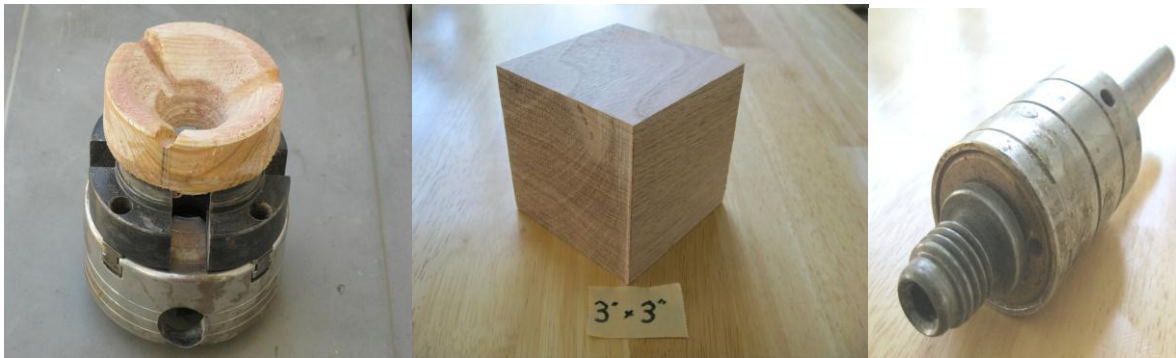


Turning Squares into Triangles

By Nicholas P. Di Mona



Start with as near a perfect square billet that you can cut from a 3 to 5 inch block of wood of your choice. Then hold it between centers from corner to opposite corner. The use of this jig simplifies holding the square in the correct position.

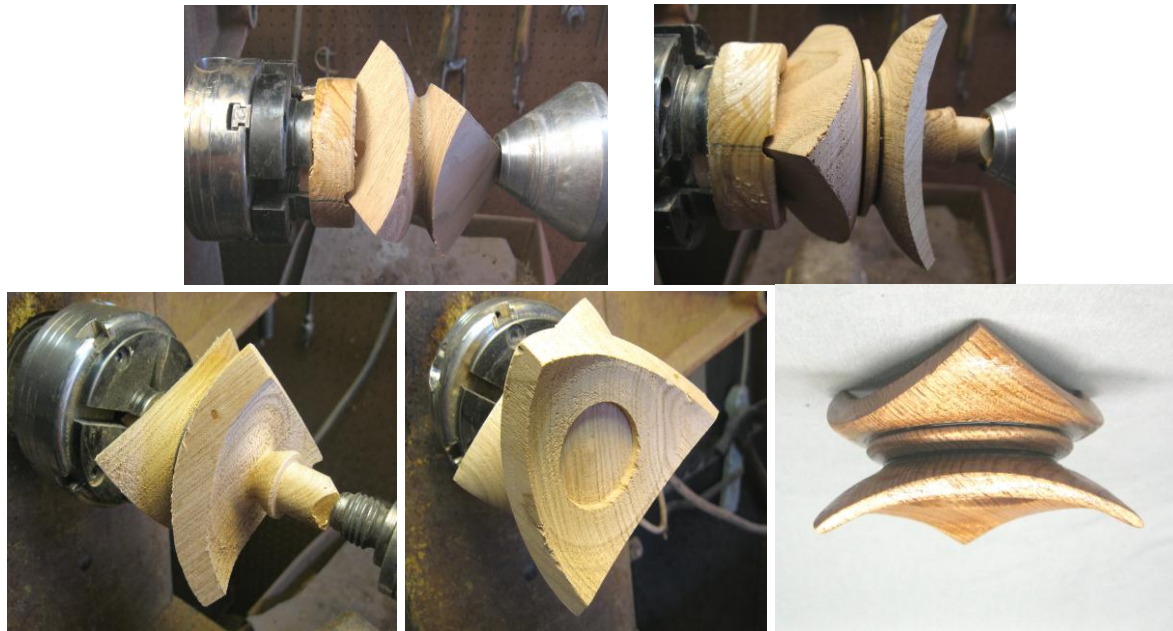


Remove the point from a live center or use a cup drive to hold the other corner in the tailstock.



Start turning in between the ‘ghost’ of the corners to began your design. From here on it is only your imagination that holds you back.

Have fun and create candleholders, sphere holders or lidded vessels. Create captured rings or just interesting shapes go for it! Leave a spigot on the tailstock end so you will be able to chuck up the piece enabling you to turn the reverse side.



Making the JIG from a piece of 2x4 construction lumber. Mount the squared piece of 2x4 construction lumber between centers and turn a spigot on one end. Turn a disk from the 2x4 construction lumber and drill a hole in the center approximately 1inch. This will allow the spigot to enter the chuck when reverse turning the triangle. Using your lathe indexer or a protractor divide the turned disk 120 degrees 3 times in 360 degrees. Then carve a declining groove from the outer end to the middle of the hole.



This was a kiln dried square of butternut and it turned poorly but sanded nicely. A good deal of hand sanding will be required to clean up the triangle as you will be turning side grain, cross grain, middle grain and end grain with possibly some tear out. Be patience have fun and create a masterpiece.