

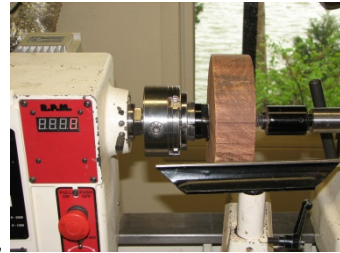


Disc Shaped Weed Pot

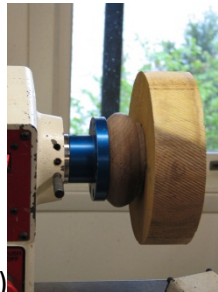
By Bob Goulding

Why turn a weed pot? It is a good way to utilize small, inexpensive wood blanks that are too small to turn a bowl. They're quick and easy to turn, the ladies love them, they make great gifts and they Sell Well.

Start with a blank about 2" x 8" x 8". Bandsaw it into a disc or cut off the corners.



Mount it on the lathe, either between a drive center and tailstock,

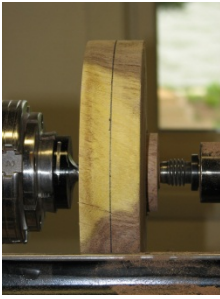


or on face plate (with or without waste block.)

True up block edge and turn

tendon $\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{3}{8}$ " deep. Mark the centerline of the disc (minus the depth of the spur drive

point).



Rough turn the profile on both sides.

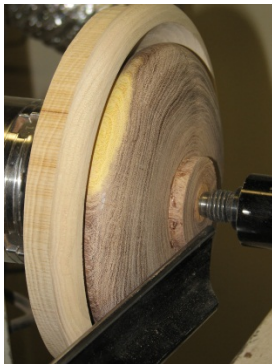


Reverse disc in the chuck, using the tendon to hold it. or using a template. Scrape and sand it smooth.



Finish turn the shape by eye

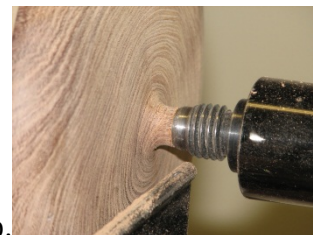
Reverse the disc into jam chuck padded with foam. Center it and clamp with the tailstock.



or, use a vacuum chuck.



If clamping with the tailstock, cut off the tendon, down to a nub.



Scrape

and sand that side smooth. Trim down to tiny nub with skew.





Remove it from the lathe. Cut off nub with sharp chisel or knife.

Chuck a sanding disc into drill press or hand drill. Finish sand the center of the disc.



Decide on orientation of the grain figure and mark it for the bottom cut (abt. $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep).



Set disc in a cradle to hold it level when cutting off the bottom.



Sand the bottom on a disc sander using the cradle.

Clamp the disc to a vertical jig to drill the hole. If hole is to be off center, a spade bit works best.



Apply the finish of your choice. My usual finish starts with 1 coat of lacquer sanding sealer. After sanding, I apply enough coats (usually 5 or 6) of Deft Spray Lacquer to provide a solid coat over absorbent end grain, sanding between coats with 320 grit. After final coat, I wet sand with 400 grit and rub out with 0000 steel wool. Finally, I burnish the finish with an old piece of terrycloth and give it a coat of paste wax. I sign the bottom after a couple of coats, with a Sharpie Ultra Fine Point, Permanent Marker.