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## Tips and Tricks

### Making Gary Berling's Intarsia Santa

by Gary Behrling  
as told to Charlie Self

Gary Berling is a great example of the type of instructor to be found in Woodcraft™ stores, teaching our customers various woodworking skills. A full-time course developer for Ma Bell (AT&T for those who have shorter memories), he is also a long term hobby woodworker with broad experience. When the **Cincinnati Woodcraft store** needed an instructor for an intarsia course, Gary added up his wealth of other types of woodworking experience, taught himself intarsia, and got the job. According to Gary, "I've been working with wood since junior high school, when I took a woodworking class in school. I started building my present workshop about ten years ago and I think I've finally run out room to add any more tools."



During a recent vacation visit to Tennessee, Gary used the chance to learn more about intarsia, visiting Judy Gayle Roberts and Jerry Booher to harvest some tips on improving his own, and his students', works.



This Santa pattern came about because, "of a need for a pattern for my November and December class. I couldn't find a simple pattern I could teach in a 4 or 5 hour session, so I found some clip art and adapted it to Intarsia."

Gary has a B.S. in Communication Arts and an M. Ed in Education (Xavier University). He is married, with two sons.

Now, to his work, in the style he prefers for presentation:

#### Step 1: Download the pattern

Click [here](#) to download the pattern. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer to view and print the pattern. Click [here](#) to download Adobe Acrobat Reader.

#### Step 2: Using the pattern

Make several photocopies of the pattern. Then, cut out the different sections of the pattern according to the different types of wood. Try to pick out wood with interesting grain, to insure a good looking finished project. Using a glue stick, adhere the pattern copy to the appropriate piece of stock, aligning the arrow on the pattern with the wood's grain. Make sure the pattern is firmly attached to the wood, so it doesn't come loose while you cut.

