

Make this

Table Light



Of course not everybody has a long hole boring kit including me so when I decided to make a new bedside table light I had to make it in sections. The other problem was that while I had a pretty piece of wood lined up for the job it was nowhere near big enough to make an entire thing. While contemplating what to do I was informed that the finish had to match the Décor.

By using milk paint for the the base and the top I was able to overcome these concerns. Those that like the shabby chic look will find it is easy to create that look with milk paint and a bit of sandpaper.

Cable Restraint

Milk Paint comes in powder form and you mix it with equal parts of water. The colour used in the photo is called *Sweet Water* from *The Blueberry Store*



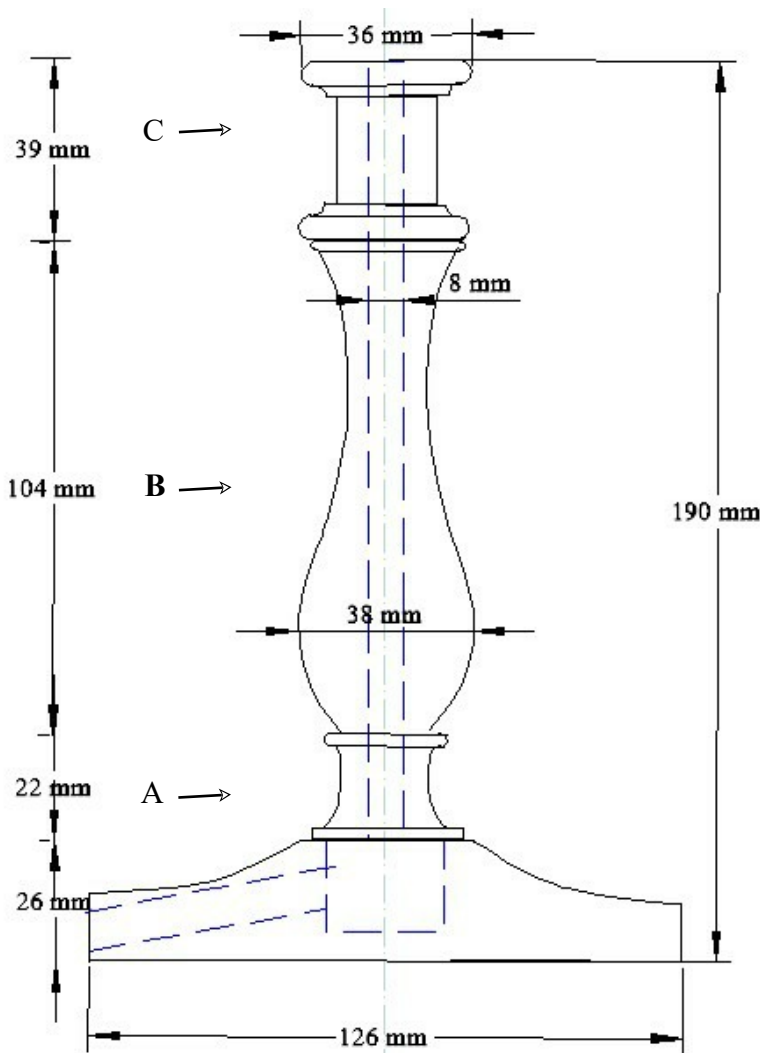
The first task is to make the base. I am afraid a delicate base design is a non starter because one needs to allow for a hole for the flex to exit the edge of the base.

Once the blank for the base is trued up drill a 25 mm wide hole 18 mm deep. The column consists of 3 separate sections marked A,B and C.

Each section has a 18 wide mm spigot at the bottom and in the case of sections A and B a matching recess at the top.

The spigot formed at the bottom of section A should not reach the bottom of the hole thus ensuring a gap to accommodate the flex.

Section C has a flat top onto which is screwed the brass plate.



The first job when turning each column section is to drill a 8 mm diameter hole through the middle to take the flex. With this job out of the way you can start to turn the shape between centres knowing that the work is centred.

Lighting kits can be obtained with all the hardware bits necessary to complete this project. They come with the bulb holder already wired and even have a sticky label one can use to show the product is "CE" certified. The kit also has handy cable restraint to prevent the flex being pulled out of the terminals in the bulb holder.

Once the three sections are turned and sanded dry fit the sections together to ensure that all is well.

Now all parts can be finished as desired. It is easier to keep the parts separate if they are not all to receive the same finish.

I used finishing oil for the middle section and as already explained milk paint for the other sections.

Once everything is dry you can screw the top plate in place and thread the flex through the various sections starting from the top. You will find it is easier to thread the flex through the base before you glue the parts together.