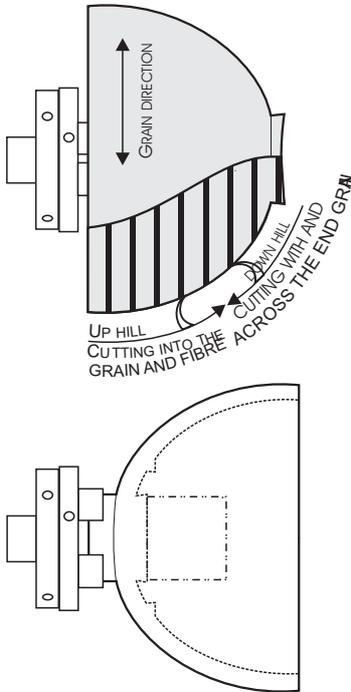


ROUGHING OUT A GREENWOOD BOWL

This project sheet is the start of a bowl with a simple curve and no decorations turned from fresh-cut green wood. The overall plan is turn the wood a bit thicker than the planned finished work, thus allowing for shrinkage, and then to dry it.

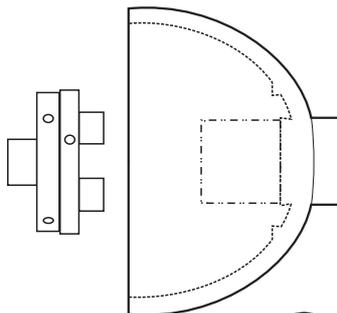


Mount the wood with the side that will become the top towards the headstock of the lathe. Use a faceplate, screw chuck or expand a scroll chuck into a drilled hole. Round the block off and make a spigot for re-mounting. This spigot should be larger than the ideal spigot size to allow for shrinkage. Shape the outside. Finishing cuts should be downhill for the best finish and you should still aim for the least end-grain tearout at this stage.

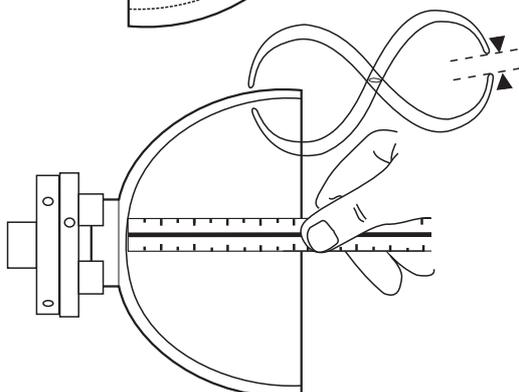
Plan the inside to have a spigot or dovetail for re-mounting when the wood is dry. The position and size of this will depend on the chuck you have to use. Allow for shrinkage when determining the size of this cut. After drying you will need to re-mount the bowl by this inside grip to finish turn the outside just as you would when turning a bowl from dry wood.

Now turn this inside. Hollow this so that the wall thickness is equal to 10% of the diameter of the bowl. Make your finishing cuts as good as possible to reduce end-grain tearout.

Now dry the rough-turned bowl. You can wrap it in newspaper, or wax the outside, or put it in a box with its own shavings, or freezer treat it, or boil it. If it is small enough you may microwave it. This will result in the bowl being dry enough to finish in one to six months rather than the years required to dry the full size original blank.



When the rough-turned blank is dry, remount it so that the outside can be turned. If there has been a lot of shrinkage this may require several re-mounts before a secure mount on the inside of the bowl is achieved. Turn and finish the outside of the bowl.



Turn it around and finish the inside. Check wall thickness and check the depth frequently as the bowl nears completion. Sand and finish the inside.

To clean the bottom turn the bowl over and hold it to a rubberised faceplate with the tailstock, or in a Longworth chuck, Cole jaws, a vacuum chuck or jam chuck.