

Tips and Tricks by Wendell Ziegler.

Presented on August 19, 2013 at Shorty's Cabin.

TOPS & MUSHROOMS ARE A GOOD PRACTICE EXERCISE, WITH AN ITEM PEOPLE ADORE. TOOL TECHNIQUES, CHATTERING BY USING THE WEAKNESS OF THE WOOD AND THE TOOL IN HAND ARE EXCELLENT MINI DEMOS FOR FRIENDS, AND GIVE THEM A GIFT. I ALSO LET THEM COLOR THE TOPS. YOU DON'T HAVE TO CHATTER A TOP BEFORE YOU COLOR IT, BUT CHATTER IS UNIQUE.

A SKATE FROM A ENTRY FROM SPACE IS ONE OF MY DOWNFALLS, SO I MOST OFTEN SCRAPE MY WAY IN, FOR ME, IT'S MORE COMFORTABLE

I DRAW A QUICK SKETCHES, TEAR OUT PICTURES FROM A BOOK OR COPY AT TIMES, MAKE MYSELF NOTES, AND NOTICE SHAPES ETC., IN STORES. FOLLOW THE CONCEPT WHEN MAKING PIECES.

ACORN ORNAMENTS TO ACORN BIRD HOUSES TO ACORN TOPS. THIS WAS MY EVOLUTION TO THE TOPS.

I USE WOOD THAT IS ALREADY CRACKED TO GIVE CERTAIN EFFECTS OR BECAUSE THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO WORK WITH. IF IT HAS SEVERE CRACKS, I OFTEN TAPE WITH DUCT TAPE, THE OUTSIDE AFTER IT IS SHAPED AND SANDED, AS THIS REALLY HELPS TO STABILIZE FOR SAFTY AND TO KEEP IT FROM CATCHING OR CRACKING MORE AND MAKE CLEANER CUTS INSIDE.

USE STRAIGHT GRAINED MAPLE FOR TOPS AS IT HAS BOOD BALANCE AND YOU DON'T BREAK STEMS. YOU CAN CHATTER MOST ANY END GRAIN.

I USE RARE EARTH MAGNETS ON MY LATHE, DRILL PRESS, AND BELT SANDER FOR TOOL HOLDERS. I LIKE THINGS HANDY. USE CLOTHS PINS FOR SANDING STRIPS FOR CHUCK GRIPS, NARROW STRIPS OF SANDPAPER TO KEEP FROM MARRING SMALL ITEMS PLUS ADD GRIP POWER. MY OWN 2X4 SAND PAPER HOLDERS, 2X4s WITH DOWELS TO KEEP THE CHUCKS HANDY, A 2X4 RACK MADE FOR QUICK SAND PAPER ACCESS

HANG A PIECE OF TAPE TO THE OUTER EDGE OF A NATURAL EDGE. IF YOU FEEL THE TAPE = BEWARE

IF A CONTAINER WITH TRANSPARENT DRIES UP, JUST ADD ALCOHOL, IT REJUVENATES.

SOME SAY THAT YOU SHOULDN'T COPY OTHERS, BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, IT'S MOST LIKELY BEEN DONE BEFORE. THE SINCEREST OF FLATTERY IS IMITATION, EVERYTHING THAT YOU MAKE HAS NEVER BEEN DONE NOR SEEN BEFORE AND NEVER AGAIN.

ROB NELSON GLUES THE FINIALS ONTO THE VESSELS THAT ARE MADE FOR LOOKS RATHER THAN FUNCTION . WHICH BRINGS ME TO THIS -THE VICTOR TRAP. MY FRIEND LIKES TO STICK HIS FINGER IN MY HOLLOW FORMS AND DECLARE THAT IT'S NOT SANDED WELL,= I HAVE A MINIATURE VICTOR TRAP THAT I SET AND PUT OVER THE HOLE WHERE THE FINIAL GOES.

A DRILL FOR GLASS OR CERAMICS WORKS WELL TO DRILL THROUGH HARD STEEL LIKE A PLANNING BLADE, WHERE A REGULAR DRILL WON'T TOUCH IT.

WHEN CHUCKING A PIECE , TRY TO MAKE THE RECESS OR SPIGOT SHY OF BOTTOMING OUT AS THIS GIVES A STRONGER HOLD, FLAT EDGES, KEEP IT CLOSE TO THE SMALLER ADJUSTMENT OF THE CHUCK - IT GRIPS BETTER.

ROUGH DOWN A NEW PIECE TO THE GOOD WOOD THAT YOU WILL USE BEFORE YOU SHAPE IT. IF YOU DON'T WANT ANY BARK INCLUSION , OR OTHER FLAWS, GET ALL THE BARK OFF FIRST SO YOU CAN BETTER DETERMINE THE SHAPE

JUST BECAUSE YOU HAVE A "X" SIZED PIECE OF WOOD, BURL, DOESN'T MEAN THAT YOU HAVE TO MAKE THAT BOWL THAT BIG. SOMETIMES SMALLER LOOKS NICER

A 1/3 X 2/3 PROPORTION IS A GOOD STANDARD, WHERE THE WIDEST AREA IS, VASE FORMS IN PARTICULAR. A GOOD FLOW. IF YOU TURN IT UPSIDE DOWN, IT MOST OFTEN LOOKS JUST AS GOOD. IF YOU PAINT IT BLACK AND IT LOOKS GOOD, THAT SAYS IT'S A GOOD FORM

TO DUPLICATE A CERTAIN SIZE, USE A PARTING TOOL AND CALIPERS TO IDENTIFY THREE OR MORE CRITICAL AREAS. IF POSSIBLE , PENCIL MARK THE BOTTOM OF THOSE GROOVES SO THAT WHEN YOU TURN AND THE LINES START TO GO AWAY,

YOU'RE THERE. TO MAKE BALLS THE WAY DUANE HILL DEMOED. HE ALSO HAD A MATH FORMULA TO ACHIEVE ANY PRECISE SIZE. A RANDOM SIZED BALL CAN BE ROUNDED BY ROTATING IT BETWEEN TWO CUPPED DRIVE & TAIL STOCK AND REMOVE THE SHADOW, ROTATE , THEN REMOVE THE SHADOW ECT., TILL IT'S SATISFACTORY

CINDY DROZDA POINTS OUT THAT ALMOST ALL TURNING IS EITHER A COVE OR A BEAD.

I USE A GARBAGE CAN WITH MY OWN PARTIAL WOODEN LID UNDER MY LATHE BED. IT COLLECTS A LOT OF THE CHIPS AND IT IS A VERY HANDY TOOL BENCH = MY LATHE IS JUST THE CORRECT HEIGHT.

THE TOPIC USING EG (ETHYLENE GLYCOL OR ANTIFREEZE VS PEG CAME UP, SEE THE FOLLOWING LINKS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

DAVE CARNELL ABOUT USING EG, HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO THE CDC, THIS DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE A SAFE PRODUCT.

<http://www.angelfire.com/nc3/davecarnell/rot.html>

FROM CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC)

[http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ersbdb/EmergencyResponseCard\\_29750031.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ersbdb/EmergencyResponseCard_29750031.html)

ALSO SEARCHED FOR PEG (POLYETHYLENE GLYCOL) . MUCH SAFER PRODUCT, AVAILABLE FROM ROCKLER AND OTHERS.

<http://www.rockler.com/product.cfm?page=686>

<http://www.rockler.com/how-to/anti-freeze-is-not-a-green-wood-stabilizer/>

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