

How to check whether a stool described as “made by Robert ‘Mouseman’ Thompson” is counterfeit.

A recent news article dated 5th August published in the Yorkshire post warns its readers about a glut of fake Mouseman stools. An extract is referenced below:

Warning over glut of fake 'Mouseman' stools by Julie Hemmings

TRADING standards are warning of a glut of fake furniture copying a Yorkshire craftsman's famous trademark.

Wooden stools purporting to be from the workshops of Robert Thompson's Craftsmen have been found on sale in North Yorkshire and on the internet. The fakes, thought to have been made in China, have been produced on the largest scale the business has encountered and North Yorkshire trading standards officers have launched an investigation.....

To read the full article go to :

<http://www.yorkshiretoday.co.uk/ViewArticle2.aspx?SectionID=55&ArticleID=1675992>

A similar news article published in the Northern Echo says: “Some of the crudely-made stools, bearing the trademark mouse but constructed to a very poor standard, appeared at a Yorkshire auction house, prompting an ongoing investigation by officers from North Yorkshire County Council Trading Standards Department.”

To read the full article go to :

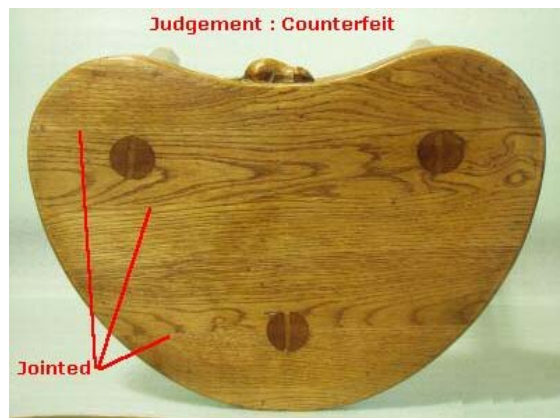
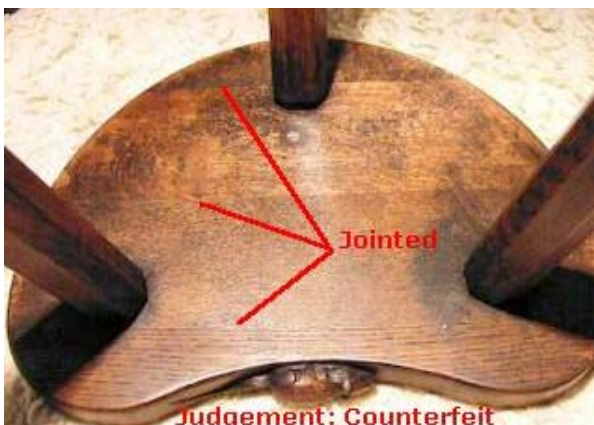
http://www.thisisthenortheast.co.uk/search/display.var.858622.0.pirates_who_are_costing_our_jobs_and_our_heritage.php

So we know that there are many fake Mouseman stools around, but how to you tell if the one for sale is genuine – other than taking the item to Robert Thompsons of Kilburn? This is difficult to do if you are purchasing a supposedly genuine item on an Internet auction site. So here is a simple check with picture examples from recently identified fake Mouseman stools:

1. Is the top of the stool made from a single piece of oak, or of jointed construction?

Robert Thompson Craftsmen have only ever used a single piece of naturally seasoned English oak for the seat. A fake stool will have the seat made from several pieces glued together. So carefully examine the grain pattern on both sides of the seat to determine if it is of jointed construction.

Here are several pictures showing examples of fake Mouseman stools with jointed construction:



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