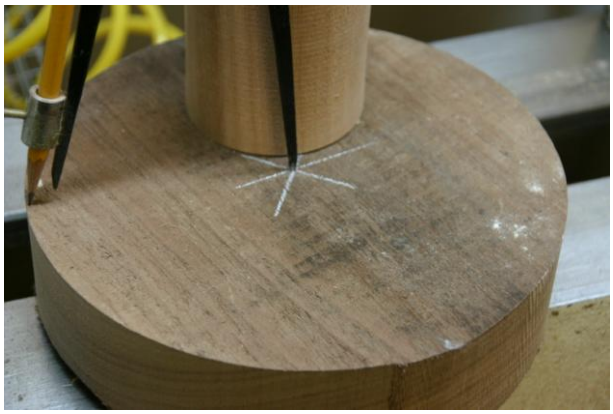
Buf's Basic Bowl

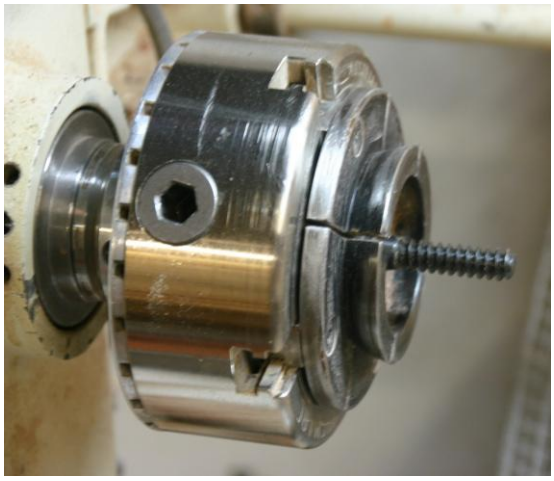
- Determine what will be the top and bottom of the bowl.
    - Observe the rings of the wood.
    - The top will be the direction of the rings going **upward**.

- Find the center of the wood.

- Double-check with a compass and mark with a scratch awl.



Mounting the wood

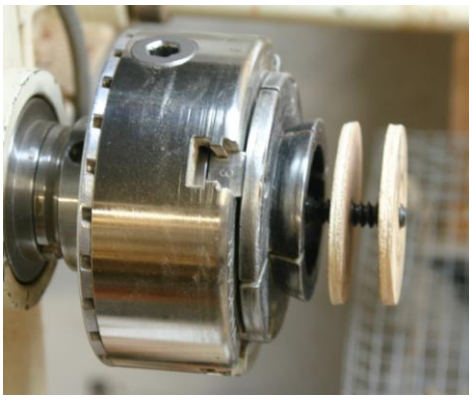


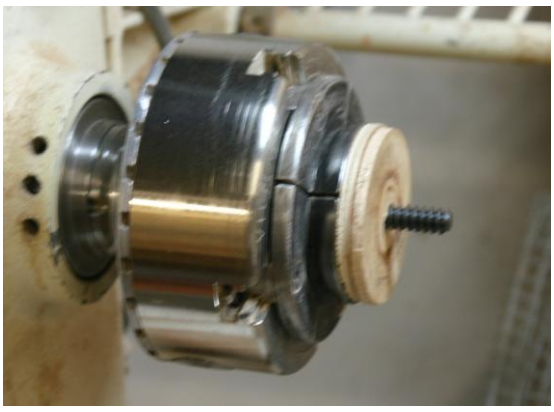
- Chuck with screw attachment

- Mount the wood on a chuck with **screw attachment**, a dedicated **screw chuck**, **a spur drive**, or a **faceplate,** depending on the size of the wood or your preference.
- In this case, a chuck with screw attachment is used.
- Determine how deeply you with to drill and then use tape to mark when to stop drilling.

> **Warning**: When measuring the size of hole to drill, measure the inner shaft –not the threads on the screw chuck.

- Match the drill bit length to the screw on the chuck.
- If the screw on the chuck is longer, do one of two things: drill the hole deeper or add ¼" plywood spacers.





- Drill a hole in the **<u>top</u>** of the wood. This will be the inside of the bowl.

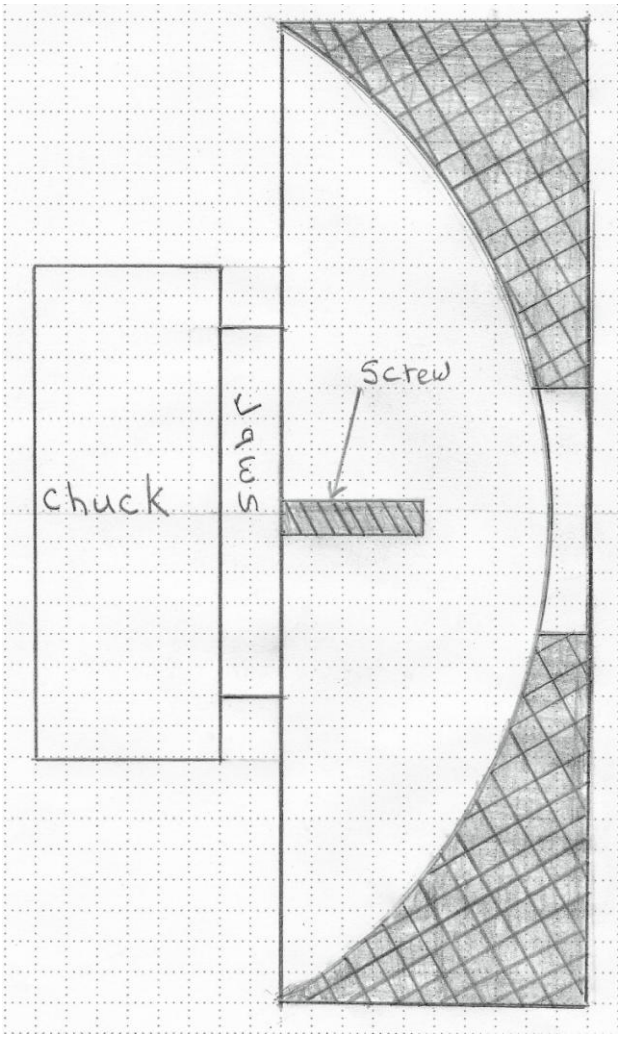
Use a gouge to remove wood from around the hole.
This will prevent any splinters from interfering with the flat portion of the (screw) chuck.

- Make sure that the grain direction is correct.

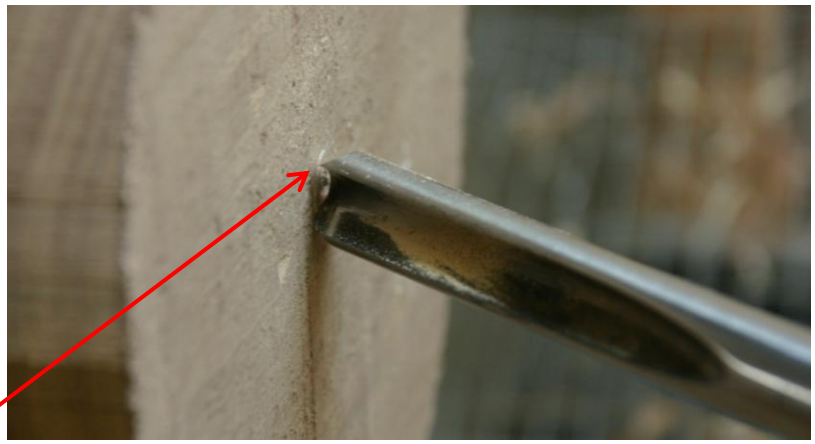
Mounting the wood to the (screw) chuck.

Make sure that the wood is <u>tight</u> and <u>flat</u> to the jaws.

The shaded area indicates the wood that will turned away.



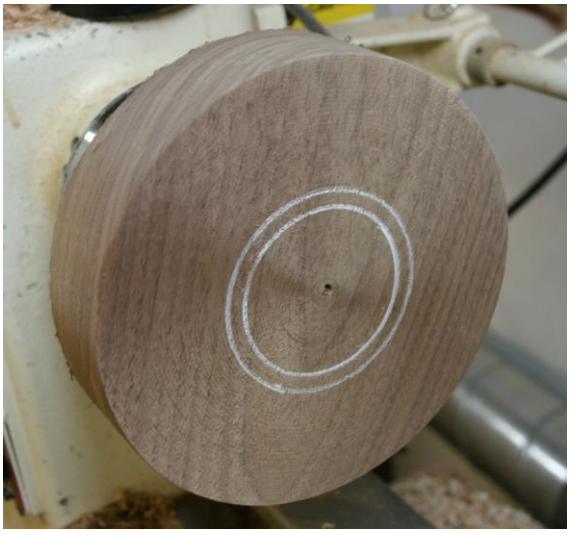
- **True the face** using a pull cut with the flute at the **3 o'clock position.**
  - Thumb on the flute with left hand to guide.
  - Press down (**hard**) on the toolrest.
  - Use only the bottom portion of the bowl gouge, leaving a space of about **1/16"** between the top portion of gouge and the wood.



Note **gap** between the bottom portion of the flute and the top.

- Use a **ruler** or a **“go-no go”** gauge to determine a fit for the jaws for a recess or a tenon at the bottom of the bowl.

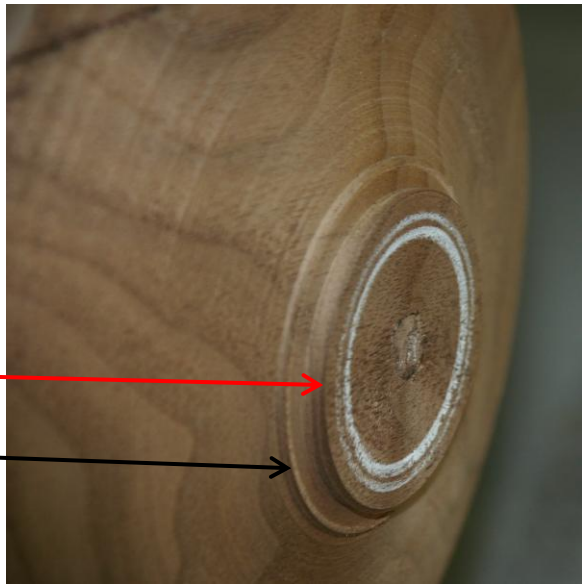
- Add a second line ¼” to 3/8” from the first. This will be the **flat area** upon which the bowl will rest.



- Form a **tenon** or a **recess**.
  - It's critical to have a **flat** spot that will rest against the jaws.
  - Finish off the bottom, etc. Many ways to finish off the bottom. (See ***Bowl Bases***)

- Use a parting tool create a half dovetail on the <u>inside</u> of the ring. Here a **recess** has been formed.

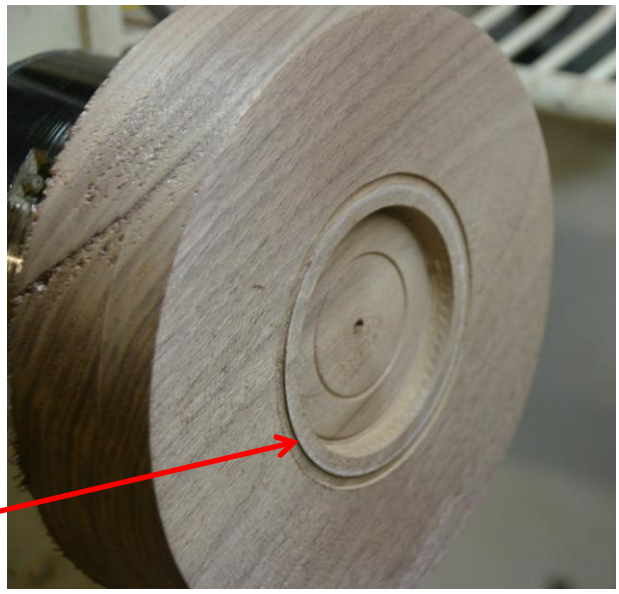
You may use a tenon or a recess.



TENON

Flat Area

To avoid imprinting marks from the chuck's jaws when the piece is reversed, wrap the tenon with part of an old bandsaw tire.

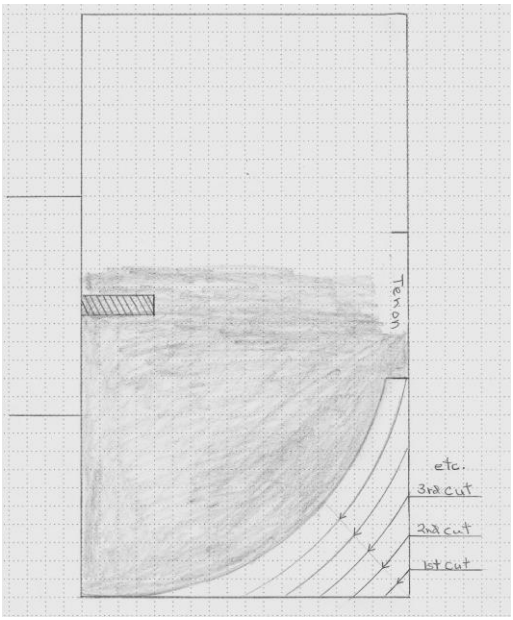


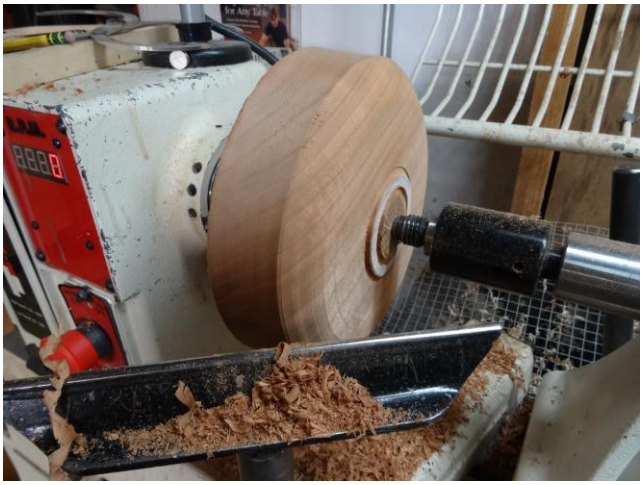
- Whether using a tenon or a **recess**, make sure to leave a <u>flat</u> area that will rest against the jaws.

RECESS

- Use a flat scraper or a parting tool to create an indentation deep enough for the chuck jaws when the wood is reversed.

- Begin truing the side of the bowl USING A COMBINATION OF **PULL** AND **PUSH** CUTS.
    - The <u>diagram below</u> indicates the sequence and direction of the cuts.
    - Right hand pushes the tool toward the headstock.
    - Use light cuts.
    - Bowl gouge can also be used on its side or an open flute can be used.
- If the edge is rough, slow the speed down to
- about 300-500 rpm's
    - As the side gets smoother, the speed may be increased for a smoother cut.

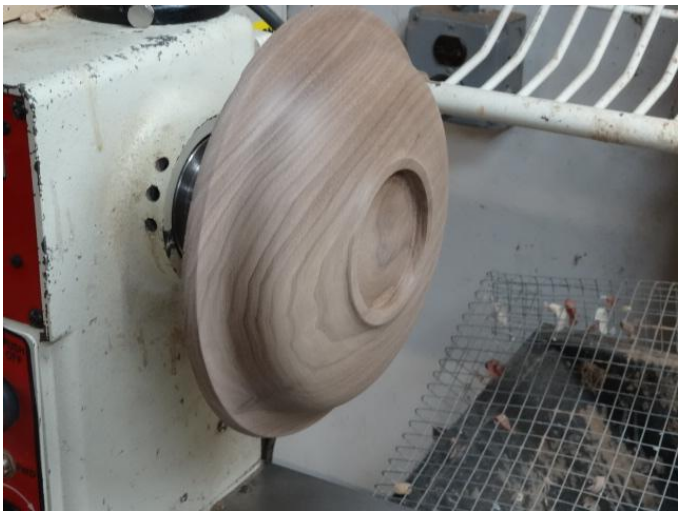




- Shape the bowl profile by eye or by using a template.

- Smooth the surface with **shear cuts.**
  - Sand to …whatever…
  - You may use oil as you sand to reduce dust and fill voids.

The bottom of the bowl is now finished.

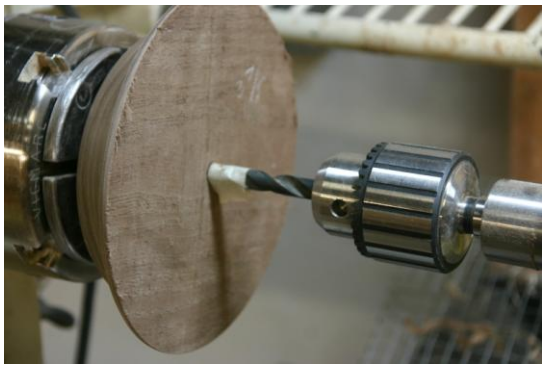


Hollowing the Inside of the Bowl

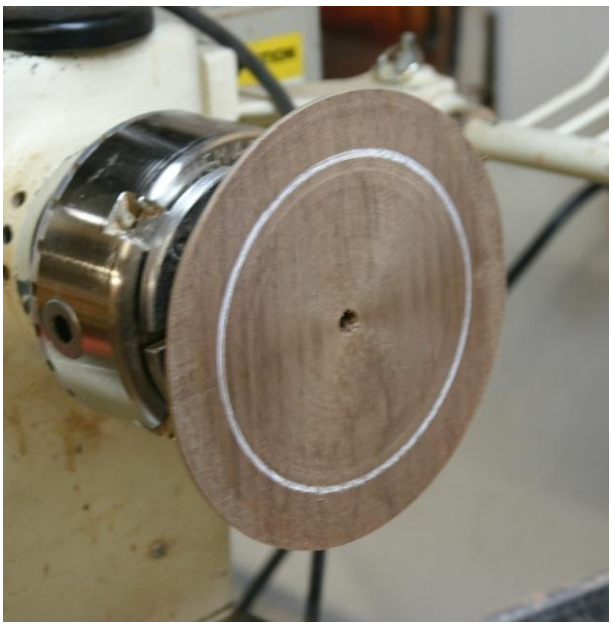
- <u>Reverse</u> the bowl and mount it on the chuck.
    - Use the tailstock to apply pressure to the bowl as you tighten the jaws.

- True the face.

- Drill a guide hole.
    - Whatever size drill or Forstner bit you are comfortable with.
    - Determine the depth of the hole and place marking tape on the drill.
    - Do not drill to the complete depth. Leave at least ¼" to work with.

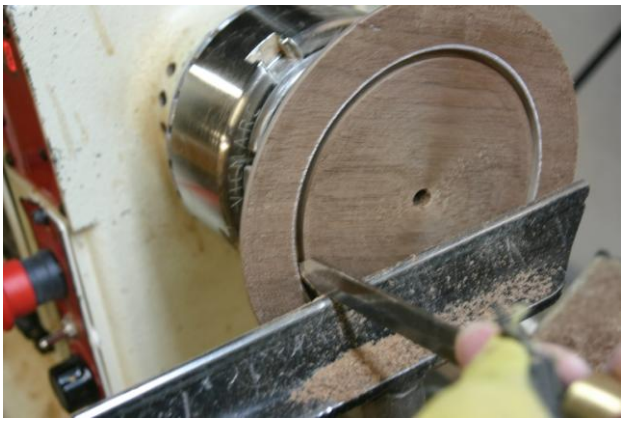


-
- Orientation of the bowl gouge.
    - Lay the gouge on the toolrest.
    - The point of the gouge should be pointed at the exact center.

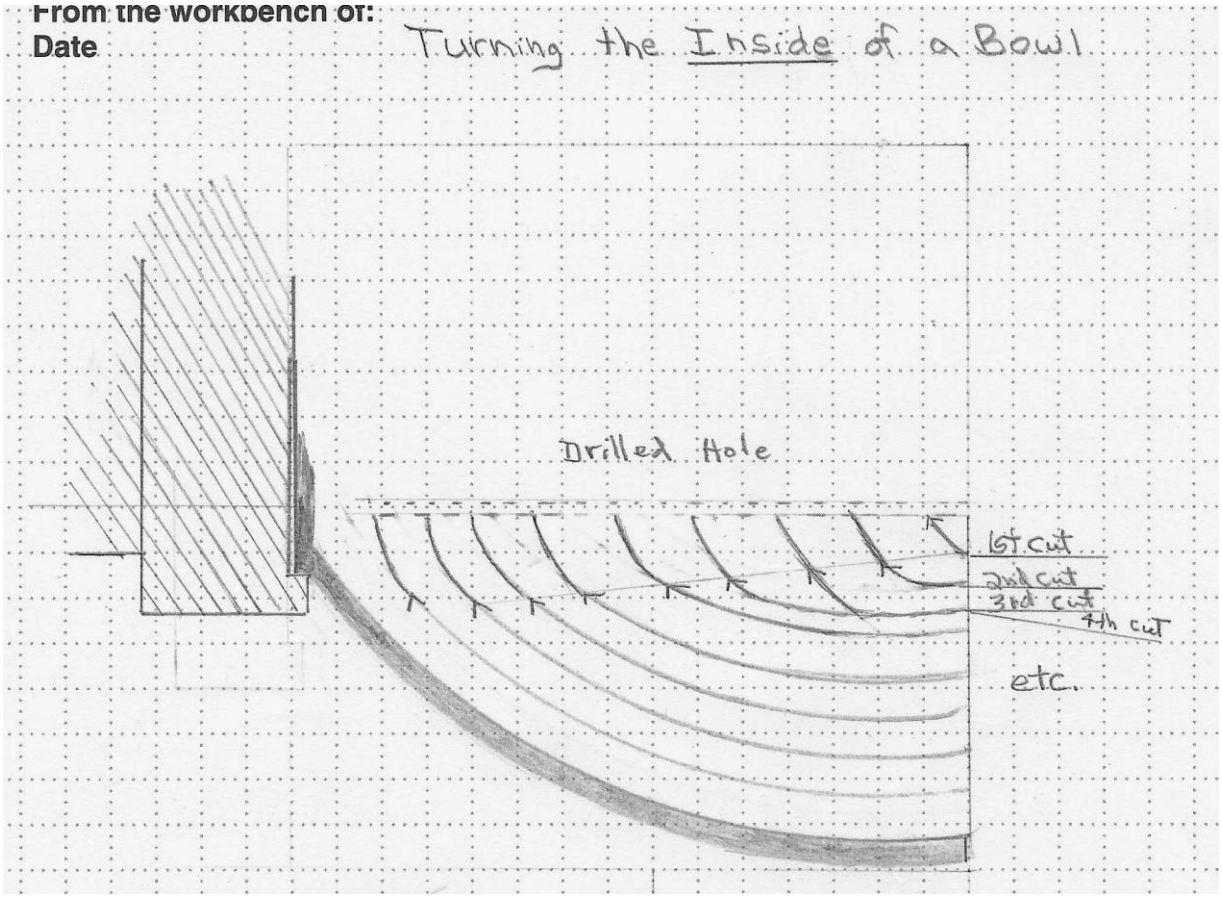


- Mark an area that will become the rim.
    - See articles:
        - ***Around the Rim***
        - ***Adding a Rim***
        - ***Designing Rims***

- Use a parting tool to start the hollowing process. Cut **parallel** to the outside of the bowl.



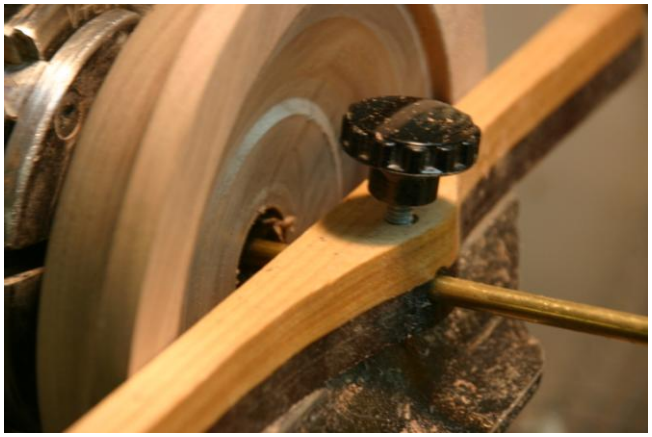
- Starting a cut with a bowl gouge can be difficult for a beginner. Make two or three cuts with the parting tool.



- Begin hollowing at the center and work your way toward the rim in gradual increments.
    - If you feel significant vibrations, you are taking too deep a cut and/or your toolrest is not close enough to the wood.

- **Or,** you may use the **Stair step Method.**
    - The advantage to this method is that the bulk of the material is left in the center, minimizing the flexing of the rim.

- Whichever method you use, keep checking the depth of the bowl with a depth gauge.



- Use a **scraper** to smooth out any bumps.
  - Take slow, light passes.
  - Sand to …whatever…

The top(inside) of the bowl is now complete.