

Novice Turner Project

Platter

Bring this to the Feb meeting



For this project I have used maple which has some pleasing ripple patterns but ash or sycamore would be fine. You will need an 8 inch bowl blank.

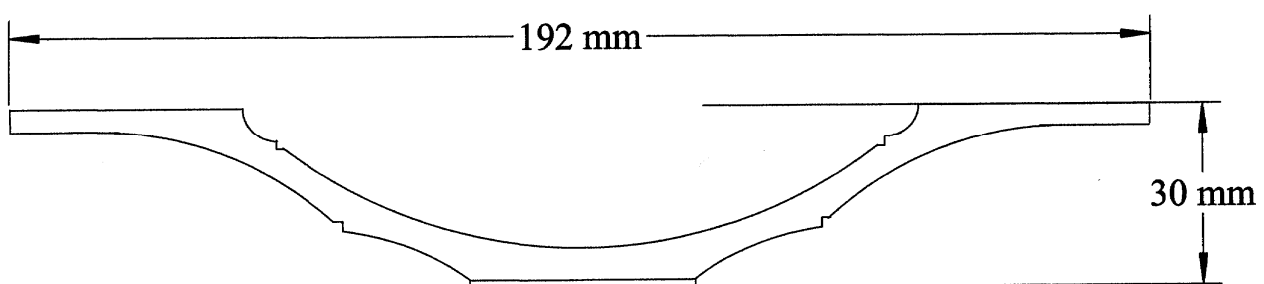
The main tool used is a 3/8ths bowl gouge and you will also need a parting tool.

Mount the blank on the faceplate or screw-chuck making sure that the screws only go into wood that will later be removed.

Bring up the tailstock (you will use this centre mark again) and select a low speed until the blank is in balance.

Turning the Bottom 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.

When you are happy with the shape of the underside of the platter sand down progressively through the grits to 400 grit.



Top Tip. Check out [Project 07 Robert Sorby Platter by Nick Cook - YouTube](#) which shows how to use the wing of the bowl gouge to produce a fine cut.

Turning the top

Remount the work in a scroll chuck using the spigot you have formed and shape the topside of the platter. You may find a 1/4 inch gouge helps to produce the fine detail. Check the wall thickness periodically to ensure it is even throughout.



Aim for 5mm wall thickness.

With the handle of the gouge well down caress the surface of the wood and you should be producing really fine shavings for the last few cuts.

Top Tip. A good finish from the tool reduces the need for sanding. Therefore sharpening the tools can save time in the long run.

Sand and finish. *Take care when sanding not to lose the crisp detail you have carefully produced with the tooling.*

Reverse the bowl against a friction disc (carpet underlay or router mat glued to a wooden disc) holding it in place with the tailstock and gently turn the foot to the desired shape.

Aim for the best finish you can manage. Remember 25% of the evaluation result is rests on the quality of the finish

In my view the natural beauty of this piece of wood made texturing or other forms of enhancement unnecessary.