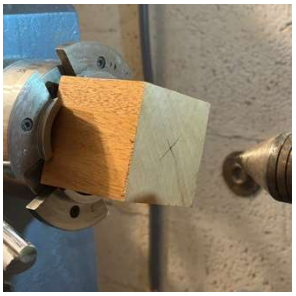
1. Place a square-ish blank in your chuck jaws, or between centers.

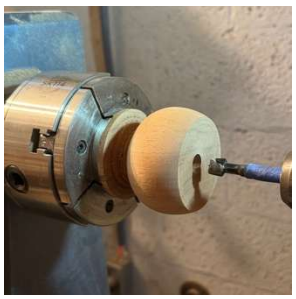


2. Turn a tenon on one end of the blank. Use calipers (or an alternative method) to ensure your tenon is the ideal size for your chuck jaws.

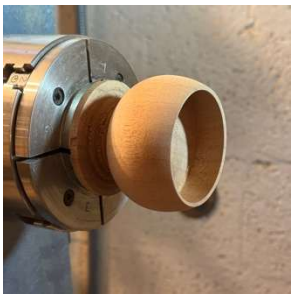
3. Round your blank, and draw a line to indicate where the maximum diameter of the upcoming bowl will be.

4. Turn a bowl so that the rim is lesser than the maximum diameter of the bowl.

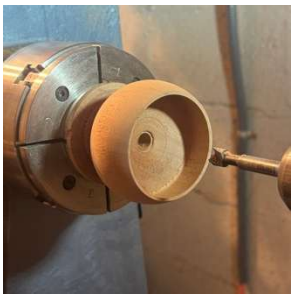
5. Using a Jacob's chuck and drill bit, drill a hole that is as deep as the position of the bowl's maximum diameter. Here I used a 3/8" Forstner bit.



6. Hollow the bowl to the depth of the hole you drilled in the previous step. The walls of the bowl should be fairly thin.



7. Using your Jacob's chuck and the same drill bit, drill another hole that's depth is about halfway between the rounded end of the bowl and where your previous hole terminated.



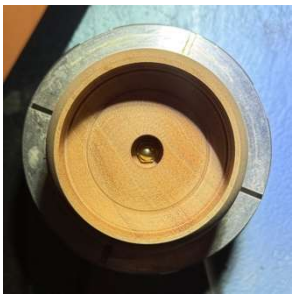
8. Shape the profile of the interior of the bowl so that you have a cone or a rounded surface where the "top" of the cone is nearest to the rim of the bowl.

9. Using a small gouge or hollowing tool, hollow the interior of the drilled recess so that the entrance is narrower than the maximum interior diameter of the cavity.

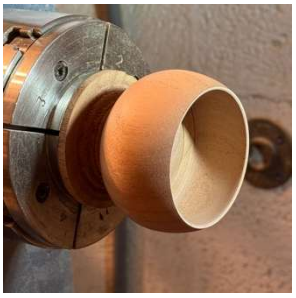
10. Attach a small screw to an acorn nut via thick CA glue. The acorn nut will serve as the spin top bearing. Use a hacksaw (or similar) to cut off the head of the screw. Here I used a 6-32 size screw and nut, where the screw protruded ¼" from the nut.

11. Using your Jacob's chuck and a 1/8" drill bit, drill a hole slightly longer than the length of the screw in the previous step.

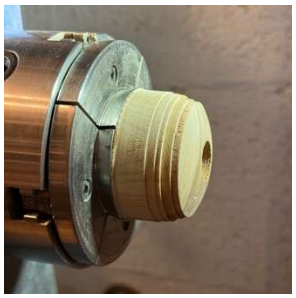
12. Place some thick CA glue into the 1/8" diameter hole you just drilled, and insert the screw. The acorn nut will now be apparent as a spin top bearing.



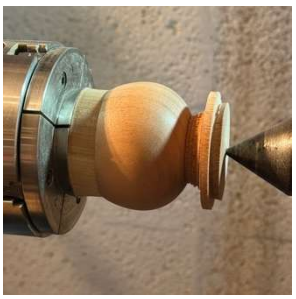
13. Sand the bowl interior and exterior to the desired finishing grit.



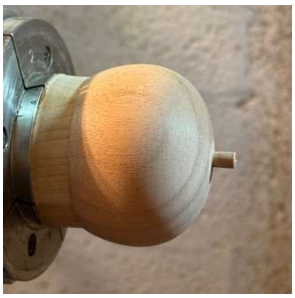
14. Turn a small jam chuck that is sized to the interior diameter of the bowl's rim.



15. Place the bowl on the jam chuck and bring up the tailstock for support.

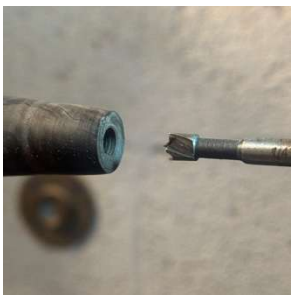


16. Turn away the excess material on the bowl and leave a ¼” diameter tenon. The tenon should be about ¼” long or a tad more.



17. Place a small blank in pen jaws (or similar). This blank is for the finial/stem of the spin top. Round the end of the blank.

18. Using your Jacob’s chuck, drill a ¼” diameter hole slightly longer than the ¼” tenon that you left on the bowl.



19. Shape the finial as desired. Keep it fairly short, and be sure you don’t cut into the hole you drilled in the previous step. The bottom face of the finial should be slightly concave so it seats well on the bowl.

20. Sand the finial to the desired finishing grit, and turn it away from the rest of the blank.

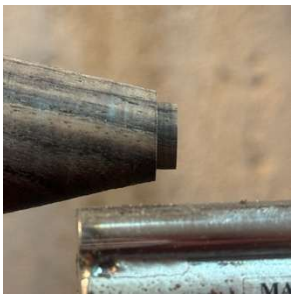
21. Spot sand as needed, and use thick CA (or a suitable alternative) to attach the finial to the bowl. Apply whatever finish you want. Here, I used Danish oil.

22. Place a blank between centers. This will be the pedestal for the spin top.

23. Round the blank so that the maximum diameter is about as wide as the bowl rim's diameter.

24. Shape the rounded blank into a cone shape, and turn a tenon on the headstock side.

25. Place the cone-shaped blank into your chuck jaws. Using a parting tool (or similar), size the end of the cone so that it is slightly larger in diameter than the entrance to the cavity on the interior of the bowl from before.



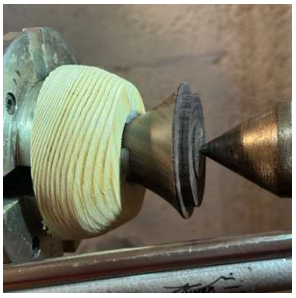
26. Turn a small dish in the top of the cone. This will be where the spin top bearing will contact, so make it as smooth as possible. CA glue can be used to fill any pores. Refine the size of the end of the cone until it is roughly ½” millimeter larger in diameter than the entrance to the cavity on the interior of the bowl.

27. Shape the pedestal so you have a nice continuous curve going from the base to the tip. The neck of the pedestal should be slender so it doesn’t interfere with the spinning action of the bowl.

28. Sand the pedestal to the desired grit.

29. Turn a jam chuck that has a hole in the middle. The hole should be contoured to match the curve of the pedestal.

30. Place the pedestal in the jam chuck’s hole, and secure with hot melt glue. Alternatively, you can just use tailstock support and sand away the nub that will remain.



31. Turn away the pedestal's tenon and sand to the desired grit. Use whatever finish is desired, but don't put anything on the dish at the top of the pedestal.

32. Push the top of the pedestal into the cavity on the interior of the bowl and give it a spin. Finished!