

Free Hand Hollowing Forms by Chris Miller

1. Shape of the hollow form

- Start with a large opening
- Make the HF with a easy taper
- Try to do the whole form in one session, especially if it's green wood
- Decision to make - Seal or Not to seal

2. Drill your hole

- Hand held drill bit
- Forstner Bit with extension

3. Tools

- 3 Main hollowing tools (Ellsworth set, make your own – Cheaper)
- Sharpen, Sharpen, Sharpen
- Know how each tool cuts (Practice on bowl shape and watch the cut)

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4. Relaxed Stance

- Hold tool with one hand resting on tool rest, lock in handle to your side
- Feet position – so you can rock into the cut with out moving your hold on the tool
- Head should be looking over tool, not trying to see your cut

5. Starting the cut

- Speed is what you are comfortable with – not always faster
- Keep tool rest about a inch away to make initial cuts
- Start by making a cone inside – need to make room for shavings
- Leave lip a little thick to start
- Once tool is inside move tool rest close to opening

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- Always keep tool center of form (Remember this when switching tools)
- Use your fingers on the tool to sense vibration
- Finesse not force!!!!

CUT – CLEAN - MEASURE

6. Ron Brown Best Hollowing Rig

- Easy set up
- Comes with card for laser set up to measure
- Get longer bars in the beginning
- Laser is not the best – Ron has good customer service – Working on upgrading his laser
- I ended up buying a laser at Staples for \$20 to replace the one with the rig

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7. Measuring tools

- Digital Calipers
- Depth gauge
- Home made oval for measuring

8. Have FUN

- Call others for help
- Ask to come over to their shop
- Use the knowledge of the club, someone is in your area
- Chris cell # 586-610-3373