

Turning a square ornament

By John Lucas



Step 1 Cut an ornament block $1\frac{3}{4}$ " square.

Step 2 Mark the center of the square block

Step 3 Make a wooden faceplate. Mount it on the lathe and square up the face.

Step 4 Using the tailstock live center push the square block against the faceplate

Step 5 Draw lines around the block.

Step 6 Cut scrap wood to fit around the square block. Glue these scraps down. This makes a square chuck.

Step 7 Remove the square block and turn the outside of the wasteblock round. Cut a groove near the face wide enough for a hose clamp.

Step 8 Cut compression slots using a handsaw.

Step 9 Mount the ornament block in the square chuck. Tighten the hose clamp.

Step 10 Drill a $\frac{3}{8}$ " hole $\frac{1}{2}$ " deep.

Step 11. Make a template for the bowls. Draw a $1\frac{3}{8}$ " circle. So it makes a big U on some scrap. Put marks to indicate $\frac{5}{8}$ " deep.

Step 12 Use a round nose scraper to make a bowl that fits the template exactly. On the endgrain cut from the center out. On the side grain cut from the outside in.

Step 13. Rotate the square and cut bowls on all 6 sides.

Step 14 Use a Dremel with a small sanding drum to clean up the holes.

Step 15 Drill and mount the ornament hanger.