

Turning a Wooden Parasol by Sammy Long

Turning a bowl to 1/16th - 3/32nd wall thickness

Turning the outside

- Using a green bowl blank, rough out the outside of the bowl with a tenon on the tailstock end.
- Rotate the bowl and true up the outside again.
- Finish turn the outside of the bowl using a scraper or bowl gouge with the shear scraper.
- "Wet sand" to 320 grit.

Turning the inside

- Use the bowl gouge making several cuts to remove the wood to 3/4" wall thickness, cutting from the rim to the bottom of the bowl.
- Make sure that the wall thickness is the same from the rim to the bottom.
- Place your light on the back side of the bowl. It will be used to judge the thickness as cuts are made.
- Cut only 1" to 1 1/2" deep at this step keeping some mass to reduce vibrations.
- Measure to check thickness continuing to 3/32" or a little less.
- "Wet sand" that area.
- Use the light and calipers to make sure the thickness is the same from rim to bottom.
- When you get to the end with the tenon, continue with the same curve and flow as you will not be able to use the light or calipers.
- Sand the entire bowl.
- Drill a 3/16" hole into the tenon.



Finishing

- Turn the bowl around on the lathe and prepare to remove the tenon using a jam chuck.
- Take small cuts to remove the tenon.
- Use a light to check the thickness of the bottom of the bowl as you cut.
- As you get closer, rub the bevel of the bowl gouge on the finished area of the bowl.
- Continue with these cuts, following the contour of the bowl.
- When you get down to a nub in the live center, use the spindle gouge to get it smaller.
- Using a Cindy Drozda Vortex or similar tool, cut small V cuts to clean the bottom completely.