

End grain Vase From log

Rudolph Lopez

1. **Evaluate log / limb, decide on design.** Which end will be bottom, keeping or avoiding any features in the log.
2. **Turn between centers with bottom at tailstock** (so you will have the center mark for re-chucking.)
3. **Rough out, leaving bark on log where rim will be.** Starting at tailstock end cutting downhill toward tailstock remove bulk being careful not to knock bark off of rim area at headstock end. Cut tenon on tailstock end.
4. **Mount log in chuck, use tailstock for support.** Check for loose bark and use CA glue if necessary to hold bark in place. Using freshly sharpened tool (I use 3/8", 40 degree bowl gouge) true up top of rim and finish shaping about 1/3 of outside of rim (cutting downhill from rim to center).
5. **Sand outside of rim area.** Be careful with bark, some hand sanding may be necessary especially on rims with multiple petals. (GREX D/A orbital sander is a WONDERFUL thing).
6. **Start cutting interior with sharpened tool using small, light, slow cuts,** check bark often and re-glue if needed. Cut rim to final thickness as far as possible before removing tailstock.
7. **Drill a 1/2" to 1" hole to establish final depth.** This removes the hard to cut center portion.
8. **Start hollowing.** I use a 5/8" Ellsworth grind bowl gouge and the ROLLY MUNRO HOLLOWER. Finish hollowing inside to final shape. Shear scrape or use a negative rake scraper to smooth out tool marks if necessary then sand interior.
9. **Finish cutting outside shape.** Starting with clearing cuts, downhill from left to right, remove bulk then with sharpened tool make final cuts following interior shape and thickness. Blend cuts with shear scrape or negative rake scraper. Sand as you go if you like.
10. **Reverse / Jamb chuck, to be able to under-cut or hollow bottom of base if desired.** I like to under-cut or hollow out the inside of the base on green logs. This sometimes will help prevent the base from splitting, but also makes for a much more finished appearing base.

Rudy referenced the following tool websites for review at The Atlanta Woodturners Guild on May 19th, 2010:

- Ron Browning's Self-Powered Sander: http://browningwoodturning.com/Demo_Handouts_files/sander.pdf
- Rubber Chuckie Jam Chuck Tool: <http://rubberchucky.com/> or email sales@rubberchucky.com