

Natural Edge Bowl

To make the block round on the bandsaw. Nail on a circle of card or hardboard and follow the edge of that with the saw.

Cut a flat into the surface that is to be the upper side of the bowl. Take care not to damage the bark that will be the bowl edge. This flat can take a faceplate, screw chuck or be drilled for a chuck dovetail.

Mount the block on the faceplate, screw chuck or dovetail chuck. Cut a spigot for re-mounting and cut the outside shape.

This wood will be out of balance so take care with lathe speed.

At the bark edge it may be necessary to cut uphill (around the upper part of the curve) a little so that the cutting action presses the bark towards the wood rather than away from the wood. It may be necessary to apply glue to the bark/wood join area before the last chisel cuts. Sand and finish the outside.

Turn the wood over and hollow it out just as you would a normal bowl. If a thin wall is planned then cut to that thickness step by step to ensure there is support for the area being cut. It may be necessary to apply glue to the bark/wood join area before the last chisel cuts. Sand and finish the inside.

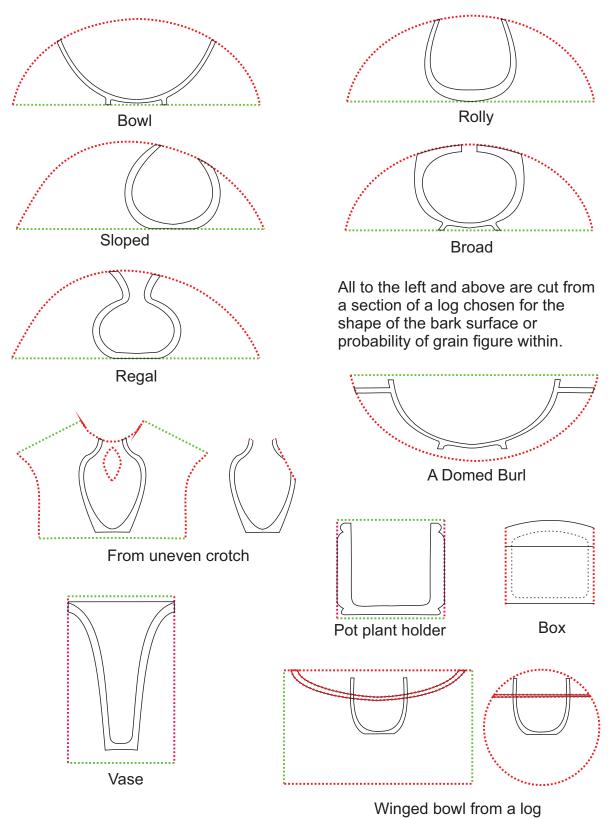
> To tidy the bottom hold the bowl on a shaped vacuum chuck or bowl blank shaped to be a jam chuck or block of rubber with the tailstock brought up. Re-shape or remove the spigot or turn it into three feet. Sand and finish this area.

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Natural Edge Options

Note which side of the block begins as the bark edge and which part is the sawn edge and then where these bark and sawn edges are in the finished work. These are guidelines only as flatter or more curved surfaces may be better and potential grain in the wood may influence the cutting choice.



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