

Mystery Salt Urn

By Nick Cook

You will need the following:

2-1/2" to 3" square x approximately 5" long, maple, cherry, walnut
2" square x approximately 4" long to match

Drive center

Live center

Drill chuck

Drill bits, 1-5/8", 1-3/8" Forstner style and 1/8" twist style

Scroll chuck

Spindle roughing gouge

3/8" or 1/2" spindle gouge

Skew

Bedan and/or parting tool

Place the larger blank between centers and rough to cylinder

Turn tenon on one end to fit scroll chuck

Mount the blank in chuck and use a spindle gouge or skew to true the end

Mount drill chuck in tailstock w/ 1-5/8" bit

Drill 1-5/8" hole 1/4" to 5/16" deep

Drill 1-3/8" hole 3" deep beyond 1-5/8" hole

Remove drill chuck and set aside

Use spindle gouge to dome or round out the bottom of the hole

Turn exterior to desired shape with spindle and/or skew and separate from waste

Remount on mandrel or smaller jaws to expand into drilled hole

Finish turning top of urn

Place the smaller blank between center and rough to cylinder

Turn tenon on one end to fit scroll chuck

Mount the blank in chuck and use parting tool or bedan to turn 1-5/8" x 1/4" tenon on exposed end of blank – test fit into bottom of urn – it should fit snugly and slightly recessed

Turn a second tenon, slightly smaller than 1-3/8" x 1/8" wide

Use spindle gouge to turn funnel shaped recess in end approximately 5/8" deep

Mount drill chuck in tailstock w/ 1/8" drill

Drill 1/8" hole approximately 2" deep into funnel

Turn remainder of smaller blank down approximately 1/2" diameter

Measure up from step tenon to 2" and cut off from waste

Fit funnel up into larger piece and glue into place

Fill with salt through 1/8" hole in bottom with urn inverted

Turn upright and shake . . . Salt should come out the bottom

Enjoy!