

Lure Making - 7 cm Minnow

STEP 1: Preparing the lure blank

1. Select the timber. White Beech and Brown Beech are the best carving timbers. Australian Red Cedar is also an excellent carving timber. Other common timbers, used for carving lures, include Jelutong, Meranti (the white, soft Meranti) and Paulownia. Either purchase timber that is the desired thickness or use a 'thicknesser/planer' to plane the timber to the desired thickness.



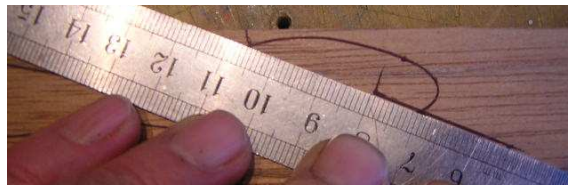
Timber selection: White Beech, Brown Beech, Australian Red Cedar and Meranti. Vernier callipers can be used to measure thickness of timber.

The 7cm Minnow is made from 12 mm thick Meranti or Australian Red Cedar

2. Use the lure templates to **draw the lure shape** on the timber. Be sure to mark the bib slot position.



3. Use a ruler to **mark** where **the bib slot** needs to be cut. 1cm bib slot for the 7cm Minnow.



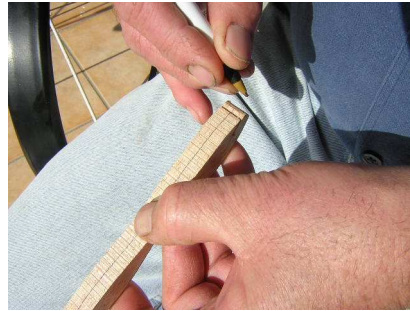
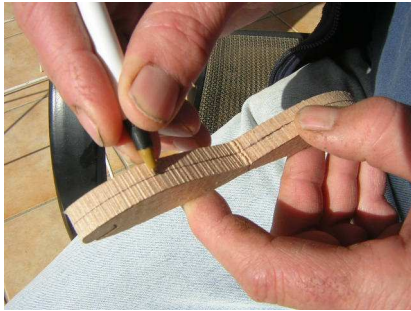
4. **Cut the bib slots** before you cut out the individual lure blanks. This ensures that the timber is sitting dead flat on the bandsaw bench, resulting in the bib slot being 'square' to the edge of the blank.



5. **Cut the lure out.**



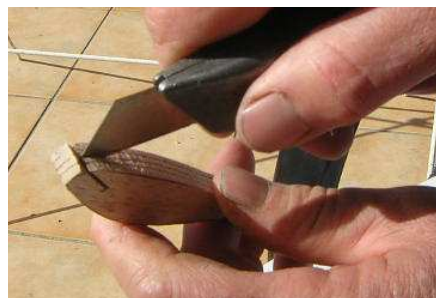
6. **Draw the centre line** all the way around the lure. Start on the top of the lure until you find the exact centre (the top centre line is not important) by running your middle finger on the side of the lure and the pen in the middle of the lure. Draw a short line from one side of the lure, then from the other side – if you are in the middle, you will only have one line. When you have dead centre, draw the centre line on the undersurface of the lure blank from both sides of the lure – this is the **MOST IMPORTANT** part of the lure making process.



7. **Draw the carving lines** around the top and bottom of the lure, they will be half way between the centre line and the edge of lure blank. On the sides of the lure, the carving line will be about the thickness of the tail section.



8. Use the Stanley knife to **mark the centre line**, at the **bib slot**. This allows you to locate the centre line, after the lure has been carved and sanded, to centre the bib at gluing time.



9. Use a sharp scribe to **mark the location of the nose and underbelly eyelets**. Drill the eyelet holes. A $\frac{1}{16}$ " drill bit is perfect for the 0.9mm wire used in the 7cm Minnow.

