

Log to Bowl

Overview

Description.

In this demo I will demonstrate how I rough turn a bowl, but just as a Christmas tree is just another tree until it is decorated, the rough turned bowl is the least important element of my demo. What I consider important are the *decorations* I will incorporate stemming from...

- What I wish I had known when I began turning.
- The advice I wish I had taken when I began turning.
- The mistakes I made when I began turning.
- The lessons I wish I had learned earlier.

Demo Outline

The Demo.

- About wood.
 - Wood Moves.
 - Pith, bark, knots, and cracks.
 - Cracks.
 - Why a pie wedge.
 - Wind checks.
 - All knots have a pith.
 - Hazards.
 - Grain, figure, spalting, and punk.
 - **Face**, **edge**, and **end** grain.
- Where is the bowl in the log.
 - Flat sawn orientation
 - Mouth toward bark or pith.
 - Symmetry.
- Blank Preparation.
- Mounting and Holding.
 -
 - Mounting is important.
 - Holding is more important.
 - Between centers.
 - Wood Worm.
 - Chuck.
 - Lathe is not a vise.
 - Set the drive spur.
 - Wood compresses – snug it!
 - Lose the bark.
 - Create a recess for the drive spur.

A nice bowl is just the tip of a woodturning iceberg... an achievement resting on a lot of knowledge, skills, practice, and lessons learned.



Mentorship Session ***Have Log. Want Bowl. What Now?***

Mentorship Session ***Hold What Ya Got!***

Log to Bowl

- Safety.
 - Respect the **Kill Zone**.
 - Use a push cut when you can.
 - Learn to turn *both handed*.
 - 3 Ss.
 - Secure
 - Spins freely.
 - Speed.
 - Stance (make it 4).
- About Sharpening.
 - How do you know when you need to sharpen?
 - How do you sharpen?
 - Angles.
 - Secondary Bevel.
- Tool presentation.
 - Comfortable position.
 - Handle low.
 - Tip on centerline (when able)
 - 45, 45, 45 guidelines.
 - Tool rest supporting in this position.
 - ABCs.
 - Anchor.
 - Bevel.
 - Cut.
 - Don't forget the B.
 - Starting the cut.
 - Developing the form.
 - Don't look at the tip after starting the cut.
- Cutting the Tenon (or recess).
 - Chuck jaws – log splitter.
 - Cone live center – log splitter.
- Remounting.
 - Chuck.
 - Snug once.
 - Take up slack.
 - Take up slack until equally snug.
- Hollowing.
 - Target wall thickness.
 - 10%
 - Uneven thickness -> uneven stresses -> encourages cracks.
 - Adjusting the tool rest.
 - Method: Top down or Center out.

Mentorship Session
Sharp Is Not Enough!

Story: Ask me about the **Potato Incident**.

Log to Bowl

- Starting a hollowing cut.
 - Avoiding skating.
- Make the inside match the outside.
 - One eye on the outside. The other on the inside.
- Think / Work in thirds.
 - Mass in the bottom reduces vibration.
 - Not essential for rough turning, but it's good practice.
 - 1. Top almost.
 - 2. Middle close.
 - 3. Top good.
 - 4. Middle almost.
 - 5. Bottom close.
 - 6. Middle good.
 - 7. Bottom good.
 - 8. MAYBE a last cut.
 - Gouge.
 - Negative rake scraper.
- Even wall thickness reduces uneven stress.
- Avoiding the extra thickness in the transition zone.
 - Tool handle movement.
 - Shallow bowl.
 - Hemisphere.
 - What is your bowl form?
- Drying.
 - Lots of methods.
 - Dry sloooowwly.
 - Simple: 3 paper sacks for a year per inch plus a year.

Review.

- Log Hazards.
- Wood Moves.
- Knots and Pith need to go away.
- Holding the blank is more important than mounting the blank.
- Don't use a log splitter.
- Remember the 3 (4) Ss.
- Respect the kill zone.
- Remember the ABCs, and don't forget the B.
- Keep the bevel tangent to the curve you want to cut.
- Remain aware of tool handle angular movement.
- Learn to turn both handed.
- Use a push cut unless you need to use a pull cut.