

# Wood Finial Ornaments

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Some time ago I picked up two wooden finials in a bag of thrift store ornaments. They were in a rather sorry state; whoever made them had applied a fairly heavy layer of glitter – an ill-advised decision with an ugly result.

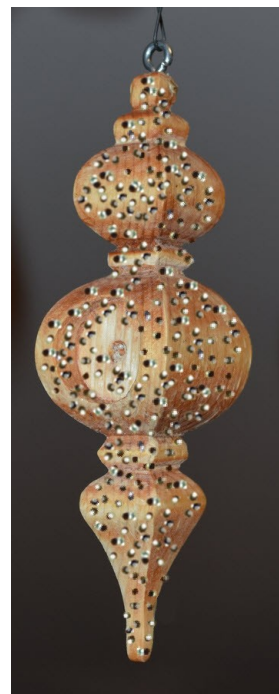
I suppose that's the reason the person gave up on these and donated them to the thrift store.

Glitter is very difficult to remove, and it took me a fair bit of scraping and sanding to get these cleaned off. After that, they languished in my craft room for a long time while I contemplated how I wanted to finish them.

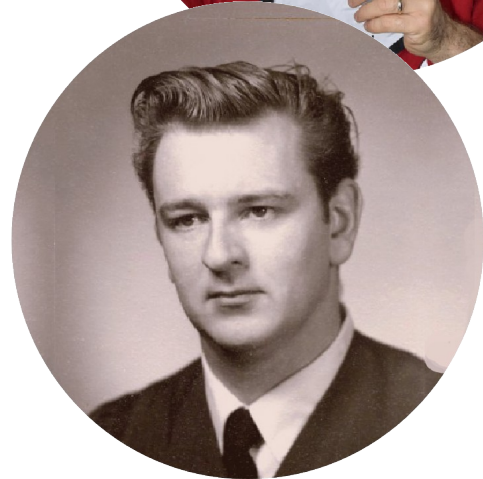
Recently I've been on a crusade to complete some of the small projects that have been on my to-do list for a while, so I picked up these two finials again. They're pretty shapes, and the drilled recess in the front is exactly the right size for inserting a 7/8" button.

I painted the ornaments with acrylic paint in metallic colours: copper for the first one, and a combination of bright metallic Christmas colours for the second. They are going to look beautiful on the tree.

When the paint was dry, I gave both ornaments a coat of True Flow gloss varnish for durability and super shine.



All that remained was to choose button images for the inserts. For the multi-coloured one, I couldn't resist my favourite image of Santa Claus enjoying a cookie break. My choice for the copper one was this picture of my brother as a young man. It's a black and white photo but I gave it a light sepia wash to go with the copper colour of the finial.



These ornaments, which at first I had all but written off because of the glitter mess, have turned out so beautifully that I wish I had more of the wooden shapes!

I've now got lots of ideas about how I might paint them and what pictures I could use for the button inserts.

I guess I'll have to brush up on my scroll saw skills and see if I can produce some of my own . . . .

Somewhat to my surprise, finishing these turned out to be great fun, and I love the result. Best of all, even Santa has given his approval!