Carving is ancient and widespread type of practical art which demonstrates an art of making artistic forms by carving and cutting wood, ganch, metall, stone, bone, terrakota and other materials. This art is used in order to make different objects and instruments more delicate, to decorate buildings and in creating sculptural compositions of small size. An independent genre of carving is glyptics; it has such types as wood carving, ganch carving, metall carving and bone carving depending on the raw material used.

In Uzbekistan carving had been developed since ancient times. People of the primitive society created necessary weapons from wood, bone, animal boughs and “decorated” them, carved various symbolical lines and signs, drew pictures to stones (rock paintings). The image on the animal bough and piece of bone which was found from Oqtom and Quyi Mozor (located in the south of Uzbekistan) belongs to 5–6 century BC. Foundations of Fayoztepa, Qoratepa and Ayritom are the examples of monuments which were made of marble and decorated with carving art.

In central Asia Carving existed in three directions: naqsh (pattern) carving, themed (images of people and animals) carving and complicated compositions with the combination of themed carving.

There are four main carving schools in Uzbekistan and they differ with their styles and directions:
1. Khiva wood carving differs with the compactness of patterns, insufficiency of zamin, density of sprouts.
2. Compactness of carvings, complicated- ness of the naqshs and frequent usage of flourish naqshs are distinctive features of Samarkand wood carving school.
3. In Tashkent carving school carvings are several-layered, carved in a medium depth and scientific, geometrical and symbolical patterns are used frequently.
4. Kokand wood carving school differs with majesty, largeness, depth of carvings and with their several-layeredness.