

Holiday Patterns

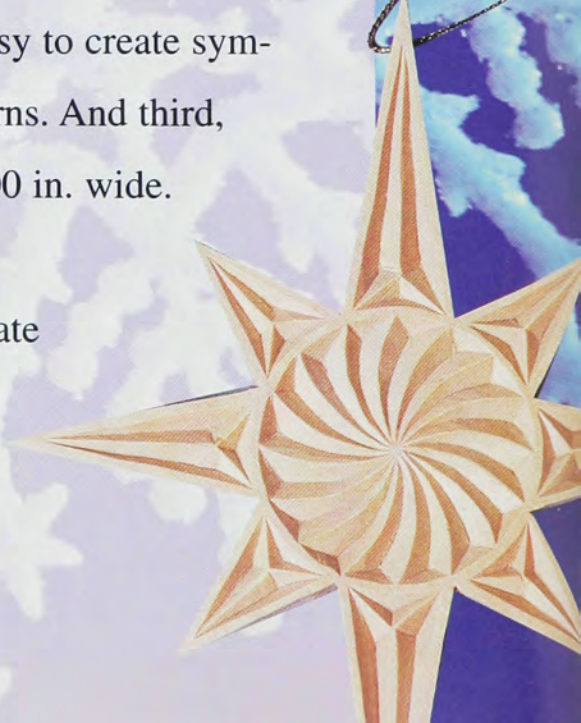
FOR CHIP CARVERS

By Roger Nancoz, Photography by Roger Schroeder

Roger Nancoz is a full-time chip carver and instructor. He lives in North Babylon, New York. Roger Schroeder is Managing Editor at Wood Carving Illustrated.

All of my patterns are drawn using CorelDRAW 8. The advantages of computer-generated designs are several. For one, I can eliminate the need for mechanical aids when drawing a pattern. For another, it is very easy to create symmetrical or repetitive patterns. And third, the computer makes very fine lines— $3/1000$ in. wide.

These make for more precise chip carving. Although I create a wide variety of designs for plates, boxes, and special occasions such as anniversaries, my holiday ornaments are especially popular.




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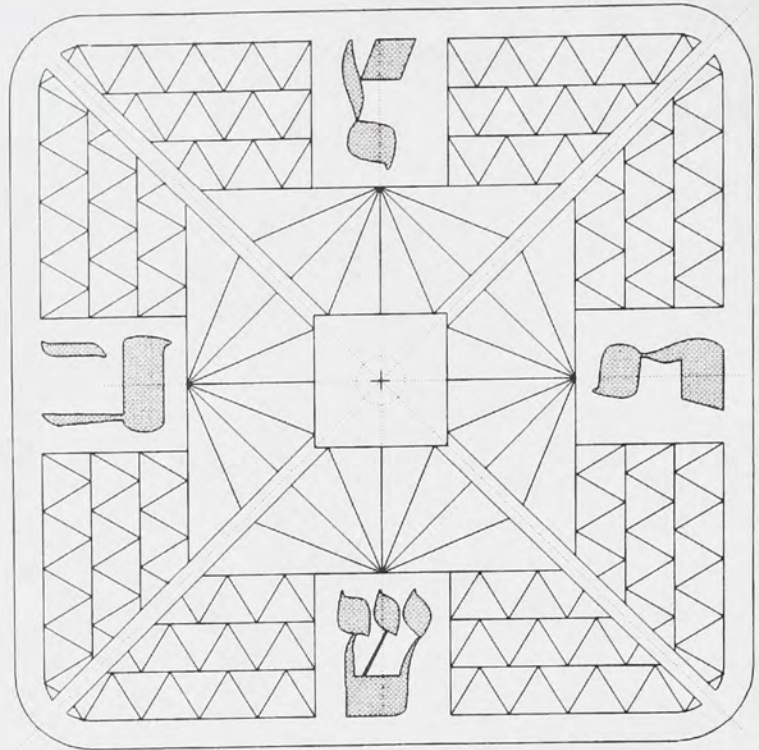
Chanukah Menorah

I designed the Chanukah menorah for my Jewish friends. The menorah is a good choice because of its clean lines. One of the two patterns has the shalom in Hebrew letters, the other uses the anglicized spelling.



The Dreidel

The dreidel, used during the Chanukah Festival, is a four-sided toy that spins like a top. Each side has a Hebrew letter. The pattern for my flat dreidel uses geometric designs and the four letters.



The Snowflake

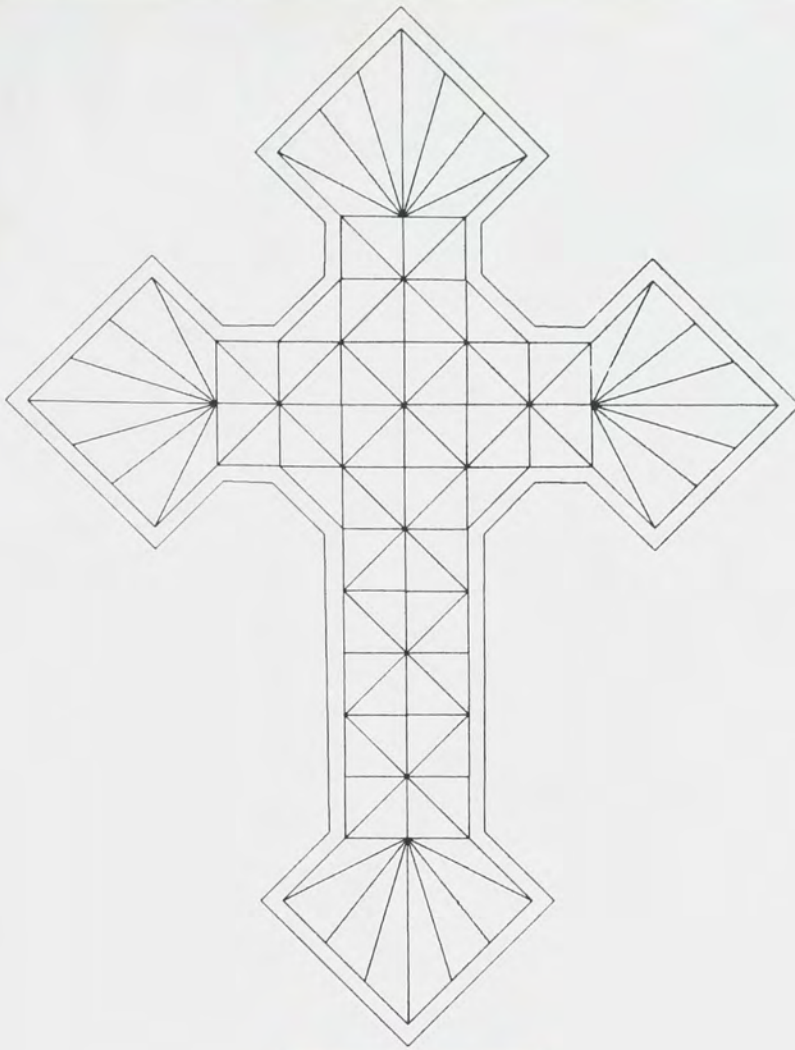
The snowflake is a pleasing design for the holiday season and a simple one for a chip carver (the snowflake project is featured in issue no. 3, Spring/Summer 1998 of WCI).



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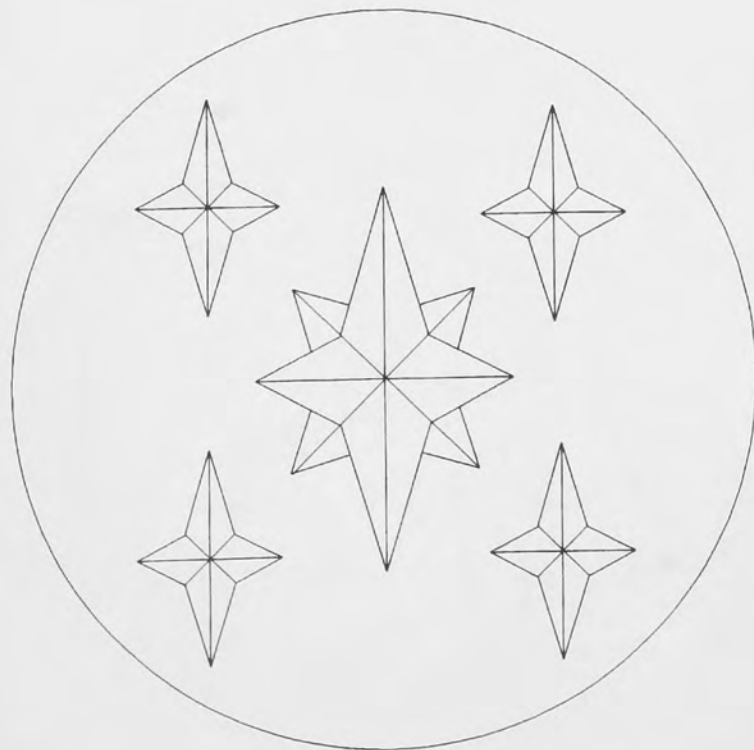
Celtic Cross

My interpretation of the celtic cross is that the spirit of Christ radiates from the ends.



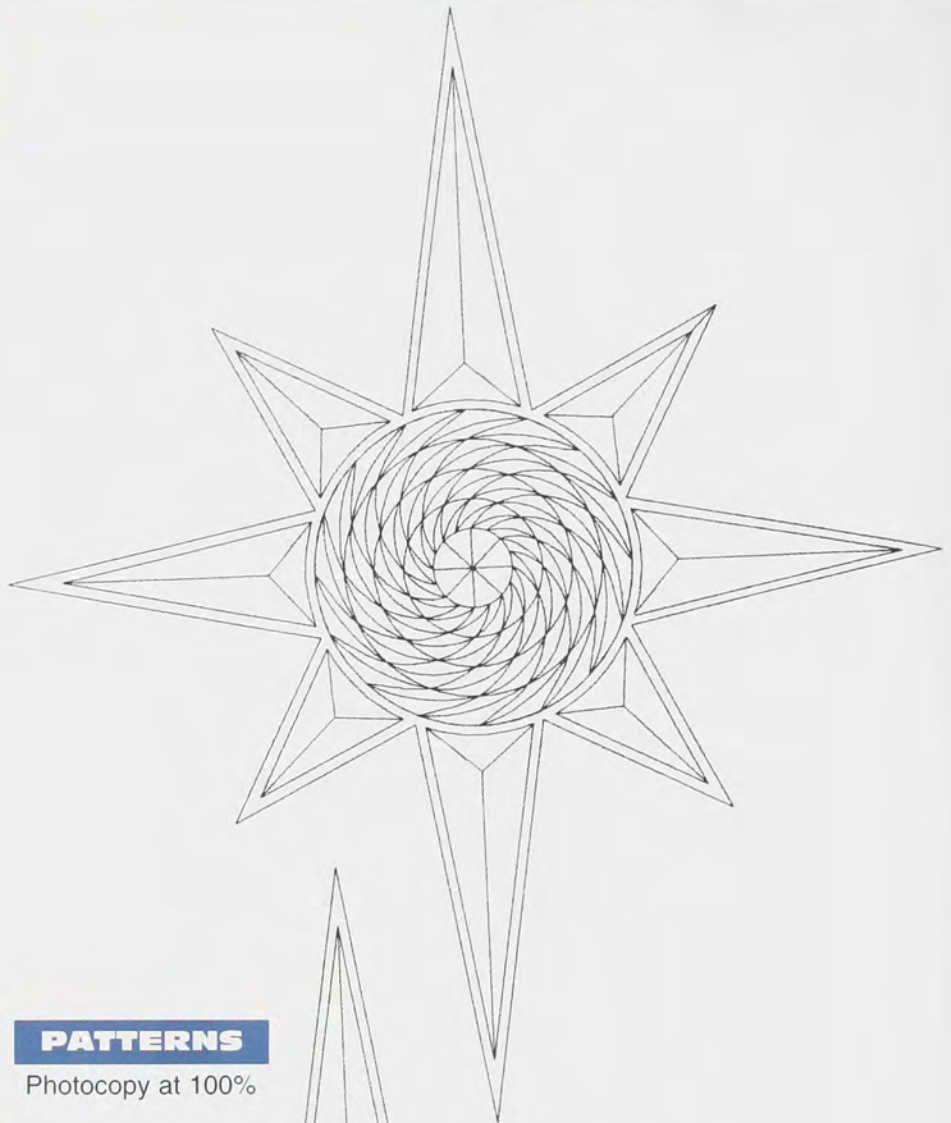
Star of Bethlehem

Four small stars surround the Star of Bethlehem. The blue color is popular with my customers. To prepare the wood for coloring, I first sand it with 400-grit paper. I then seal it with a spray lacquer. The last step is spraying the sealed surface with Krylon® paint. I do wait at least four days for the paint to cure before I apply the pattern with a rubber cement and cut through the cemented paper. After carving and shaping, the pattern is removed and the cement easily rubs off.



Eight-Pointed Star

The eight-pointed star has an unusual geometric pattern in its center. Although the chips are small, a sharp knife and fine lines make this one easier to carve than it appears.



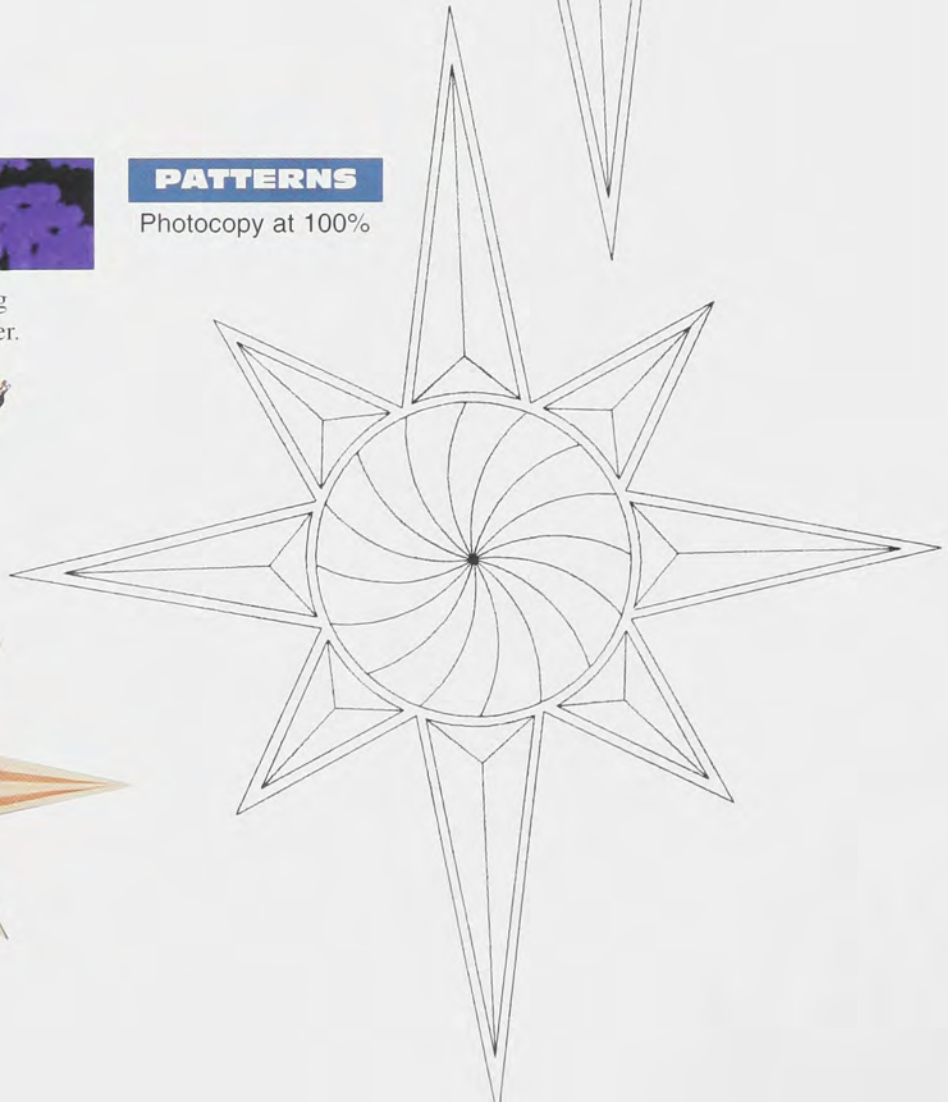
Eight-Pointed Star

This eight-pointed star has a spiraling pattern—a classical design—in its center.



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The Cross

The cross stands out in low relief in the star.



The Christmas Tree

The Christmas tree and the red color make this a holiday winner. Note that the branches of the tree are cut using two-sided chips.

