

# **Turning Ring Bowls**

**By**

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**I have my screen settings set to 800 x 600 so if you want to see the  
pics larger change your settings to the same as mine.**

Ok first I started with a blank about 6-1/2" diameter by 2" thick. This will give me enough to dress up the edge anyway I want. It's screwed to a faceplate.



Next I mark for the foot. I want it  $\frac{1}{3}$  the diameter so this one is 2" across.



a better pic



**Next I take my parting tool & cut in about 3/16" deep. If I have any issues I have enough to play with to fix the problem.**



**I turned the shape until I like the way it looks. This one flows nicely.**



I take a 2" hook & loop sanding disc to sand around the foot so I can get right to the edge.



**Starting with my 80 grit gouge unfortunately. You'll find out soon why.**





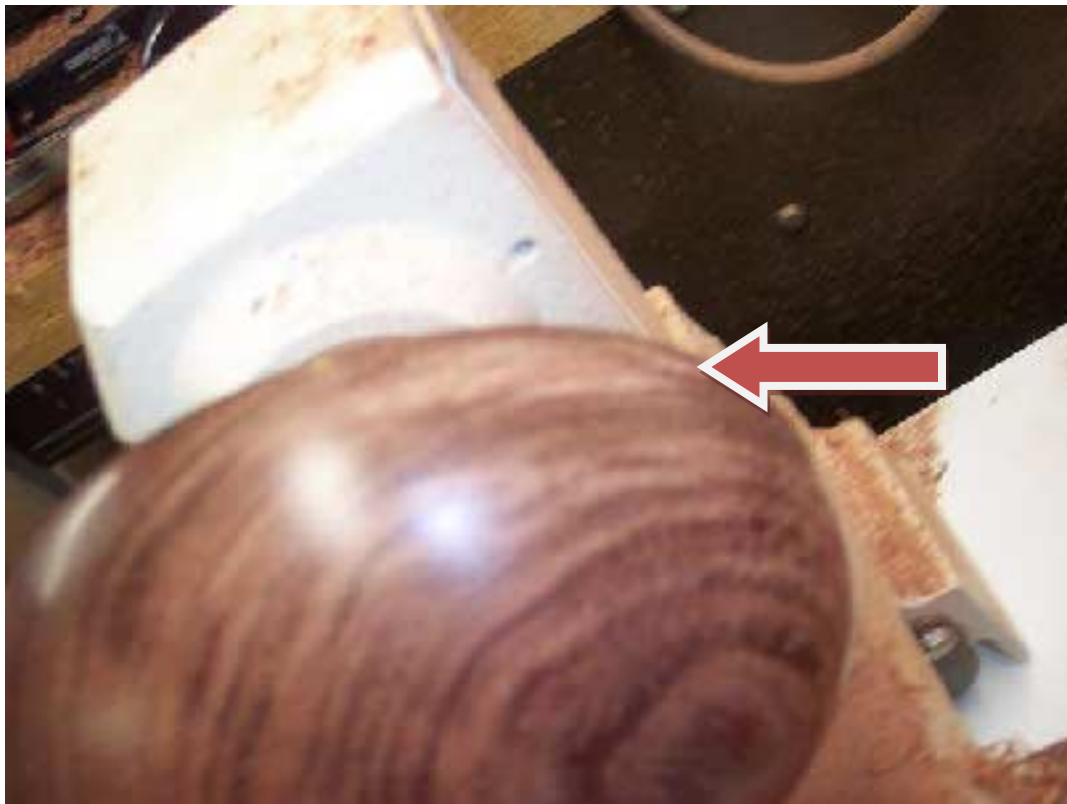
**Before you yell at me for not having dust collection. I dismantled it & forgot to take a pic I use the magna glasses so I can see the scratches easily.**



**Just a sanding pic. Using my cheap Harbor Freight angle sander, It works good though. I sand up to 320 or 400 grit.**



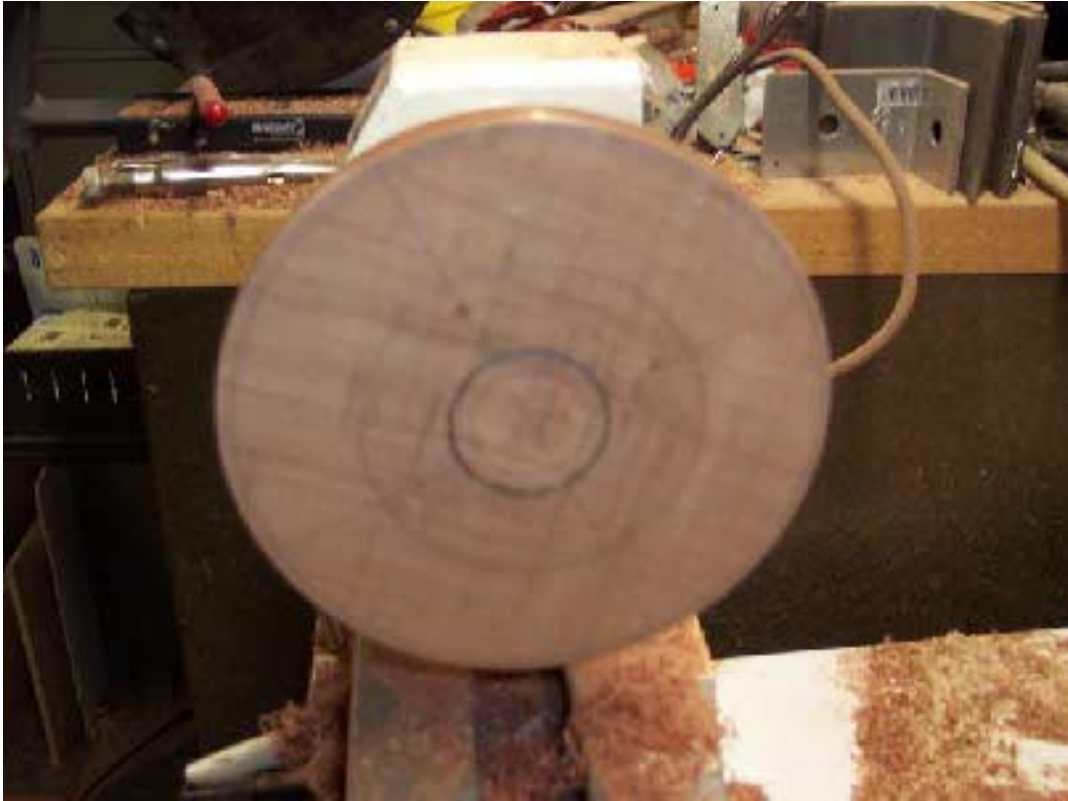
**This is why I needed the 80 grit gouge I got some tear out that I couldn't get off even shear scraping.**



**Now it's reversed & held by my chuck in compression mode.**



I mark a 1/2" circle final diameter (it's too light to see) then a 1" circle. The reason is so I can sneak up on the slope. I want the top to be 1/2" this gives me plenty of wood to work with.



I reached the 1" mark , now to refine the shape of the slope to what looks pleasing. I alternate taking it off from the center out then from the edge in.



**I want it to flow nicely from the top to a gradually flow into the base of the bowl. I want the slope of the center to approximately mirror the slope of the outer edge of the bowl. I also finish the rim type I want. This one has some fabulous grain pattern I'm very pleased.**



**Just a piece of cotton t-shirt material to help protect my fingers from the heat from sanding.**

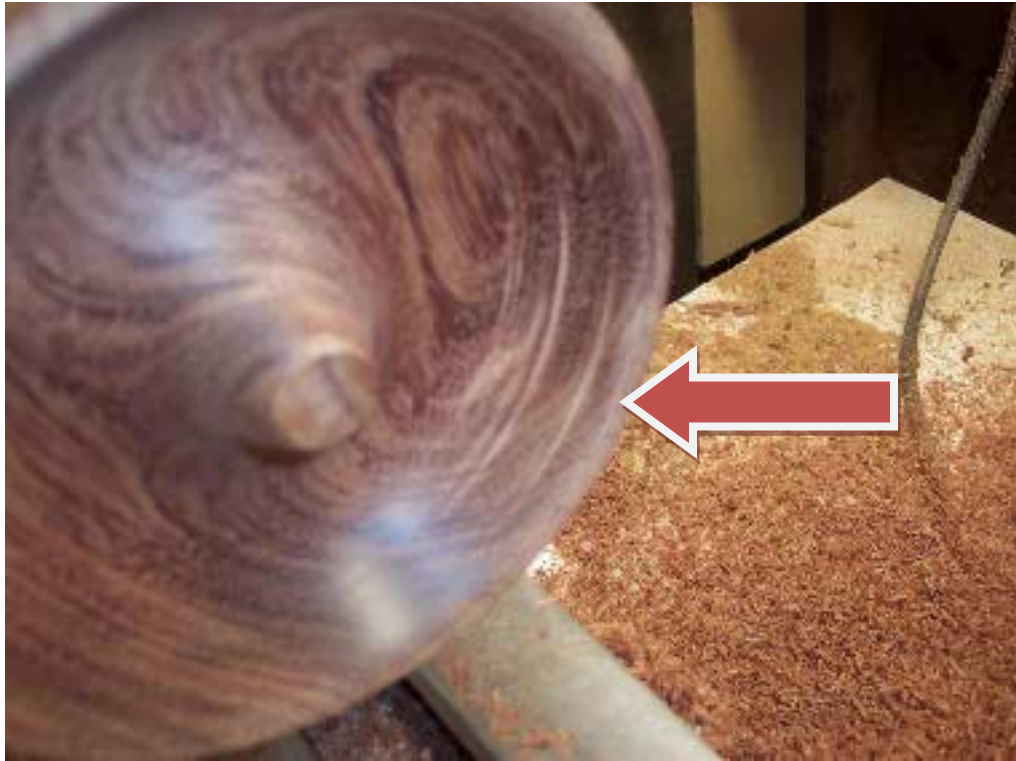




**Another pic holding both the sandpaper & rag together.**



See here is another pic of that dang tear out. Very frustrating.



**finished sanding & the bowl is a little under 6" now you can see how the center flows from the top to gradually go into the bottom. & there is plenty of room for bracelets etc...**



**Finial time.**

**I take an Ebony pen blank hold it in my chuck & round it off.**



**I put a mark 2-1/4" from the end this will give me some room in case I have issues with the very top & need to redo the tip.**



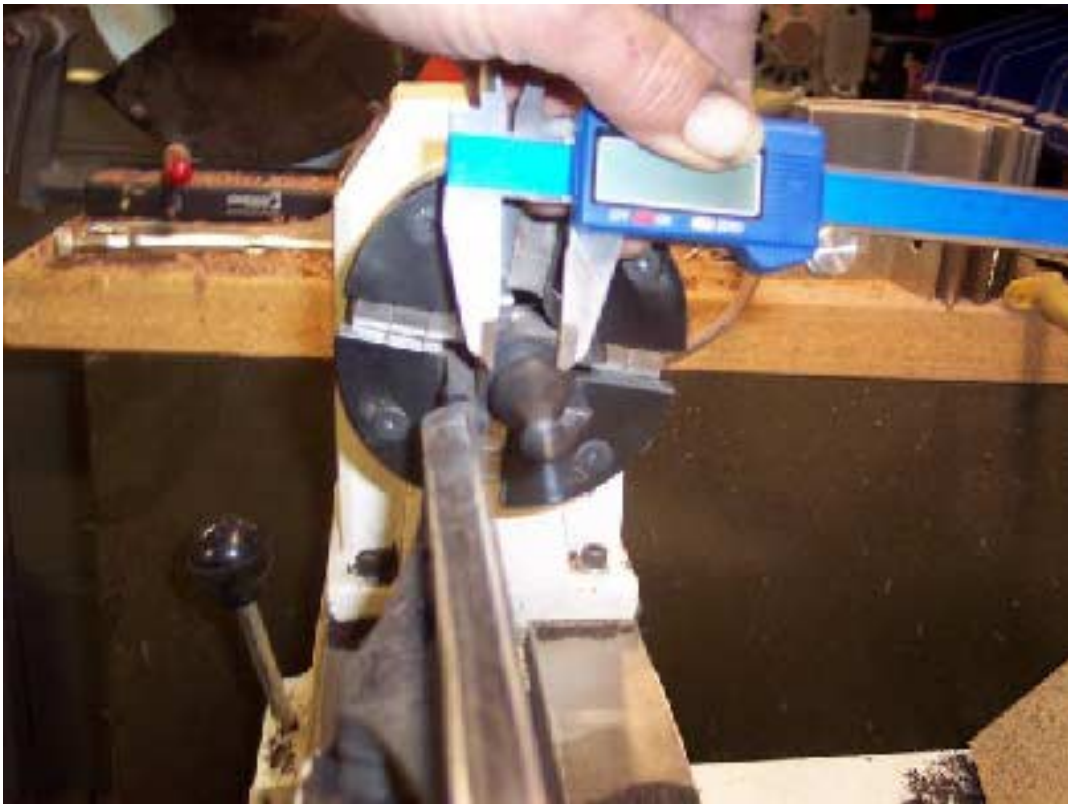
I take my calipers & get the size of the center then add 1/8" bigger then part to that size. I add the extra 1/8" so I can sneak up on the final dimension.



Well the finial is finished. I also snuck up on the dimension of the center part. I just took about 3/16" more under the base but left enough for sanding. The tenon part is about 3/8" right now.



**Just double checking the final size of both the base of the finial & of the tenon to make sure I didn't screw up.**





**This one I'm just about finished sanding just some final things. In between each grit of sanding I wipe down with DNA to get rid of the dust & any particles that came off the sandpaper.**



**Here I am turning down to the final size tenon. I like to go with at least 3/16" - 1/4" tenon for strength. (I broke one before cause I made it to thin just inserting it into the bowl)**



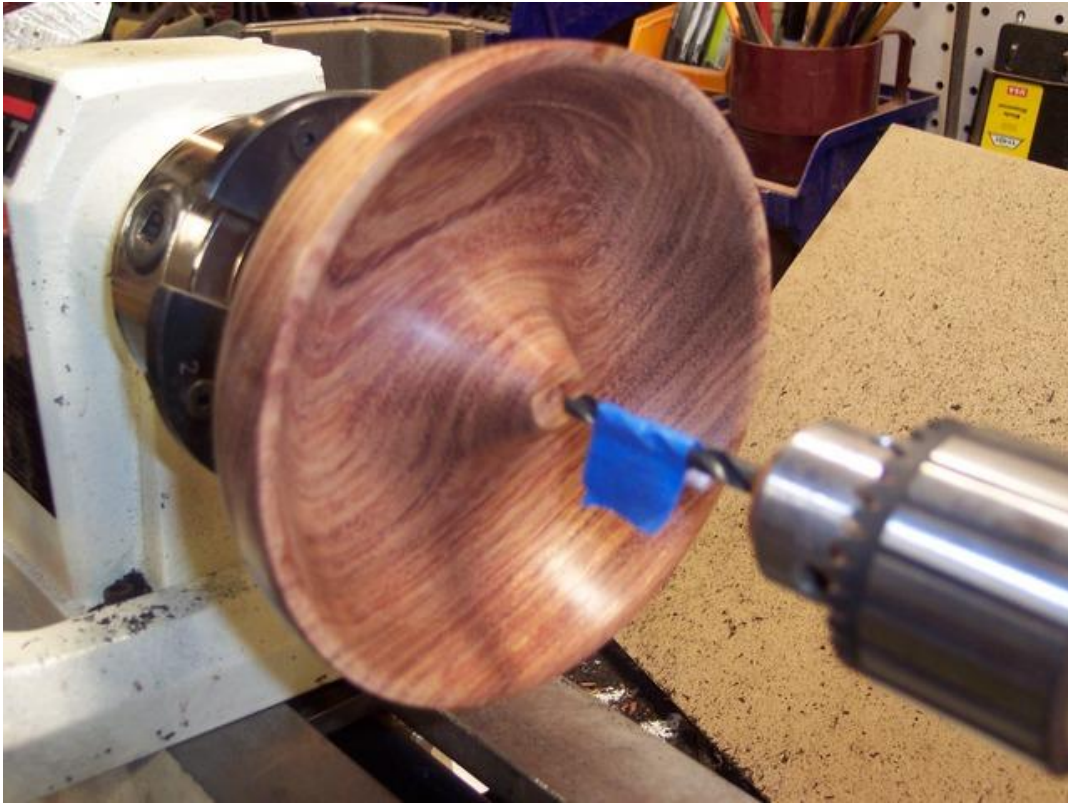
**This I'm putting a slight undercut so I'm sure the edge of the finial sits flush to bowl.**



The reason I'm using these jaws is cause on this bowl instead of having a straight foot I made the outside into a half bead. If I made a full bead I wouldn't have been able to hold it in my chuck. So the foot curves to the outside & the inside is straight sided. Also my other jaws wouldn't close far enough so I had to change jaws.



Here I put tape so I know when I reach my final depth. I like to make the length of the tenon about 1/4" - 3/8" so I have a decent amount of gluing area.



Here I am checking the fit of the finial & the tenon is a tad too tight so I hand sand with some 220 grit.



The fit is much better after sanding a tad off. I also cut off with a razor knife about 1/32" of opposing sides so if I put a little too much titebond II glue it doesn't push the finial out but gives the glue a place to come out then I just wipe it off.



**First 2 coats I used 600 grit, then between the next 2 coats I used 800  
This is after 7 coats of Minwax poly. In between the grits, then  
nothing between the last 3 coats. All of the coats were kind of  
medium not to thin or too thick. I dipped a small piece of white cotton  
t-shirt rag in a baby bottle then squeezed it out. Look at the color &  
the grain it's fantastic this is my best bowl yet for shape, form, color &  
grain. I let each coat dry for 24 hours to make sure it was cured.**





**On the finial I took it outside & cleaned it very well with acetone then quickly put on a coat of Cabot high gloss spray lacquer to seal the wood. I have a total of 4 coats on it. . Again waiting 24 hrs between each coat.**



**This is a side view  
(finial not glued in yet)**



**A close up shot of the bowl with the finial glued in place.**

**Look at the color & grain it's fantastic.**

**I'm very pleased with this one.**



**That is the way I make my ring bowls. I hope I made this easy to understand. I hope it gives you ideas. Let your imagination fly.**