

Project Tutorial

Featuring compatibility with nearly all CNC Machines

It is our pleasure to provide our customers with fun and useful projects to enjoy!

Vetric Project Tutorial
www.vetric.com

Compatible with
Current Version of:

Aspire

Sample Carved with:
ShopBot Buddy
PRSalph BT48

ShopBot
www.shopbottools.com

“Twiggy Branch” Tissue Box Cover

Designed for Vetric™ by Michael Tyler

Here is a cute tissue cover for standard size cube-style tissue boxes. The side panels are made to resemble groups of small branches or twigs and the top panel has a rather pronounced “grained” pattern to exaggerate the overall country-rustic appearance.

The “twig” branches were modeled using Aspire’s two-rail sweep. Textures were made by creating thin overlay components from photos of actual branches and then combined with components made from Texture Toolpath previews.

The finish on the sample is a glaze of brown acrylic paint to enhance the bark texture and top grain.



The finished outer dimensions of the sample Twiggy Tissue Box Cover are about: 6" W x 6" D x 6" T



Cube tissue box fits inside

Interior Cavity:
4.5" W x 4.5" D x 5.2" T

Main items you will need:

- 1) **The Project File(s) (included):**
 - Twiggy_Tissue_Box_Panels.crv3d
- 2) **Board(s) with these dimensions:**
0.75" x 7.25" x 34"
- 3) **Glue, sandpaper, clamps, stain/paint and clearcoat**
- 4) **A Dremel-type rotary tool with assorted sanding wheels and bits to sand small details and speed up preparation for finishing.**



CNC Bits used for the Sample:

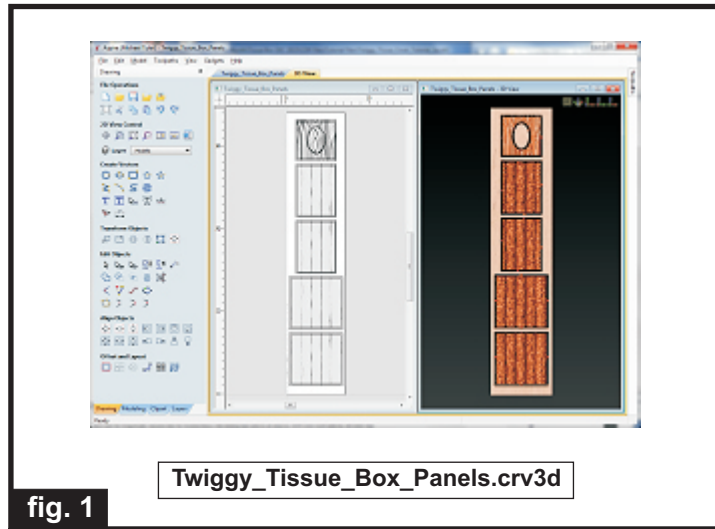
- 0.25" Down-Cut End Mill (EM)
- 0.125" Ball Nose (BN)

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(cont.)

STEP 1 - Open and Review the Project File(s)

Start your Aspire software and open the project file(s). (fig. 1)



Carefully review all the toolpaths and make any necessary changes to suit your particular bits and machine. The toolpaths are currently set with feeds, speeds and pass depths that were used in creating the original sample. Please don't use them directly until you review them for your own setup.

You can edit the tools and change the settings to your own preferences and requirements. **It is very important to recalculate all toolpaths after making any edits/changes.** Once you have recalculated for your own machine and bits, reset the preview, then preview all toolpaths again to visually verify the project outcome on-screen.

STEP 2 - Run the Project

When you are satisfied with your settings, save the toolpaths to the appropriate Post Processor for your machine. Place your material on your machine bed and proceed to run the file(s). (fig. 2)



STEP 3 - Release Parts from Material

Separate the parts from the material. Sand off tabs and any undesirable toolmarks (fig. 3a, 3b)



STEP 4 - Assembly

Place the top panel upside down on a flat surface. Glue the panels together and clamp until dry. (fig. 4a, 4b)



(cont.)

“Twiggy Branch” Tissue Box Cover

(cont.)

STEP 5 - Apply Finish

Apply your choice of finish. Before applying the finish, you may want to do what I did...use a rotary tool and various attachments to “texturize” the flat parts of the corners to blend in with the existing texture.

(fig. 5a)

I “texturized” the flat parts of the corners to blend with existing texture, using a rotary tool with various abrasive attachments



fig. 5a

Here’s what I used on my Twiggy Tissue Box Cover made from Select Pine (fig. 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e, 5f, 5g):

- Applied thinned Bulls Eye SealCoat (50/50 sealer and denatured alcohol)
- Sanded again with very fine sandpaper & Dremel
- 1 coat full-strength Bulls Eye SealCoat
- Dark Brown acrylic craft paint overall, then wiped off, leaving some paint in the recesses to enhance details
- Painted faux bark lines around the top edges of the “branches” using a small brush
- Several coats of Krylon Crystal Clear Acrylic spray

Applied thinned SealCoat, then full-strength SealCoat



fig. 5b



Applied Dark Brown Paint

fig. 5c

Wiped off paint to accent details



fig. 5d



Used a flat block wrapped in paper towels to wipe paint off top panel

fig. 5e

Used a small brush to paint “bark outlines” around top edges of twig/branches



fig. 5f



fig. 5g

IN CONCLUSION

I hope you enjoyed making your “Twiggy Branch” Tissue Box Cover!

Happy Carving!

Michael



Materials Source Page

- **3M Radial Bristle Discs** from www.mcmaster.com
(stack 3 discs at a time on your rotary tool mandrel)
 - **80-grit:** part # 4494A19
 - **220-grit:** part # 4494A18



Krylon Clear Gloss and Flat Acrylic from WalMart™

Miscellaneous Items Purchased at Home Depot™ or Lowes™

- **Zinsser Bulls Eye SealCoat and Denatured Alcohol**
- **Disposable Brushes and Paint Rags**



Acrylic Craft Paint from Michael's Arts & Crafts™
(Apple Barrel "Burnt Umber" #20745)

Additional Resources

RESOURCES...

There are numerous resources for Vectric software owners to make their experience with their products more enjoyable. The Vectric website includes video tutorials and more, to provide a good overview of the software products and how to use them. Please visit the Support page for a complete listing of available resources for you.

Vectric Support: <http://support.vectric.com/>

Vectric User Forum

Every owner should join the Vectric User Forum (<http://www.vectric.com/forum/>) where fellow users share their experience and knowledge on a daily basis. It is a FREE service that you will surely appreciate. A handy Search Feature helps you find answers to any questions you may have. There are Gallery sections as well, where you can post and view photos of projects created with Vectric software.

IMPORTANT: Before outputting any toolpaths you should carefully check all part sizes and the material setup to make sure they are appropriate for your actual setup. You should also check and re-calculate all toolpaths with safe and appropriate settings for your material, CNC machine and tooling.

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