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Bill Krier
Editor
WOOD® magazine

Adobe Acrobat Troubleshooting Guide

*If you can read this page, your Acrobat program is working correctly!
But you may still have problems or specific issues such as printing and saving your Downloadable WOOD PLAN.*

My printer won't print the text correctly

Almost all printing problems are due to not enough free system resources memory. The files are very memory intensive since they include graphics, text, and photos. Close all other programs/applications and print directly out of the Acrobat Reader program, not your Web-browser.

Patterns are not printing full size

Make sure your printer is set to print at 100% and that "print to fit" is not checked. These settings are selected in the printer setup or printer options.

I can't save my file now that it's downloaded

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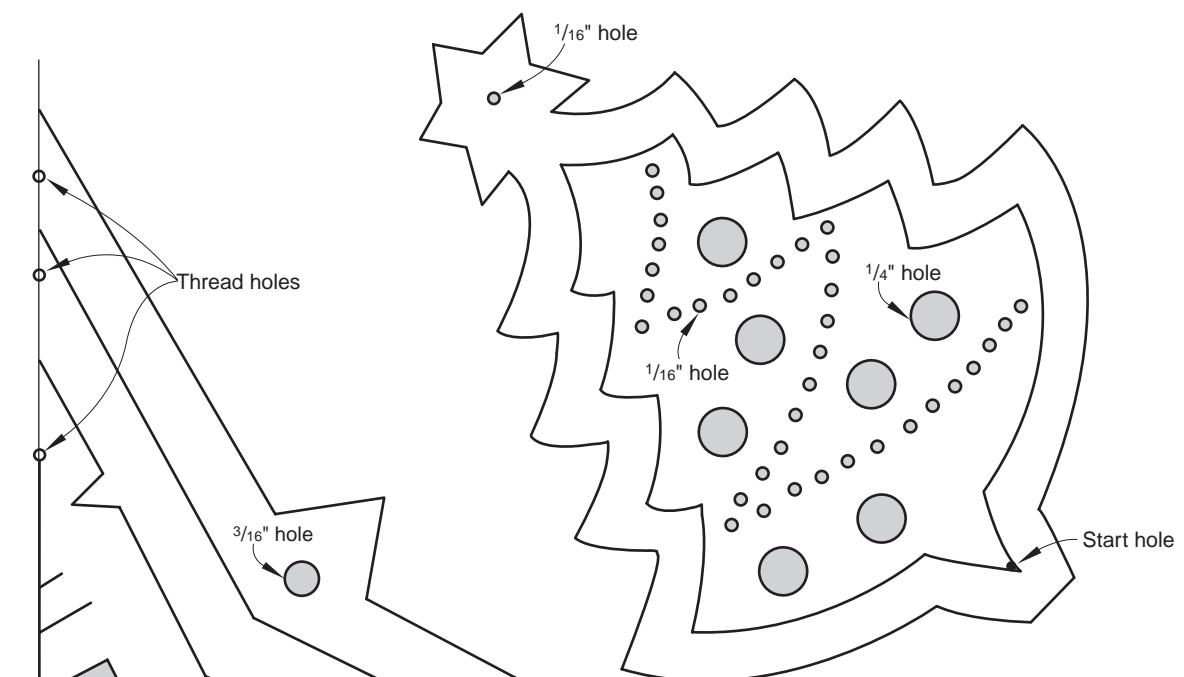
For more details on using Adobe Acrobat Reader please visit our online help section at:
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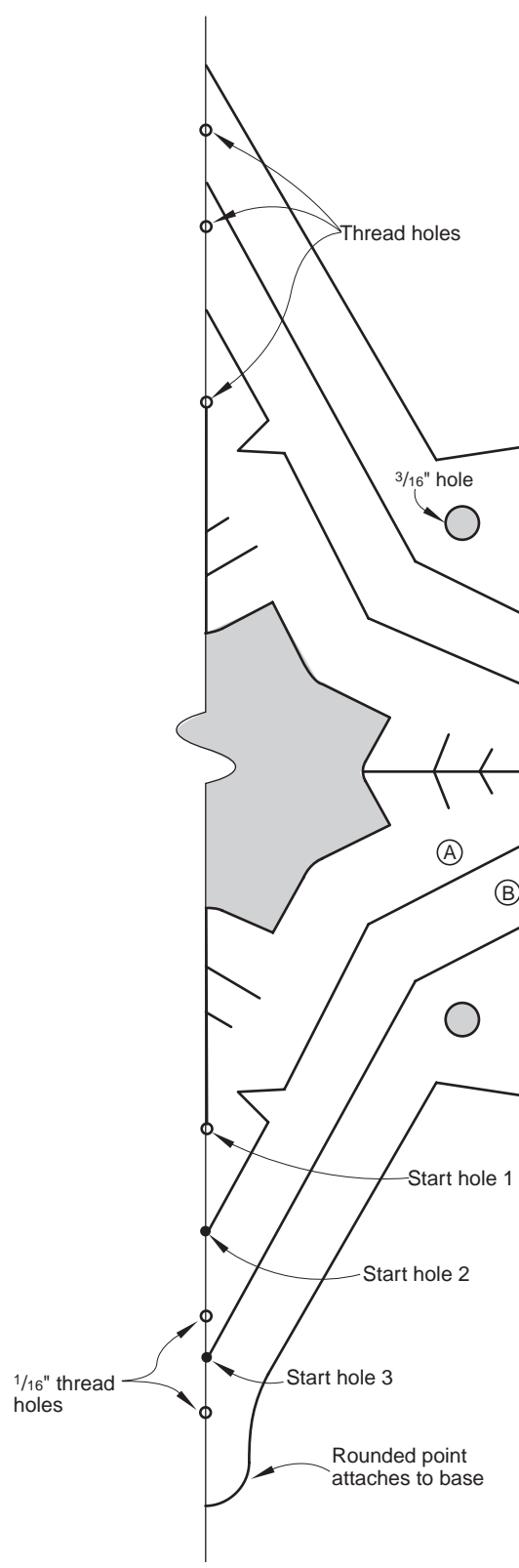
Tree-Topper

Plus
Five

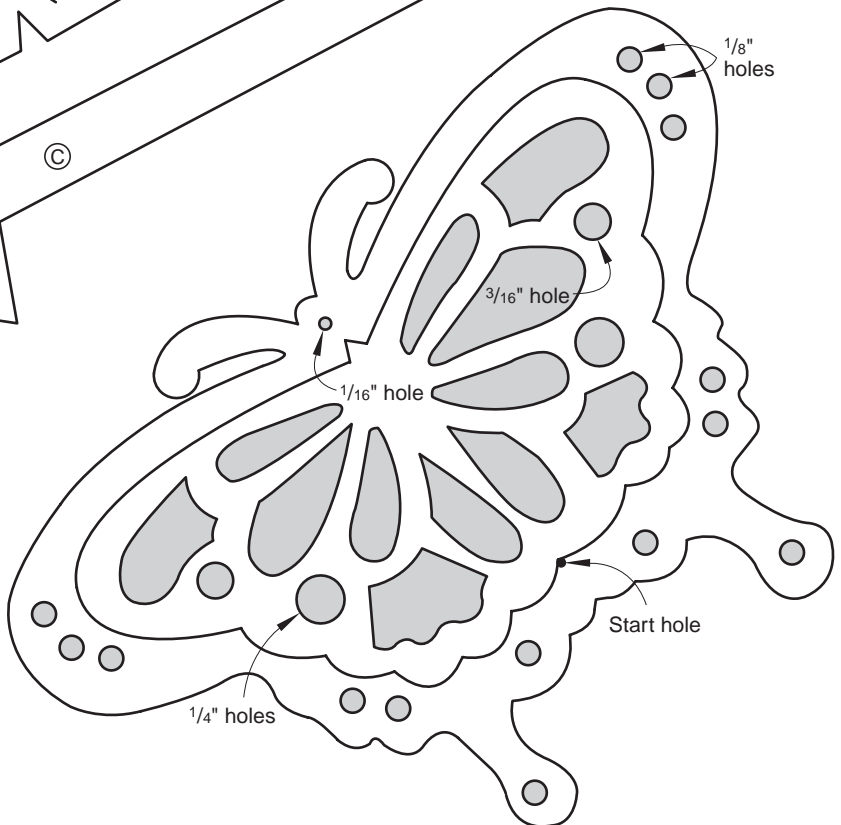
Usher in the season with five interlocking ornaments and a spectacular tree-topper you can scrollsaw in your shop. Then, call on an old friend — Rit dye — to introduce a little color to your projects.



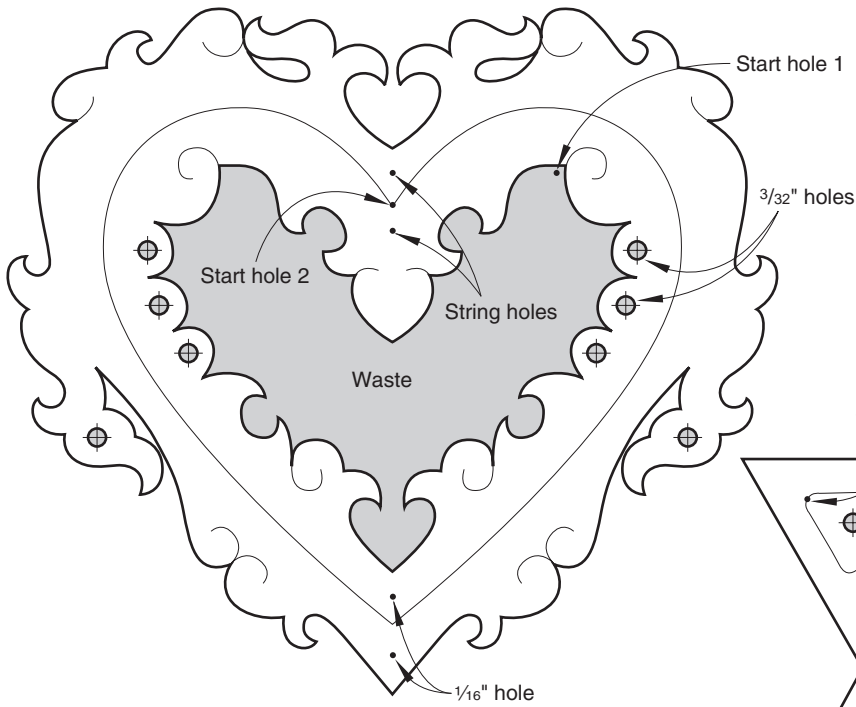
**CHRISTMAS TREE
FULL-SIZED PATTERN**



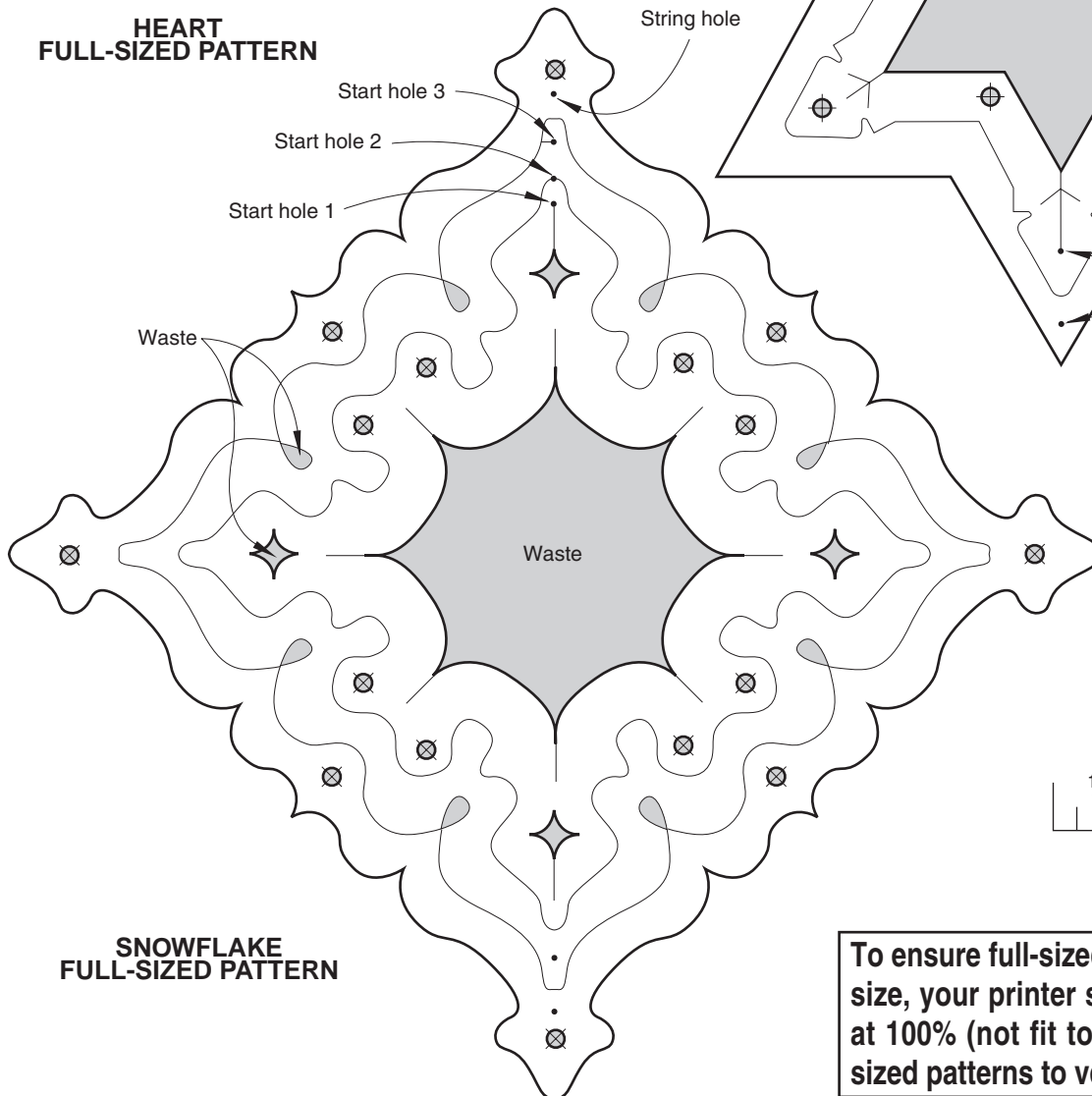
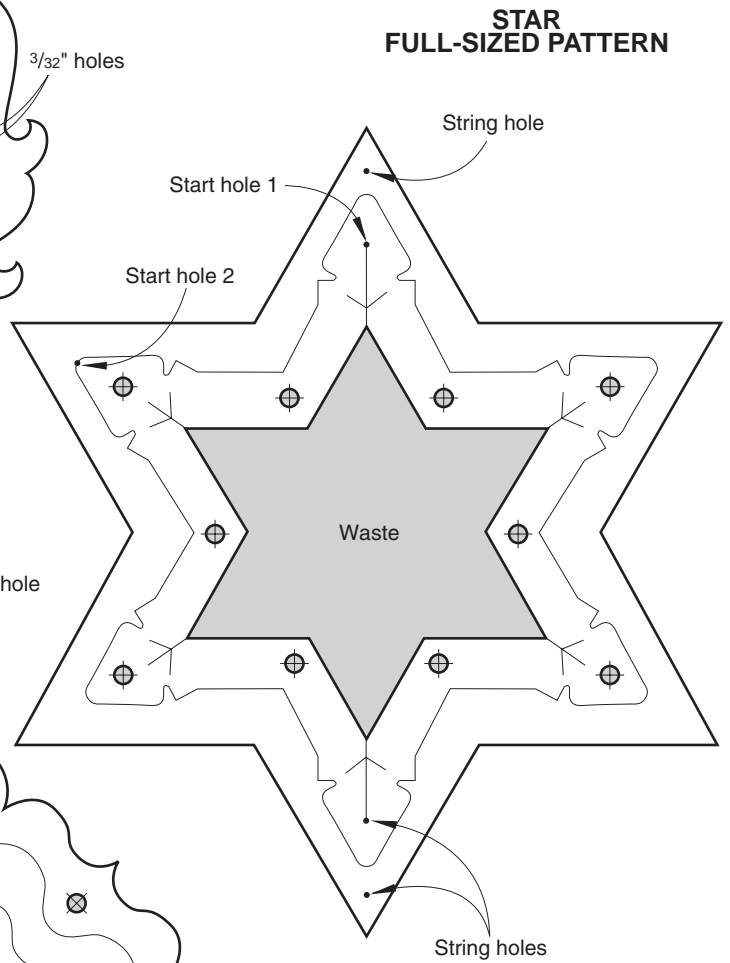
**TREE-TOPPER
FULL-SIZED HALF-PATTERN**



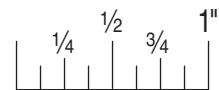
BUTTERFLY FULL-SIZED PATTERN



**HEART
FULL-SIZED PATTERN**



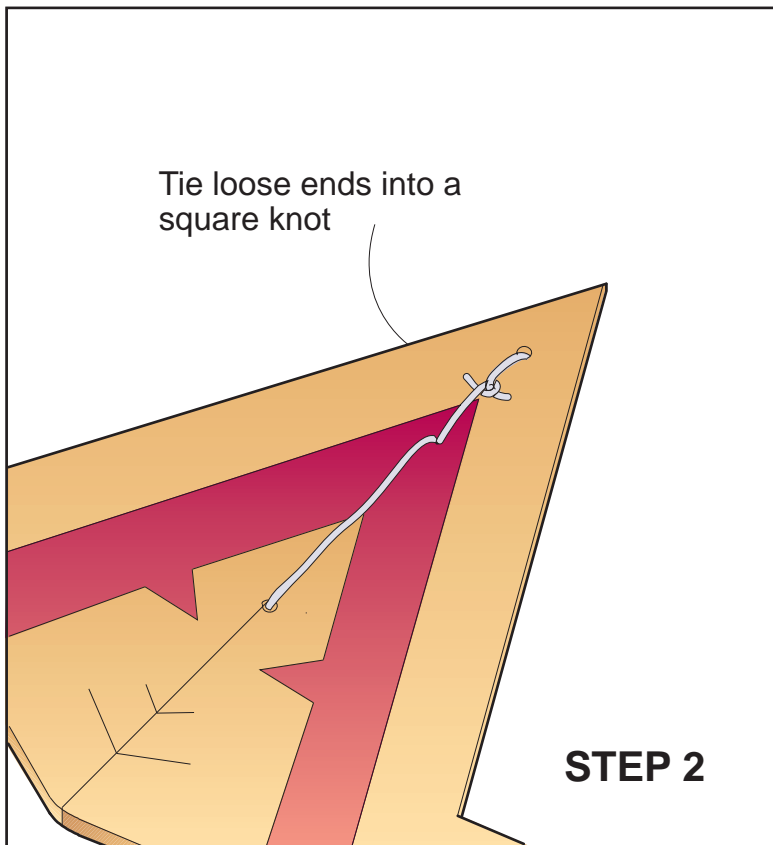
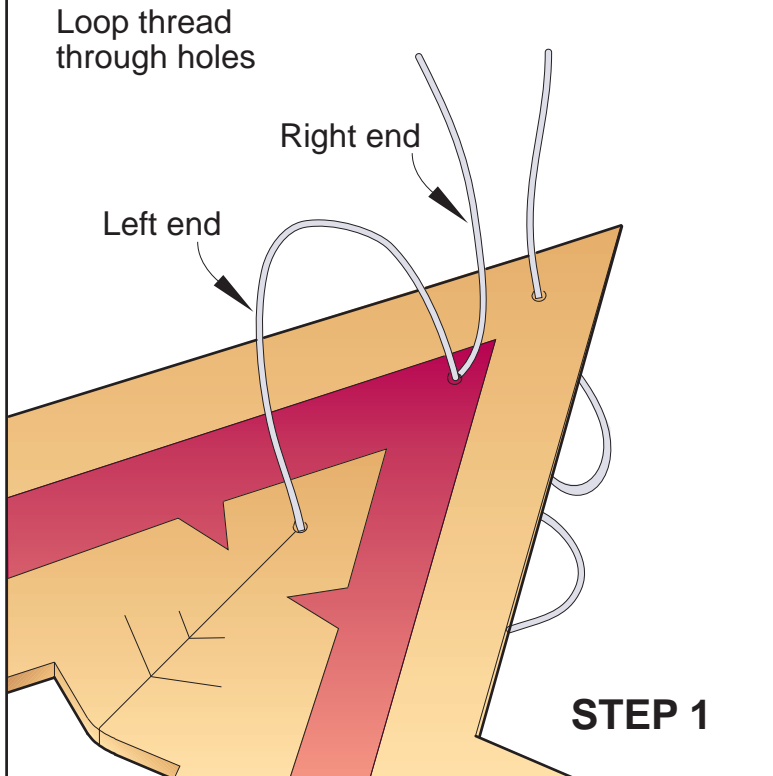
**SNOWFLAKE
FULL-SIZED PATTERN**



SCALE

To ensure full-sized patterns are correct size, your printer should be set to print at 100% (not fit to page). Measure full-sized patterns to verify size.

THREADING ASSEMBLY SEQUENCE



Supplies:

1/8"-thick Baltic birch plywood;
dyes; hotmelt adhesive;
thread; 1/2"-dowel stock;
16-gauge copper wire.

Apply Your Patterns, Then Warm Up Your Scrollsaw

1 First, photocopy the six full-sized patterns on pages 2 and 3. Cut them out, keeping a 1/4" margin around the edges.

2 Saw 4x5" pieces of 1/8"-thick stock for the butterfly and Christmas tree and 8 1/2" squares for the tree-topper. (We used Baltic birch plywood, and cut enough stock to make six of each ornament.)

3 Apply a light coat of spray adhesive to the back of each pattern, and adhere each to the face of the plywood pieces. If you're making several of each ornament, stack the plywood pieces, placing each patterned piece on top of its respective stack. Drive #17x3/4" brads or 4d finish nails through the waste areas to hold the stacks together. To avoid tear-out, adhere a backup board to the bottom of each stack. (We used hotmelt adhesive.)

4 Now, use your drill press to drill the start holes, thread holes, and decorative holes through each stack where shown and dimensioned on the patterns. (*Note: On the butterfly wings, simply drill a start hole anywhere in the interior of each cutout.*)

5 To cut out the tree-topper, thread your scrollsaw blade through start hole 1, and saw along the inside line to remove the center waste. (We used a #4 blade with 15 teeth per inch.) Cut into and back out of the stop cuts as you work your way around the figure. Next, insert the blade through start hole 2, and saw around the inside figure (A). Now, thread the blade through the third start hole, and cut out the middle figure (B). Then, saw the outside profile of the tree-topper to shape.

6 Follow the same procedures to cut out the Christmas tree and butterfly. (*Note: The tree and butterfly do not require threading.*)

Dye 'Em and Tie 'Em And Hang 'Em on the Tree

1 Now, separate the stacked layers. Remove the paper patterns, and lightly sand all pieces.

2 Select and mix your dyes for each ornament. (We mixed 1 cup of Rit liquid dye with 2 cups of hot water.) Pour the dye mixtures into flat-bottomed pans. Next, tie a thread to each piece, place them in the dye baths, and let them soak for 10 minutes or until they've reached the desired color. (We experimented with scrap pieces first to check the colors and absorption.) Turn the parts frequently to ensure uniform coloring. Then, remove the parts, rinse with clear water, and hang them up to dry.

3 When the parts have dried thoroughly, glue the butterflies and Christmas trees together. (Since the interior piece won't make contact with both edges of the exterior piece, we applied hotmelt adhesive sparingly along one edge of the interior piece. See our gluing alternative tip.) Now, cut a 6" length of thread for each, and tie a hanger loop through the hole at the top of each ornament.

4 To thread the tree-topper, first assemble the sets of three parts, and tape them in position with masking tape. Cut two 6" lengths of appropriately colored thread for each. Using a sewing needle, thread the three parts together as shown in the Threading Assembly sequence on page 4.

Pull the thread ends taut, tie them using a square knot, and cut the ends, leaving 1/4" tails. Repeat this procedure at the opposite end.

5 Next, make bases for your tree toppers. (See the Tree-Topper Base drawing below.) To do this, first measure the actual thickness of your 1/8"-thick plywood. (Ours measured 3/32" thick.) Lay out and cut a 1/2"-deep notch to this width in the end of an 18" length of 1/2" dowel. (We used our bandsaw and rip fence, moving the fence twice to make three passes.) Then, crosscut the base to 1 1/4" long.

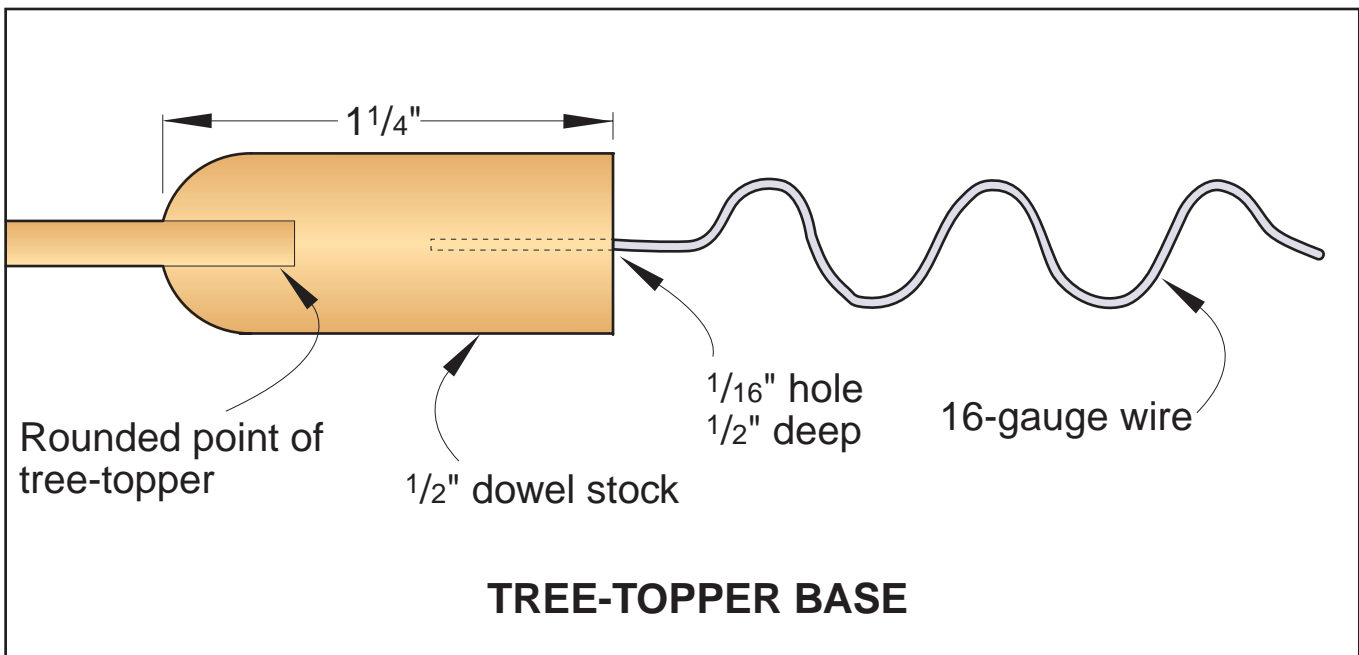
6 Secure the base in a handscrew clamp laid flat on your drill-press table. Drill a 1/16" hole 1/2" deep centered in the bottom end. Next, sand a round-over on the front and back base surfaces where shown on the drawing. Twist half of a 6" length of 16-gauge copper wire into a corkscrew shape using a length of scrap 1/2" dowel. Use hotmelt adhesive to glue the wire into the base, then glue the base to the rounded point of the tree-topper. Twist the wire around the top of your tree as necessary.

7 Thread the star, heart, and snowflake parts together, as described earlier. ♣

TIP As an alternative to hotmelt adhesive, try one of the "instant" cyanoacrylate glues available on the market. We recommend using the gap-filling type with a straightened paper clip as an applicator. As always, use these glues with caution.

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Graphic Design: Jamie Downing
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