylised form of a deer with some ornamentation on the neck and back.
2. This is a motif of an imaginary form of a bird.
3. A typical stylised form of an elephant, which is very popular in Indian art.
4. The motif of a mango is very common in Indian art. It is considered a symbol of fertility.



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Painting on Wood



Deer



Bird



Elephant



Mango



Another type of Mango



Circles with leaf



Human eye



Human lip



Human face



Crown



Scorpion



Flower design



Another flower design

Fig. 11.1

5. Circles with leaf motifs are very often used by these painters.
6. Human face and its different parts e.g., eyes, eyebrows and lips also enhance the beauty of an art work as motif.
7. Crowns of the deities are ornamented with geometrical motifs.
8. Scorpion is a zodiac sign and significantly is used as a motif.
9. Flowers are the most preferred motifs in any art form in India

11.3 MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR PAINTING ON WOOD

You could have drawn various art forms over drawing paper and could have painted them neatly. But painting on wood is a little different. It will not give the same look if we paint something on wood using the colour we use on paper. For wood painting an enamel paint and fabric colour are available in the market. You can obtain it and do the painting. So we will name this type of painting as “Painting Wood”.

Collection of Woodcraft Items

You can choose and purchase some wooden items from various exhibitions or Melas of your localities. Otherwise, you can order some of the items from local carpenters or artisans.

Choosing other Items

Colour: We know when we paint on a sheet of paper we use poster colour, crayon colour, pastel colour and water colour, but we can not paint woodcraft with this. Before painting on wood, we must give one to two coat, of primer colour. Primer is needed because it prevents wood from soaking the main colour with the help of which we paint various items on the wood. We can purchase primer colour, from the market.

When you want to create a mixed colour, you can mix two colours like this-Pink:
White + Red

Gray : White + Black

Orange : Yellow + Red

Sky Blue : White + Blue

Brown : Red + Black + Yellow

Varnish Coat

If you paint the wood in an enamel colour, you need not add a varnish coat.

Brushes to Paint

To paint on wood you can use the same brush you use for painting on paper. But you must remember that while painting with enamel colour, you should not keep water somewhere near the painting place. That will create a problem with the enamel colour. When you want to make the colour thinner, you can use turpentine oil. While choosing brush, you must keep the number of the brush in mind. You are advised to purchase four brushes of No.6, No.4, No.2 and No.1. First, you give a coat of primer using a flat half-inch brush and leave it for sometime to dry.

- Cut six pieces of plywood in a round shape to bring out six water-glass covers. The ply must be 6 mm thick and the diameter must be within 3 inches.
- Collect two butterfly shapes from a carpenter. The size must remain within two and half-inches to one and a half inches.
- Keep a pencil box with a length of 8 inches, a height of 2 inches and a width of 2 inches to keep a pencil, pen and other items for the wood painting.



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- Collect rectangular wooden letters and paint the shape of various alphabets and numbers. You must have 26 cubes of wood measuring 8 cm into 4 cm. To paint numbers from 1 to 10 wooden cubes, you must collect 9 wooden cubes. These letters could be painted on 6 mm ply or thin wooden plank.

11.4 TRADITIONAL METHOD OF WOOD PAINTING

You have learnt traditional motifs used in wood painting. Now you will learn the traditional method of wood painting. Wooden items look attractive when they are painted and polished neatly. If not painted properly, they will not attract you. So are you interested painting your wooden dolls or other items? Then collect the ingredients needed for the painting. Various kinds of wooden toys are found in different parts of India. viz Odisha, Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, etc. You can find various toys carved out of wood like monkey climbing a pole and small chariots. These toys attract young children. In Saharanpur of Uttar Pradesh, one can also find beautiful wooden items without applying any colour. One can find wooden masks of various forms in both Odisha and Himanchal Pradesh. They are painted masks, and are used in Ramalilla of Odisha.

Toys are generally carved out of Gambhari, Paladhua, Amba (Mango), Limba (Nim), Kuruma, Panasa, Sishu, Asana, Katranga etc.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE 1

Now let us learn to paint a Wooden Tile.

First step: We choose a wooden tile to paint and decorate the tile.

Second step: We paint the base of the tile using yellow ochre colour by adding few drops of fevicol in it and letting it dry.



Fig. 11.2

Third Step: Then, we will draw the artwork of the floral design on it with a pencil.



Fig. 11.3

Fourth step: We start adding a light tone of colours the leaves and petals of the design with given purple and yellow colour. Later, we add a dark tone to make our artwork more beautiful.



Fig. 11.4

Finally, when our artwork is complete, we will add a coat of varnish to it to give it a lasting effect.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE 2

Now you will learn how to paint a Wooden Box.

First step: Choose a box of cuboid shape. Then use yellow colour on all the sides as shown in the figure.



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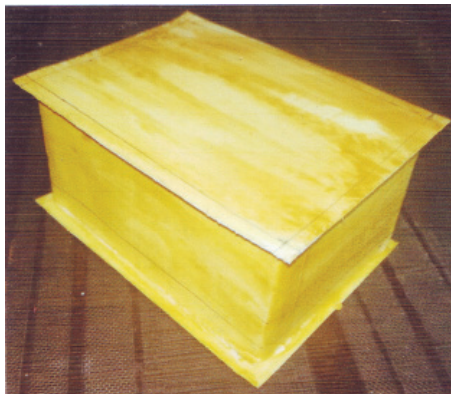


Fig. 11.5

Second step: Let it dry, and after that, paint the border with blue colour on the top and below the box.

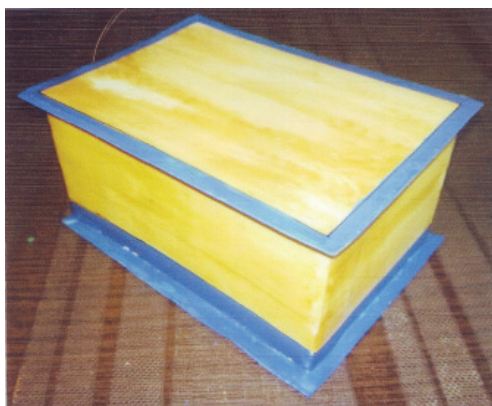


Fig. 11.6

Third step: Make a design on all the 5 sides of the box. Draw designs with the help of a pencil and fill the sepals and petals of the floral design with green colour on all sides of the box.



Fig. 11.7

Fourth step: Then, we start outlining the design using black colour, and put lines on a blue border. At last, we put light and shades in the designs.



Fig. 11.8

You can paint other items like butterflies, birds, leaves etc.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE 3

In this exercise, you are going to paint a Wooden Mask.

Step 1: Make a pencil drawing of the mask with some details on the crown and face.



Fig. 11.9

Step 2: Colour the face green. The eyes and lips are left without colour. Use green on the lower circular part of the crown.



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Fig. 11.10

Step 3: Use red colour on three-stripe crown areas and the finial part. Leave the five dots white along with the teardrop motif on the finial. The second horizontal stripe from the top of the crown should be coloured green. Use orange colour on the outer part of the circle in the crown and the other two strips on it. Put white dots on the first horizontal orange stripe.

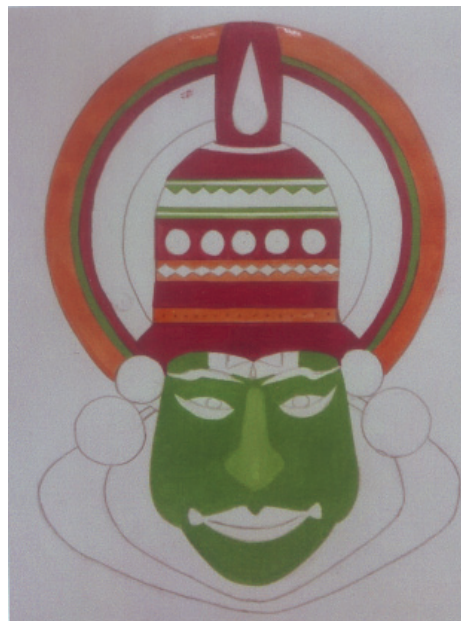


Fig. 11.11

Step 4: Put red colour on the lips and two ear tops on the two sides of the face.



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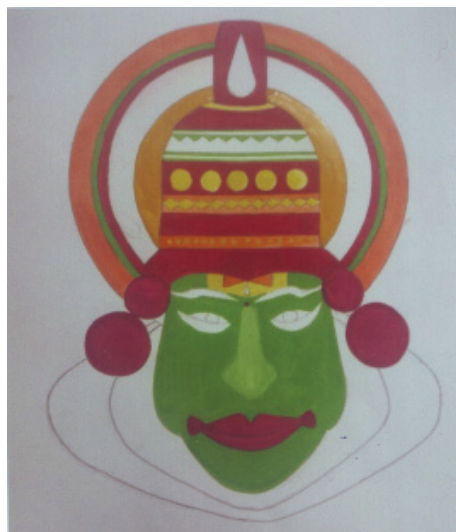


Fig. 11.12

Step 5: Finish it with black outlines on eyes, eyebrows etc.

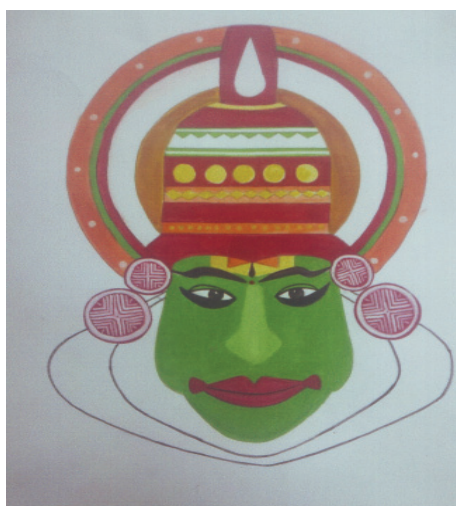


Fig. 11.13

Butterfly: It could be done as per the cubes. At first, add primer to the butterfly, then leave it to dry. After that, put colours in the brush as shown in the pictures.

Varnishing: If you want to put Varnish on the woodcraft, then take a flat brush and put Varnish around the whole craft after the paintings are complete and dry. You must do it cautiously and slowly not to create any harm to the paintings.

You can put a coat of Varnish on the acrylic paints too. Varnish makes the painting look shiny and protects the paintings from water.

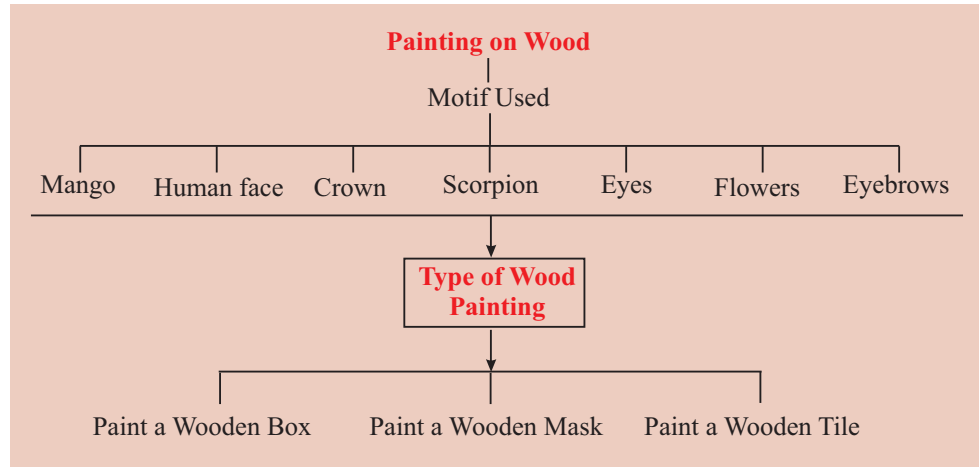
Note: After work, wash the brush in Turpentine Oil or Kerosene. Wipe it entirely and then put it back for future use.



Notes



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Which brush do you need to paint on woodcraft of smaller size, and how do you paint?
2. Which must be applied on the woodcraft before painting it? Explain.
3. Why should we use a coat of Varnish after the painting is complete?
4. What have you learnt about painting on wood?