

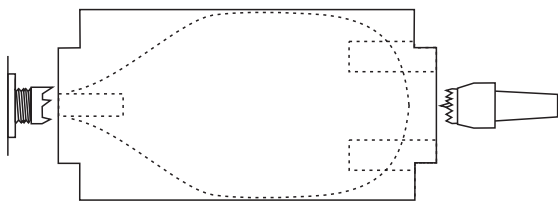
## A Water Person

Demonstrated by Bryan Mawhinney

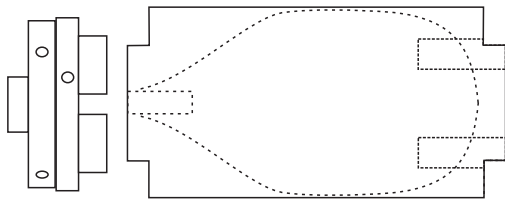
This project produces an interesting character that looks like a drop of water. When gathered together: Water People. You may make these dolls in many other sizes and shapes and give them other names.

Before starting on the lathe you do need to have some rope or string ready for the hair and make sure that the end that is to go into the wood is stiff enough to push into the hole. You will need 8mm eyes. Coloured plastic look good but you can make them from wood.

This plan is written for the use of a small chuck and small drive and live centres. If you don't have these tools you will have to work out other ways to make the doll.

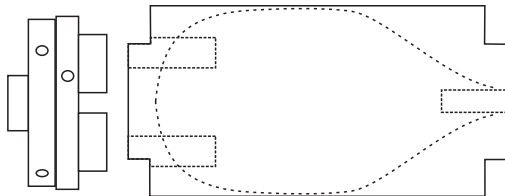


Mount a block of wood that is 50mm square and 100mm long between centres. Make it round and cut spigots for mounting the wood in a 30mm chuck on both ends.

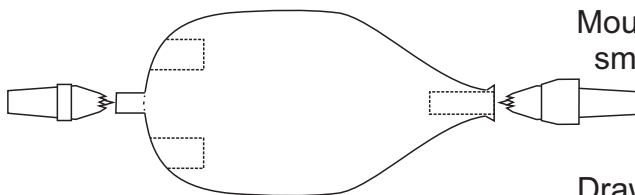


Mount the wood in a small chuck. Drill two holes to fit the legs into. Use an 8mm brad point drill. A jig to keep the drill straight is an advantage.

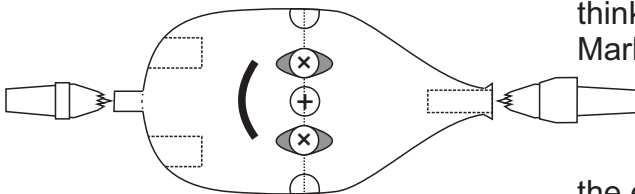
If there is significant grain showing in the wood it may be good to use this as the face later so drill the leg holes to suit this.



Drill a hole in the top end of the doll to take the planned hair. This end also needs to be held by a live centre later in the work process. A 7mm hole fits the Nova centre or you may need to plug the hole after drilling.

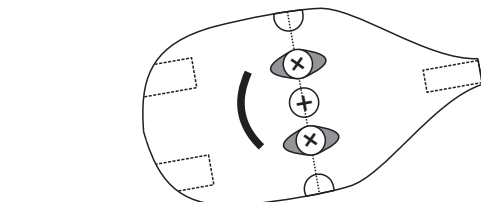


Mount the wood between a small drive and small live tail. Turn it to shape apart from enough wood to hold it on the lathe. Sand all of the surface.



Draw a line around the body about where you think the nose, eyes and ears should be. Mark the positions of those appendages, which may be equally spaced or wherever you would like them. Drill an 8mm hole for each of them - shallow for the eyes and deeper for the others.

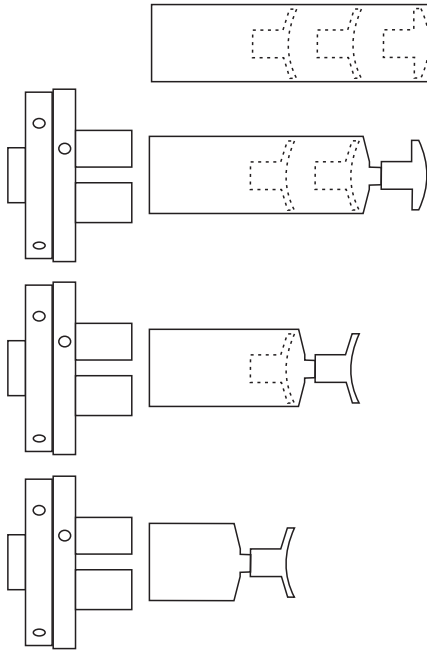
Use a carving tool to create the mouth and to slope the hole above and below the eyes.



Part it off and sand the parting areas.

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Now our water person needs a nose, ears, feet and eyes.



For the nose and ears start with a piece of wood about 20mm square and 75mm long.

Grip this wood in a chuck. Turn it round and cut the end to a moderate convex curve for the nose. Cut the wood immediately behind the nose to 8mm diameter. Part it off.

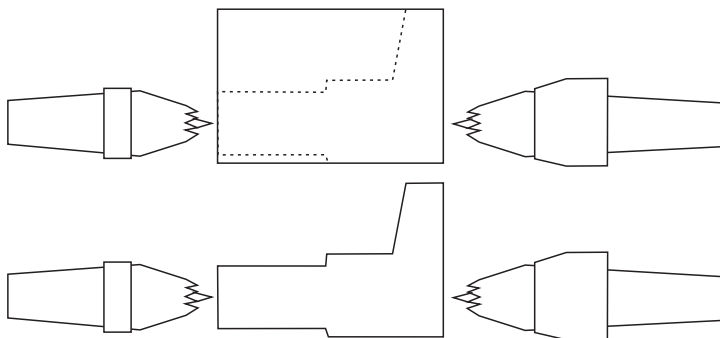
Cut the end to a moderate concave curve for an ear. Cut the wood immediately behind the ear to 8mm diameter. Part it off.

Repeat the process to make the other ear.



The feet require two small pieces of wood shown here at a larger scale for clarity.

Each piece is 12 x 20mm square and 30mm long. Mark offset centres 6mm from a short edge and central between the sides on both ends.



Mount each piece of this wood between small centres on the offset marks.

Turn these so that just the very tip of the toes are taken off. Then the tops of the boots are turned down to about 10mm. The upper leg is turned to 8mm. Then sand the heel roundish.



The best eyes are imported colourful plastic but you may make them out of a contrasting wood. Put a drop of thick CA glue in the eye hole and place the eye in the hole.

Add the hair and all the small parts and your water person is complete.