

Novice Turner Project

Natural Edge Bowl

Bring this to the Sept meeting



Although you can use dry wood this bowl is a good opportunity to turn wet wood.

The sides of this vessel are deliberately left quite thick say about 10 or 12 mm, and you should aim for an even wall thickness to minimise the risk of cracking

Start by drilling a recess in the bark.
(I was using pin jaws here but standard jaws are good too)
Removing the corners at this stage will pay dividends once you get it on the lathe.

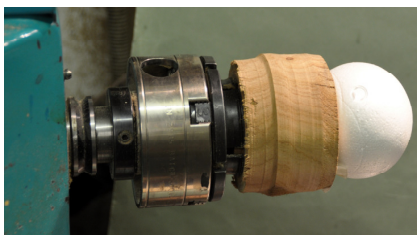


Fit your chuck in the recess and mount on the lathe making sure you bring up the tailstock and select a low speed.

Shape the outside and form a good spigot so the wood is held firmly in the chuck when you turn the inside of the bowl. If any bark rim comes off you may be able to stick it back with superglue.

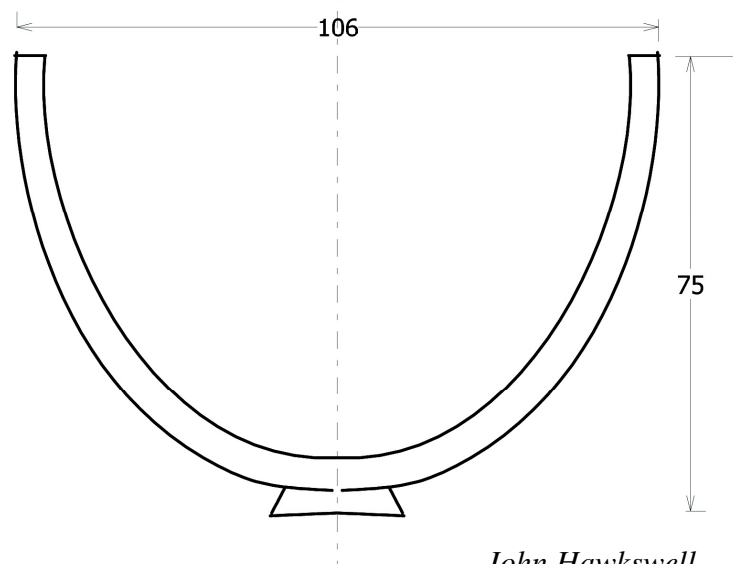
When you are happy with the shape sand down progressively through the grits

Now try to refine the base of the bowl. This is less straight forward with a natural edge bowl but using a polystyrene ball or egg works well. (*Hobbycraft has a good range*)



When the ball fits snugly inside the bowl bring up the tailstock. Take only light cuts to the foot of the bowl

Wax finishes should be avoided because the residue will clog the bark and look unsightly. I used finishing oil with this one.



John Hawkswell