

Double-curved Bowl



This is a bowl made using the pleasing intermediate-stage convex shape made for the scalloped bowl previously described, but now closed at the base to form a 'bowl'. The wood is redwood (soft) and the final object is about 190mm diameter and 90mm high, with a reasonably uniform 6mm thick wall. Top and bottom are the same diameter (see side view above). Wax finish.

Fabrication

The initial wood piece is mounted on a 75mm diameter faceplate and after rounding a disk parted from the end using a parting tool (& saw) and set aside, leaving a central boss (on the parted disk) thick enough to use as a chucking point. Then the concave outer surface is formed and finished. A 75mm diameter cylindrical shallow location hole is made in the end face to enable the piece to be accurately reversed onto the faceplate. After this the curved inner surface to half depth is cut using a parting tool, the edge of the tool being used to get a fairly smooth curved inner surface.

Then the piece is reversed on the faceplate using the location hole and the same thing done from the other side, going slowly just before parting. Note that this leaves a substantial cylindrical central piece that could later be used for something else, unlike most bowl processes.

The just-parted ring is mounted in a button jaw (successively both ways round) and the inside finished to shape with sanding. Tools could be used as it runs true but the ring is quite thin so this causes vibrations.

The initially-parted disk is then finished one side (to be the bowl inside) and is reduced and has its outer edge slightly tapered on the lathe to fit snugly in the ring with the chucking point outward, and glued in place. The outer/lower side of the disk base is then finished, removing the chucking point, with the opposite side of the ring held in the button jaws. This is all pretty obvious from the pics I think. The picture colour is about right and the wood handsome - though the soft/hard grain comes up a bit on sanding.



Will Stewart
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