

Rick Urban Woodturner

Demonstration: Platter Chatter – Getting from "Ho hum" to "Oh wow!"

Handout

This handout is not intended to be a stand alone *how to* guide but rather a companion to the realtime demo on this topic.

Preparation.

6" x 1.5" blanks

Note. This demo focuses on form, profile, and rim choices for decorative platters.

Objectives.

Explore decorative platter profiles, proportions, and integration of design elements.
Create a decorative platter.
Add and modify design and decorative features for comparison.

Introduction.

Scope: Decorative platter with relatively large rim and small mouth.
Myriad variety of design elements.
References:

An Eye for Platters, AW2001p36-43, American Woodturner Spring 2005
Plates & Platters, AW3101p28-29, American Woodturner February 2016
Neil Scobie, Platter Embellishment, AW2102p24-27, American Woodturner Summer 2006
Ron Katz, Platters, AW2704p52-53, American Woodturner August 2012

Process.

Blank Selection.

Hazards

Cracks bad, wind checks **dangerous!**
Embedded foreign objects (IFOs).

Flat sawn, quarter sawn, rift sawn

Orientation (pith side / bark side up, figure, symmetry)

Wood moves!

Safety Alert.

Wear a face shield. Respect the *kill zone*.

Beware of IFOs

Mounting Options.

Between centers.

Between chuck jaws and live center.

Woodworm.

Forstner recess.

Tip.

Mounting with a forstner hole reduces opportunity to balance figure.

Tip.

3 S's - Secure, Spins (freely), Speed (down)

Turning the Bottom.

Proportions.

Height to diameter.

Base to diameter.

Profile.

Decisions

Decisions

Tip.

"Roll in" to engage cutting edge from bevel when the tail stock is in the way.

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Form.

Base or foot.
Shape / angle of top.
Mouth size.

Transitions.

Base / foot to side.
Side to rim.
Tenon or recess to remount.

Decisions

Tip.

ABC's of tool presentation: Anchor,
Bevel, Cut.

Turning the Top.

Face off top.
Rim thickness?
Relief carve? Pierce? Thin?
Outside to inside point of no return.

Decisions

Mouth.

Ogee.
Crisp corner.
Undercut.

Rim.

Transitions / framing.

Embellish.

How much and where?
Framing.
On lathe.
Spiraling tool. (color for visibility)
Beads, coves, grooves.
Beading tool. (rings)
Threading die.
Indexing.

Tip.

Fancy design and fantastic figure very
often don't play well together.

Off lathe.

Carving (hand, reciprocal, rotary)
Burning, woodburning, branding.
Piercing.
Inlay.

Note.

Index with 9 segments for 4 phase celtic
knot moebius interweave pattern.

Finishing the Bottom.

Embellish?
Surprise?

Review

Proportions.

Basic form.
Profile alternatives.
Rim to mouth.
Rim division.

For more information visit my website
<http://RickUrbanWoodturner.com/>
or contact me.
RickUrbanWoodturner@gmail.com
Rick@RickUrbanWoodturner.com

Transitions.

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Foot to side.
Side to rim.
Rim to mouth.
Within the rim.

Framing.

Contrast.
Beads and coves.
Grooves.
Relief.