

Design Requirements for Wood Engraving

Single color: RGB Black on a transparent background. No gradients, halftones, shadows, or shades of gray.

Minimal fine detail: elements smaller than 1 mm may get lost or burn out. Simplify small patterns, fine textures, and complex hatching.

Bold strokes: line thickness of at least 0.3–0.5 mm. Thin lines come out blurry on wood.

Adequate spacing: keep at least 0.5 mm between elements, otherwise adjacent lines will merge.

Clean outlines: shapes should be closed and well-defined, with no blurry edges or “noise.”

Text: font height of at least 2–3 mm. Choose simple sans-serif fonts or fonts with bold serifs. Thin and script fonts with hairlines are not suitable.

Contrast: filled areas and empty space should be well balanced.

Material considerations: wood has grain and uneven color.

The simpler and larger the design, the better it reads against the texture. In short: a simple, high-contrast, black-and-white design with bold lines and no tiny details.

