

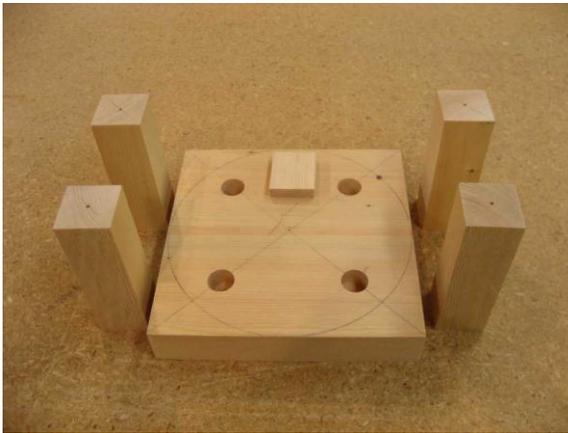
Zumbro Valley Woodturner's March 2013 Club Collaborative Challenge

Challenge: One two foot length of 2x4 dimension lumber; Two club members working together to produce one finished turning

Design – Team Effort

The design conversation on this project was very short; we would make a four-legged stool where Irv would turn the legs and I would turn the seat. We had a short debate on layout of the project in order to have the least amount of waste from our two-foot long 2x4 stud.

The small rectangular off-cut is our only waste from Irv's machining.



For my part I cut off the corners from the stool top on the band saw to make an approximately round cross-grain blank to avoid chipping the piece when roughing-out to round on the lathe.

Legs – Irv Miller

If Irv is going to do something he is going to do it right. In this case 'right' was to be determined by my daughters. If this stool was to be used by one of their dolls which of the six leg designs he came up with would they like best? Maybe seeing them in context of the stool top would help? They selected design example #6.



I wish I had a photo of Irv's layout patterns for these legs. Review of these patterns is a great education in planning for the production of a series of identical spindle turnings.

Careful spindle gouge and skew chisel work left an extremely clean burnished finish on these legs. Final sharpening on the rotary strop to hone the tool's edge helps Irv get such a smooth finishing cut. No sanding was done on these legs, wow.

Seat – John Thorson

By the time I got the machined wood home the seat blank had been glued up, the holes for the legs were drilled and the legs were ready to go. At this point my girls had also decided on the doll that would sit on the stool when it was finished.

All of this information gave me a pretty clear picture of the 'look' we needed on the seat... 'Goofy' comes natural to some of us so I decided to make the seat a representation of his hat.



I put the blank between centers to cut a recess in the bottom for the four-jaw chuck (leaving the imprint from tailstock live center). I then mounted it in the chuck and turned the top and outer surface of the seat. When reversing the blank and mounting on the vacuum chuck I used the tailstock center mark again to center the blank and hold it firmly while doing the heavy cuts on the bottom removing the tailstock only for the final cuts.

Irv said to not sand anything so my effort turning the seat took less than 15 minutes. I forgot to grind the back-bevel off my $\frac{1}{4}$ bowl gouge so I left some tool marks on the top which is unfortunate. I also got some tear-out under the 'brim' and didn't bother to do a second cut because this wouldn't show and I didn't want to get the top too thin. There, end of confessions.

Conclusions

Most importantly, we both had a great time doing this project for the club challenge.

Good design, good planning and careful execution by both team members made this a successful collaborative effort. If there is a negative here it is in how quickly this all went. Time flies when you're having fun.