Turning a “Time Catcher”

Walnut Art Object
Original By Dave Stalling
Demo by By Dave Stalling & Jack Karstens
KC Woodturners Members
Time Catcher Profile
Steps: To make Time Catcher (1)

Initial outside turning form – Careful Air Turning

- Prepare (4”x6”x9”) block; cut off one 4”x6” end at ~5 deg; square other end
- Mount center of tapered cut end on safety driving spur & locate live center 5/8” from the face edge of other end
- Pencil on center line layout design profiles on edges: base, sphere & top knot features; mark sphere center on face edge
- Using gouge tool, form outer shape; check that you have a spherical shape, fix if needed; Add tenon to base
- Sand with 120-180 grit
- MEASURE SPHERE’S THICKNESS FROM FACE TO SPHERE BACK AT CENTER -- RECORD THIS THICKNESS
Steps: To make Time Catcher (2)

Reorient spherical form on adapter ring – Remove center wood
  • Mount using hot glue to secure hollow sphere
  • Center & square sphere face to live center and mount sphere
  • Secure Sphere to mounting ring with hot glue (Hot gun helpful)
  • Using bowl gouge or scraper, form hollow sphere leaving uniform wall ~5/16” thickness
  • Mark inner surface inner groves to give ~1/4” ribs
  • Cut 3/16” deep grooves groove with 1/8” diamond cutoff or groove tool; Sand 120g-320g
  • Remove the Time Catcher sphere from the support ring with hot air gun
Steps: To make Time Catcher (3)

Remount Time Catcher in chuck for turning outside

• Chuck Time Catcher tenon in lathe chuck and position live center
• Remove hot glue residue
• Mark outer groove positions
• Cut 3/16” deep to intersect inner grooves (KEEP CUTOFF TOOL SHARP)
• Cut outer grooves and turn top knot
• Clear intersections not cut through
• Sand grooves and surface of Time Catcher (120g-320g)
Suggested Tools, Support Ring - Hot glue

- Bowl gouge (3/8” – ½”); safety drive spur and live center
- Scrapers (1/2” & 1”); Adapter grip ring (donut/jam chuck)
- Diamond Cutoff tool (1/8”)
- 1/8” Curved Groove tool (made from 3/16” tool steel rod)
- Round Carbide Cutter tool
- Hot glue & Hot air blower
- Sander, 3” disk & sandpaper disks
- Dremel Tool with pointed cutter or 1/8” pointed wood rasp/file
- Choice of tools may vary based on personal preference
What are we making?
A Time Catcher!
Align Live Center with Inner Sphere Center

• Align Internal with External Spheres (~1mm/0.040”)
Sanded and Ready to Part Off