

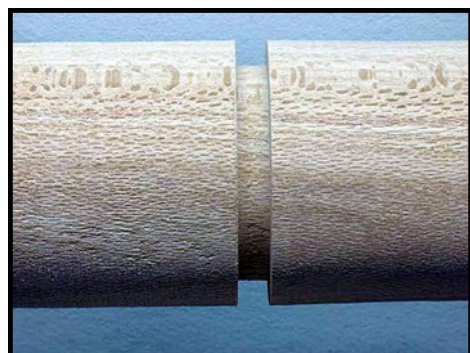
# Tips from Old Millrat-James D Thompson

## Turning Wood oyster Box;

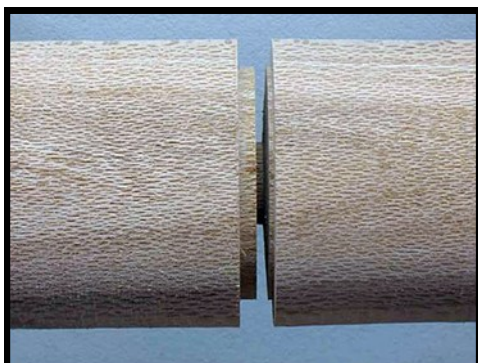
I recently leant how to make an oyster shape box on the lathe I used silky oak for this demonstration. Here's a step by step version of how; Make a cylinder about 6 or



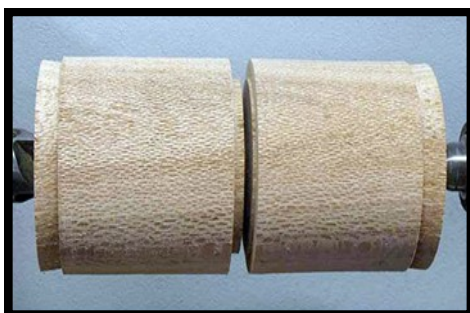
7 inches long and about 3 to 4 inches in diameter. as shown in the next picture



Approximately in the centre of this cylinder cut a groove about 1/4" deep and 3/8" wide. See next picture.



Then cut another near one side of this groove. As shown.

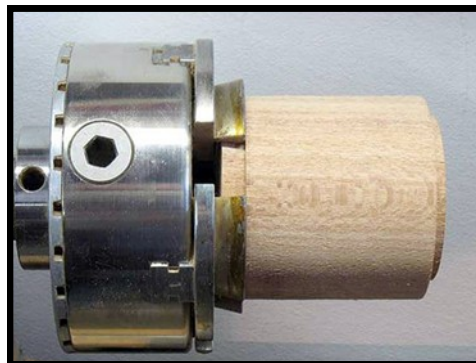


The spigot on the left will slip into a bell that you will cut into the piece on the right. The tiny spigot that remains on this piece will serve as a reference for

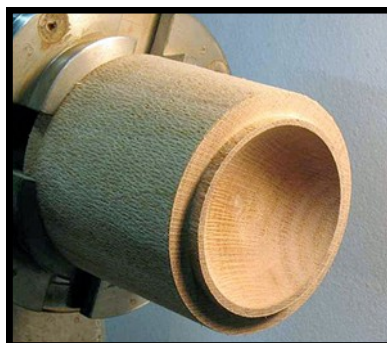
the size of the bell that you will cut into it.

Now I cut the ends to fit my chuck. You could also use a pair of jam chucks and glue the pieces into them. Now you can take the entire piece out of the lathe and cut through the remainder in the middle. You can also part it off if you want.

Now put the piece with the spigot back into the lathe.



As you can see, it has the spigot facing out.



Next you need to turn a dish into the end of the piece. The time to put your finish on is now.



Next you will need to cut a radius on the edge and cut the back of the piece most of the way down. Try to maintain a constant thickness.

Now you part off the piece. It will look something like this. It will be put into the next piece to finish it.



Turn a recess for the spigot to fit into. This

will be your jam chuck so make it a tight fit.

Finish the piece. Remove it from the jam chuck. Now you are ready to turn this into the other half of the box. Remove this half from chuck. Start on the other half.



Turn the dish into it and turn the back of it as you on the first one. You can put the spigot half back on to check for uniformity of shape.



When the piece looks right, part it off. Now you need to turn another spigot to use as a jam chuck to accept this piece so you can finish it.

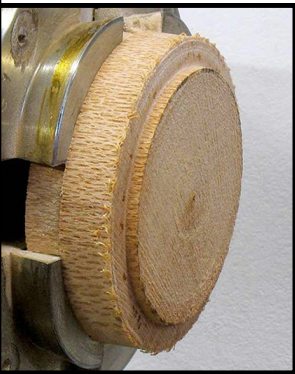


I need to put a couple more coats of finish on this box. I was in a hurry to get the pictures taken, so it only has one quick coat of wipe-on poly on it.

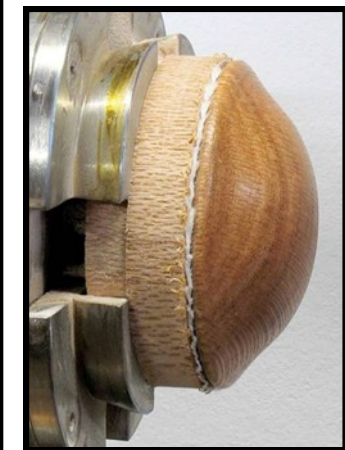
These are fun to make, but they waste a lot of material. You end up with only about 3” of the 6” you started with. But the ladies love them. And that is reason enough to make them.

*James D Thompson.*

Mount this piece onto the jam chuck as shown in next picture.



As you can see I cut a little too much off the jam chuck spigot, so I used a sheet of paper towel to get a tight fit. Finish the piece now. When the pieces are put together, they make an oyster shaped box, as shown in the next picture.



And here are the two halves, one with a bell and one with a spigot. The fit on these two mating halves is critical. Too tight and they won't go together. Too loose and they won't stay together. Be very careful with this.

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## *INTARSIA*

Intarsia—The making of pictures from pieces of solid timber—is one of the less commonly pursued woodworking discipline. This is unfortunate, since the modern scrollsaw makes it easier than ever to do this work.

It's impossible to say when Intarsia was first developed. Some believe it was invented by the Ancient Egyptians, some by the Romans.

The only certainty is that it was very popular in Italy during the 15th century and examples of Intarsia have been found in Italy and southern Germany dating from as long as 200 years before that.

But by the 17th century, Intarsia had virtually disappeared, having been replaced by marquetry and inlay.

Since the 1970's the craft has enjoyed a revival which now appears to be gathering pace.