

[**Turning a Snowman Box**](http://blog.woodturnerscatalog.com/2012/12/turning-a-snowman-box/)

Turn a festive Snowman Box that is sure to be this year’s favorite decoration.  This woodturning project requires only a few tools and a little creativity.

**BLANK PREPARATION**

* Select a blank that is  3″ x 3″ x 4-1/2″. Use a center finder and mark the center on each end of the blank.  Mount the blank on the lathe between centers using a cone center and drive center.

**TURNING THE BLANK**

* With a roughing gouge turn the blank to round.  Turn a tenon on one end of the blank to fit in the jaws of your chuck. ( Turn the tenon to match the profile of your jaws for a secure hold.)
* Mount the blank in a chuck using the tenon. Support the opposite end with a revolving center.  Using a spindle gouge turn the snowman body to shape as per the [Snowman Diagram](http://blog.woodturnerscatalog.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/snowman.gif) dimensions.
* Remove the revolving center and use a 7/8″ forstner bit mounted in a drill chuck and drill a hole in the blank 2-1/2″ deep.
* Using a parting tool, part off the blank leaving 1/8″ of excess material on the base of the snowman. Leave the remaining blank in the chuck.  Turn a 1/2″ long tenon on the remaining blank to fit the drilled hole in the snowman. Check for fit frequently.

**REVERSE CHUCKING**

* Mount the drilled end of the snowman on the tenon. Use a revolving center in the tailstock to support the blank. Turn a flat or slightly concave base on the snowman. Leave a small tenon of waste material to support the blank while sanding and finishing.

**SANDING AND FINISHING**

* Sand the snowman through 320 grit or higher.  To add a little creativity to your snowman, use white liming wax or paint to color the snowman body white.
* Remove the snowman from the lathe. Use a chisel or handsaw to remove the remaining waste material from the base of the snowman. Sand and finish the exposed ends.

**TURNING THE HEAD AND HAT**

* Select a blank that is  3″ x 3″ x 3-1/2″. Use a center finder and mark the center on each end of the blank.  Mount the blank on the lathe between centers using a cone center and drive center.
* With a roughing gouge turn the blank to round.  Turn a tenon on one end of the blank to fit in the jaws of your chuck. ( Turn the tenon to match the profile of your jaws for a secure hold.)
* Using a spindle gouge turn the snowman hat/head to the diagram dimensions.

**SANDING AND FINISHING**

* Sand the snowman hat/head through 320 grit.
* Finish the snowman hat/head with your choice of finish. We recommend using Deft Clear Wood Finish to seal and finish the blank. Apply the Deft to the snowman hat/head with the lathe stopped using a brush or rag. Apply liberally to the blank and wipe off the excess. Once dry, use a paste wax and steel wool while the lathe is running to smooth the deft, leaving a sealed and streak-free surface.
* Match the head to the body and use white liming wax or paint to color the snowman head white.  To make an authentic snowman, use a tombow marker to color the hat black. *Hint: You could also use paint or black shoe polish if needed.*



* Use a Parting tool or long point of a skew and part the snowman hat/head from the remaining blank. Sand and finish the top of the hat.  Use a woodburner or black marker and draw a face and a few buttons on the snowman.



**TURNING THE NOSE (OPTIONAL)**

* Drill a small nose hole in the face of the snowman. Turn a small nose to fit in the drilled hole. Use CA glue and glue the nose into the hole.

**MAKING THE ARMS (OPTIONAL**

* Drill two arm holes in the snowman that will fit a couple small twigs. Use CA Glue or Epoxy to glue the twigs into the arm holes.



**SUPPLIES USED:**

* [Roughing Gouge](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/p/7/2/31/130/-/3147/Artisan-Spindle-Roughing-Gouge/artisan%2Broughing%2Bgouge)
* [Spindle Gouge](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/p/7/2/31/130/-/3483/Artisan-Spindle-Gouge/artisan%2Bspindle%2Bgouge)
* [Deft Clear Wood Finish](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/p/3/-/9/147/-/1350/Deft-Clear-Wood-Finish/deft%2Bclear%2Bwood)
* [Tombow Marker](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/p/3/-/9/148/-/4186/Tombow-Dual-Brush-Coloring-Pen/tombow)
* [Spray Lacquer](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/p/1/-/3/17/-/2406/Masters-Magic-Spray-Lacquer/masters%2Bmagic)