

Turning a Bowl



- Wood
- Preparation
- Tools
- Design
 - Use vs Looks
 - Shape
 - Decorations



Wood

Green vs Dry

What should we look for:

Crotch wood

Burls

Rippled wood

Spalted wood

Roots

What should we avoid or look out for:

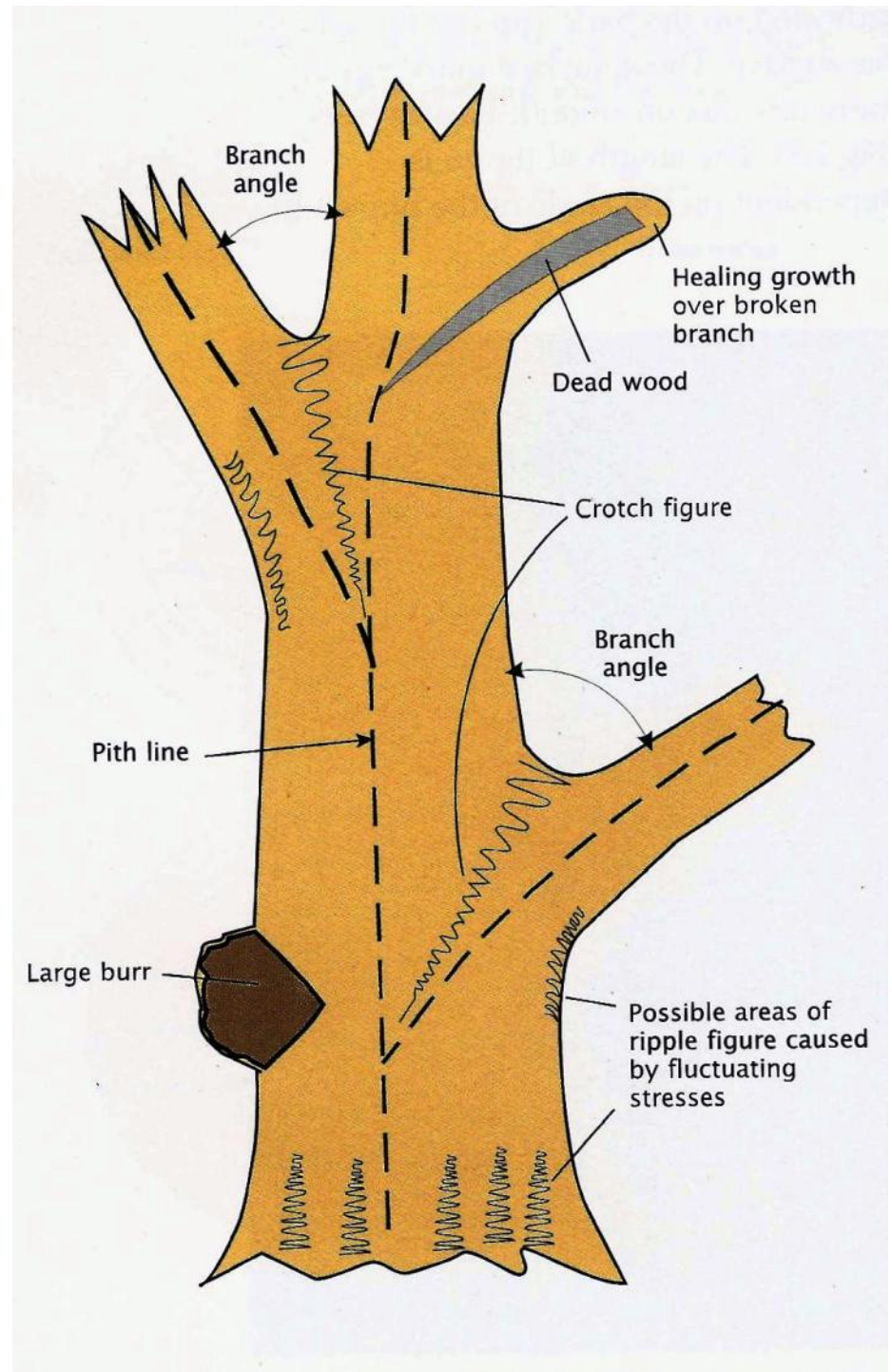
deep cuts or splits

bark intrusions

hidden stones or nails

Punky wood

Cross grain or end grain



Preparation

Remove/secure loose wood or bark

Round off with band saw, if desired

Get to hard wood & make flat where
attaching face plate, sacrificial wood or
where centers will be

Tools Needed

- Fingernail Bowl Gouge

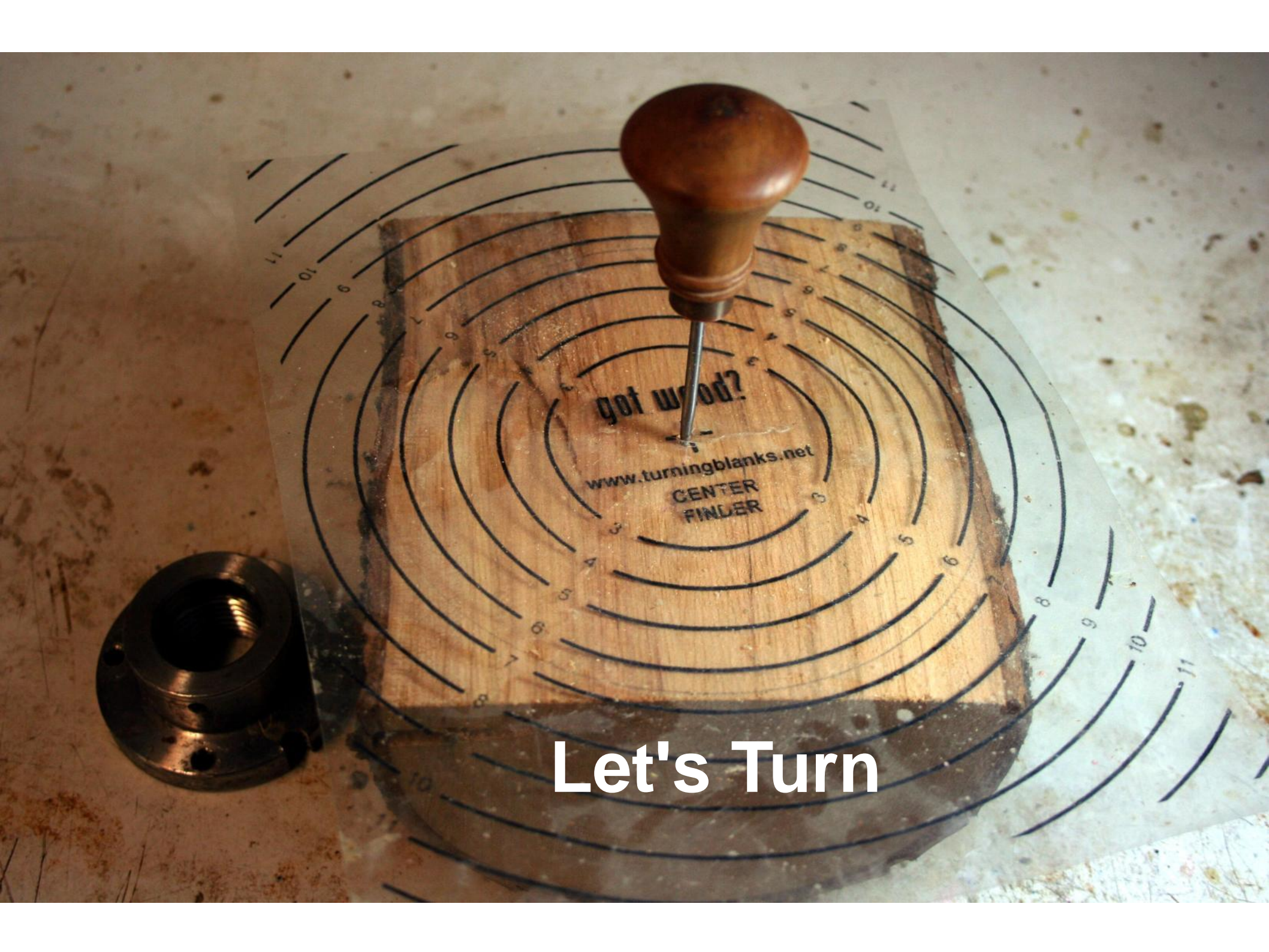
Tools Desirable

- Ellsworth Gouge
- Fingernail Spindle Gouge
- Bottom Scrapers
- Edge & Lip Scrapers
- Texture Tools
- Skew
- 4 Jaw chuck
- Cole jaws, Jam chuck, or Vacuum Chuck
- CA Glue
- Depth Gauge
- Thickness Gauge

Design

- Just for Looks or Utilitarian
- Shape
 - Simple smooth curves
 - Rule of thirds
 - Golden Rules – do the math
 - Or ignore everything and just do what feels right
 - To foot or not to foot
- Decorations
 - Rims
 - Bands
 - Color
 - Texture





got wood?

www.turningblanks.net

CENTER
FINDER

Let's Turn

Mounting the wood



**Start with Pull
cuts on the
base**



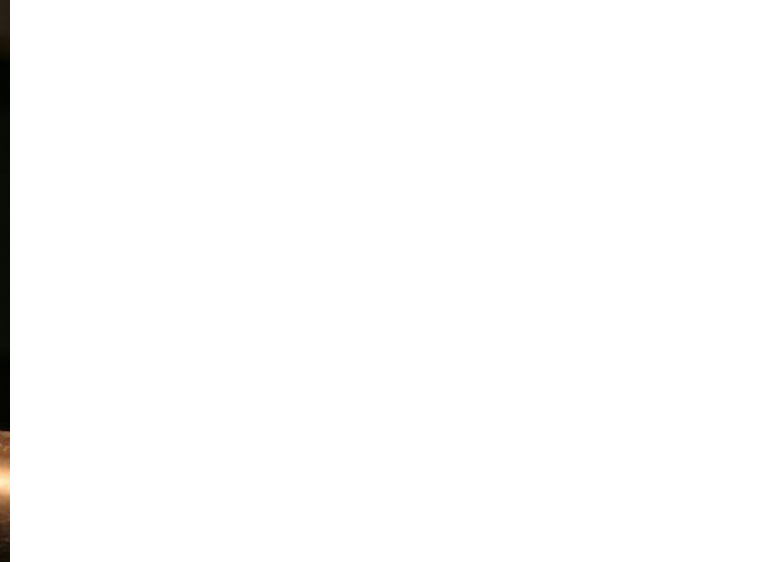
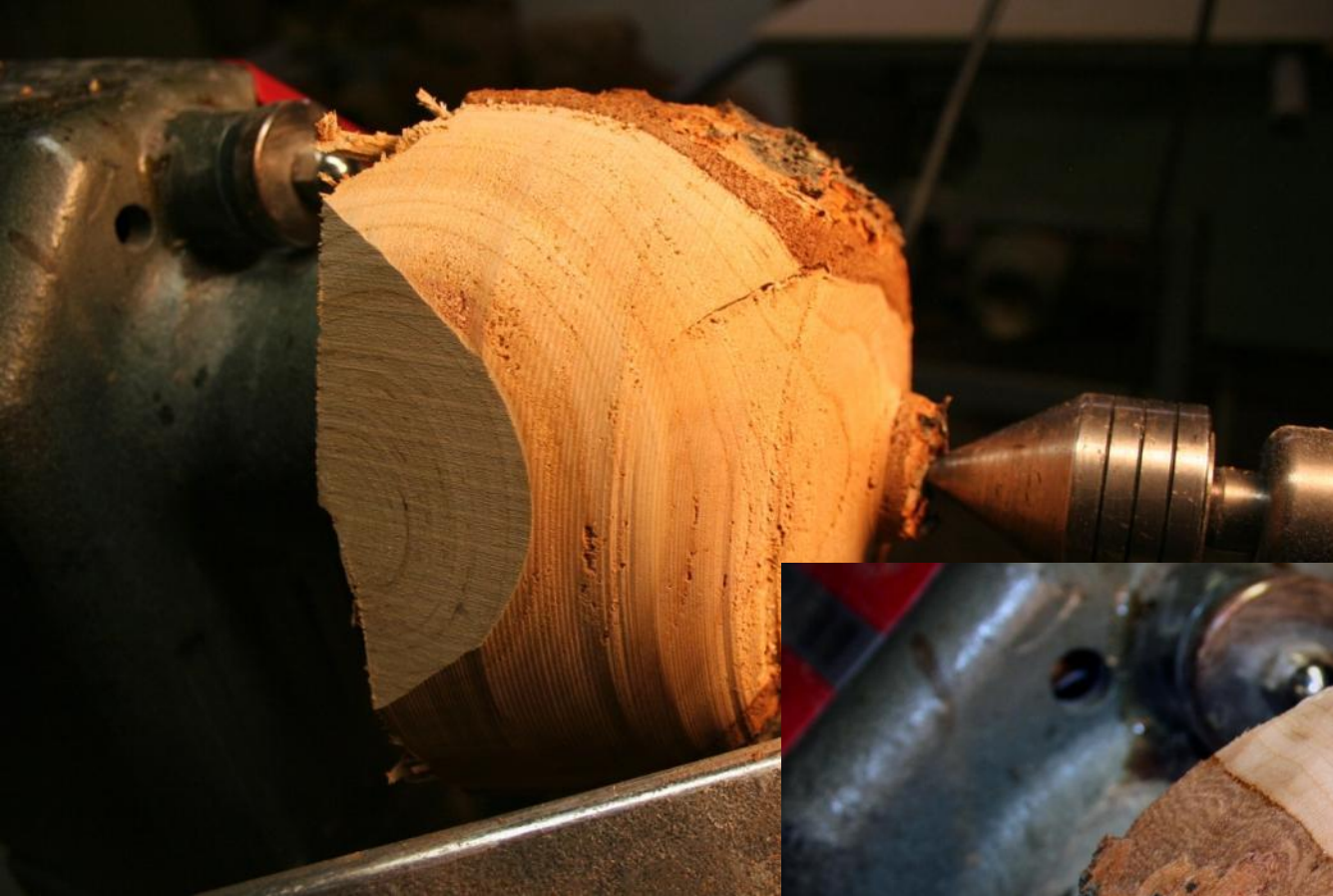
**Cut to edge &
around side**



Ride bevel - Shallow cuts



**Speed should be as
fast as possible
while keeping shake
to a min.**



**Eventually
it's round**

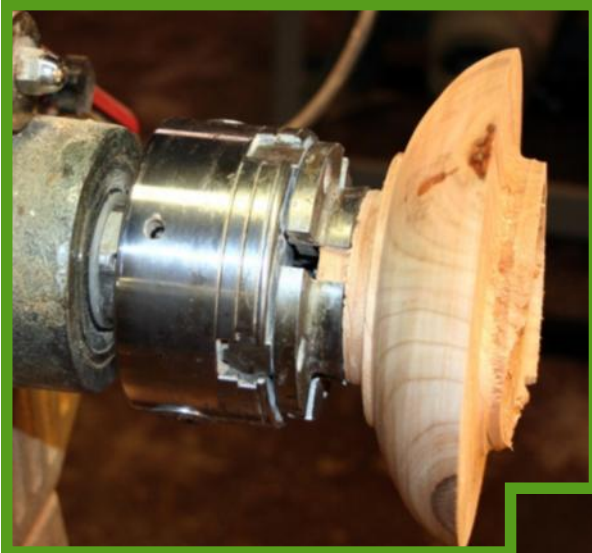


**Making
the
tenon**



Finishing the outside

Reversing & re-chucking



**Re-cut if necessary
& add any outside
embellishment**

Pull cut



Push cut



Turn inside edge

**Pull & push cuts
Keep center mass & use
tail stock as long as
possible**





**Remove
stub**

Continue cuts

**Refine edge as you go
1/2 in. at a time
*Don't go back***





**Smooth
edge**

**Check
Depth**

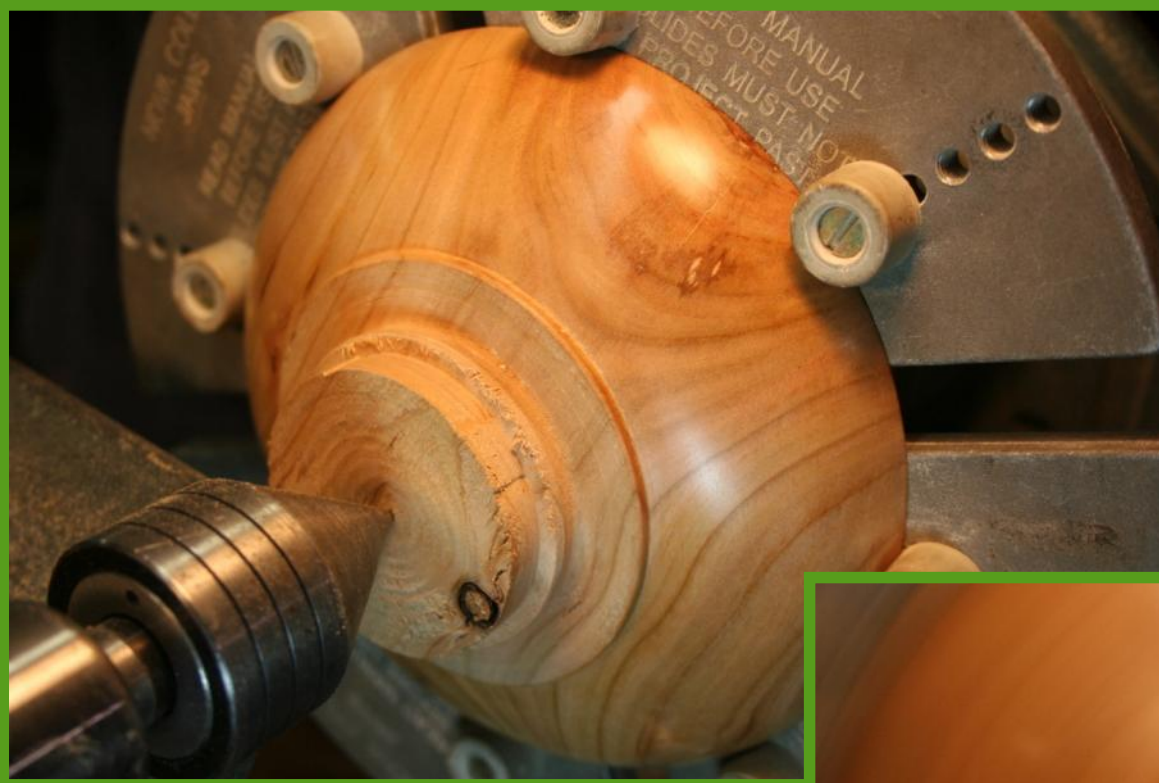


**Shear Cut &
Rough Sand
to smooth bottom &
sides**



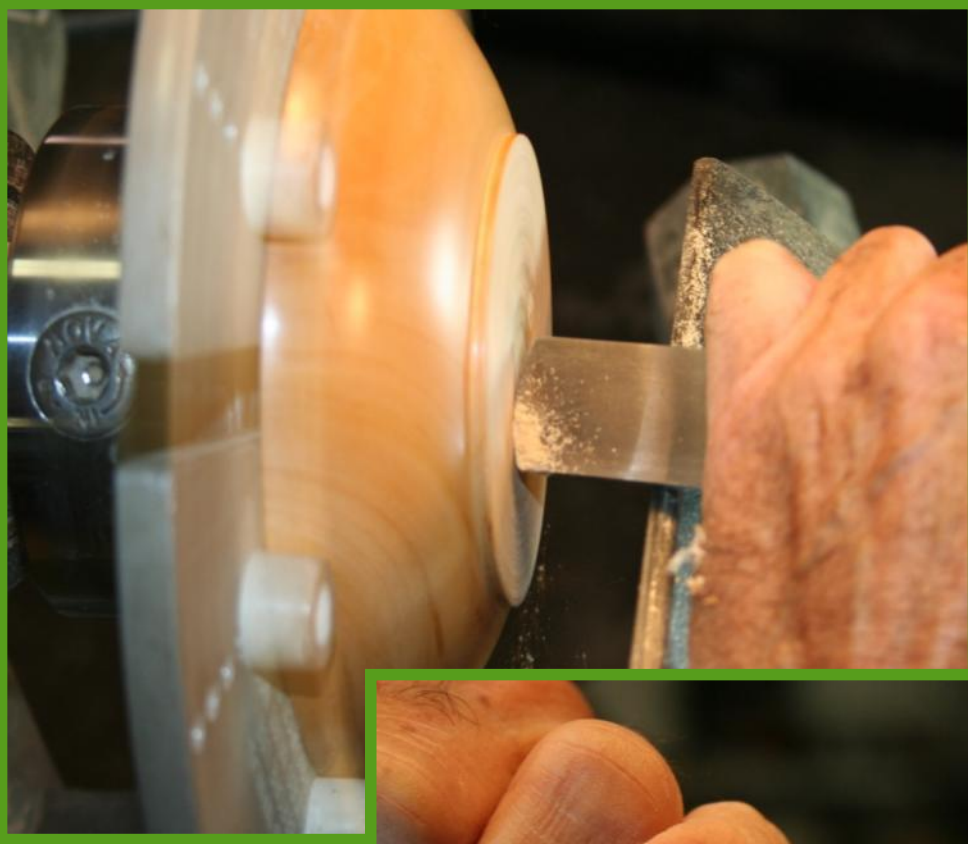
**Flatness
Check**





**Re-chuck &
Remove
Tenon**

Finish Bottom



Embellish, Sand & Apply Finish

