

# Final Retrieve Sculptures

## Bird Mounting Instructions

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In preparation for mounting and attaching the bird to the sculpture you will need to modify the form to fit the mouth of the dog. Once I decide how the bird will be posed i mark the form to indicate where I will need to carve out material. I do this for the top of the mouth and under by the lower jaw as pictured.

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I begin carving being careful not to cut away too much material. I will make a few cuts and then test fit the form; repeating until the form fits easily. Remember to carve both the top and bottom of the form equally. I usually leave about an inch between the form and the back of the mouth. This leaves enough room for the bird wing to fit.







Once I am satisfied with how the form fits in the dog's mouth I am ready to mount the bird. I will mount the bird like normal, wiring the feet and wings. After the bird is sewn up and head attached comes attaching the bird to the sculpture. I use a long wood screw (which you will be supplied with) to drive through the front of the bird and into the back of the mouth. Be careful not to over tighten but enough to be snug. Once secure I finish positioning wings, feet, head and do my final grooming.



