

## Box Turning – presented by Jake Appel 4-27-17

Reference article:

:Findley, Richard. "Box-making problems." WOODTURNING magazine, October 2015 pages 19-24

- Wood selection
- Planning & designing
- Order of work
- Hollowing techniques
- Lid fitting
- Jam chucking
- Finishing

Knowing the order of work is helpful. With boxes, you need to follow these basic steps:

1. Rough turn the blank to a cylinder
2. Turn a chucking spigot at both ends
3. Mount the base in the chuck and begin to form some shape
4. Part the lid from the body
5. Define the outer shape and hollow
6. Cut the join for the lid to sit on/in
7. Mount the lid in the chuck, hollow and fit to the body. This should be a tight fit
8. Remount the box body in the chuck and finish, turn the lid, using the body as a jam chuck
9. Sand the completed outside profile of the box
10. Adjust the fit of the lid to suit your requirements
11. Make a jam chuck from scrap wood and mount the body on it to finish the base
12. Apply the finish of your choice

### Myth – box lids should always be a tight “pop” fit

Seen where the demonstrator has declared that a box is a failure unless the lid a tight fit that makes a ‘pop’ as you remove it. While certainly impressive in a demo, in reality this isn’t always a desirable feature. Think about what your intended purpose of the box is and tailor the fit of the lid to suit. This is how the success or failure of a box should be judged, not on how tight you can make it.