

Inverted and Regular Floral Carving: The Rose

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In floral and other types of leather carving, you can have traditional style—outer edges are beveled to the outside of the figure—and inverted style—outer edges are beveled to the inside of the figure. In either style, the interior portions of the figure are beveled the same. In this tutorial, we will make two coasters with tooled roses, one in the traditional style and one with the inverted style.

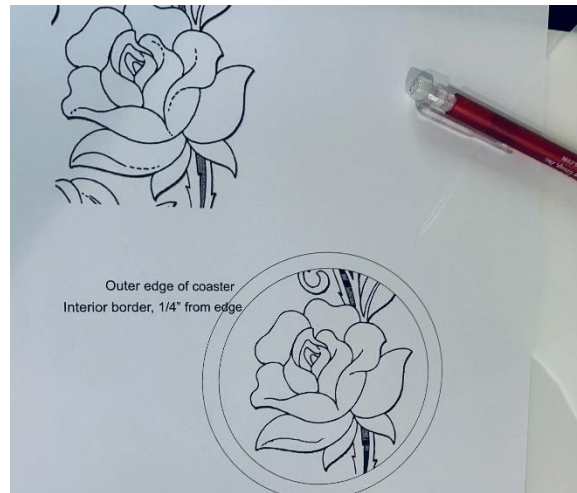
Materials:

- Two four inch round coasters

Tools:

- Standard floral carving tools;
- Wing dividers;
- Undercut beveler or petal lifter (if you have them)
- Rose patterns (provided)
- Tracing film.

1. Case the two leather coaster blanks and set them aside to return to their natural color.
2. Transfer the pattern to the tracing film by laying film over the pattern and use a pencil to trace the pattern onto the tracing film. (Photo 1 and 2)
3. Set the wing dividers to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and mark the border
4. Transfer the pattern to the leather using your stylus by placing the tracing film over the coaster, lining the top border on the pattern with the top border marked on the coaster, then tracing over the pattern.



01 Pattern & Tracing Film



02 Traced Pattern & Transfer to Leather with Borders Marked

5. Use your swivel knife to cut the pattern.

6. If you have undercut bevelers (or petal lifters), apply them to the various areas of the rose that should be lifted up. Note: For the outer edges of the rose, only use the undercut beveler on one of the coasters. This will be carved in the traditional style.

7. Now use the Pear Shader to add shape and depth to the petals and leaves (Photo 5). The pear shader is used on each side of a lifted/undercut area to add to the appearance of depth.

8. It's now time to bevel, and when the difference between the Traditional and Inverted styles comes into play.

As summarized above, the traditional style will bevel on the outside (raised sides) of all lines in the pattern. For the inverted style the outermost outlines are beveled to the inside of the lines, lowering the pattern below the base height of the leather.

Since the difference between the two styles only relates to the outermost pattern lines, the interior of the rose and leaves are beveled the same in both styles (Photo 06).



03 Undercut Bevelers



04 Use of Undercut Bevelers after Swivel Knife



05 Pear Shader Applied

9. Now bevel the remainder of the traditional style rose (the one where the undercut beveler was used on the outer petals and leaves). The final result is shown in Photo 7.

10. Now finish the beveling for the inverted style coaster, by beveling to the inside of the outside edges. Photo 08 shows the final result.



06 Interior Beveling, Traditional and Inverted



07 Traditional Beveling Completed



08 Inverted Style Beveling Completed

11. You can now finish the inverted style coaster by adding your decorative cuts to help draw the eye along the flow of the design. (Photo 09)

12. The traditional style coaster will need a couple more steps. First, use the backgrounder to flatten and pattern the background outside the rose and inside the border. (Photo 10)

13. Now it is time to add the decorative cuts as in step 11; however, there's a bit more to do with the traditional style. Add the serrated edges to the leaves of the rose. This is done by tilting the swivel knife and driving the blade into the edge of the leaves to cut into them slightly. The end result is shown in Photo 11.

14. You can now add color to your roses.



09 Completed Inverted Style Rose Coaster



10 Traditional Style with Background



11 Traditional Style Rose Coaster Completed