

Make this

Mushroom Box



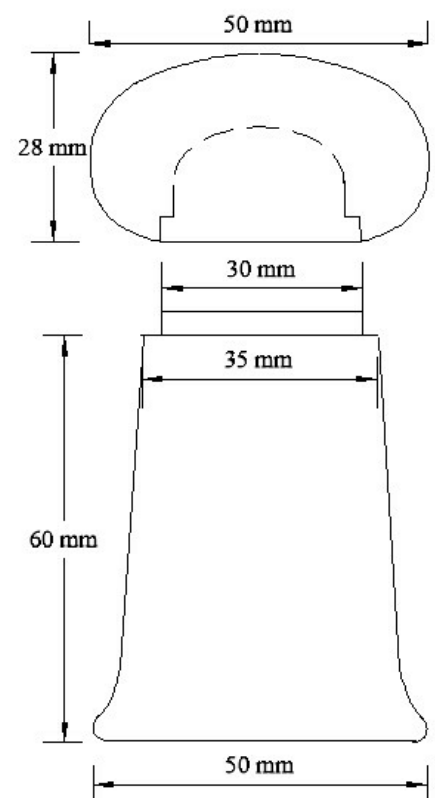
You cannot have too many boxes, right? They make ideal depositories for window security keys not to mention a host of other uses. The shape of this box lid is particularly tactile as it sits comfortably in the hand. Having a pretty piece of wood such as this example (from GAW wood sales) is an added bonus.

The first step is to turn the inside of the lid. A spindle gauge with a short bevel is the tool of choice for me. Then a quick shear scrap using a small round scraper removes the worst tool marks and saves a lot of sanding. After sanding a couple of coats of sander sealer finishes the inside.



Leave the lid for the moment and start on the main body of the box. Once mounted and turned to a cylinder the first job is to turn a lip that will fit the lid. I like to make this a fairly tight fit so you get that distinctive “popping” sound when the lid is removed. Now turn the inside to the required depth. Sand and finish

Mushroom Box





Before parting off the lid fit it to the body of the box. With a tight fitting lid you can use the box body as a jam chuck to complete the turning of the lid. Turn away the waste at the tailstock end so you can get access to the top of the lid and continue the curve. Sand and finish.



While you retain the witness mark to align the live centre make a jam chuck for the box body.

This enables you to reverse chuck the work and work on refining the base. Sand and finish. I used sander sealer and applied yorkshire grit when the cellulose sealer had hardened (next day). Afterwards a wax finish was also applied.



Design Idea

On the left are "porcini" mushrooms or ceps. Hopefully the link with the shape of this box is apparent

Wood Saving Tip

To make the most of a nice piece of timber put some sacrificial waste wood in the chuck and glue the blank to it using hot melt glue.

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