

Small Hollow form with Large Opening

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1. Wood Selection & Preparation

- Choose solid, defect-free wood (no knots, cracks, or splits).
- Select size and thickness appropriate for your skill level.
- Mark the center on both ends of the blank.



2. Initial Mounting & Tenon

- Mount the blank **between centers**.
- Decide which end will be the **bottom**.
- Turn a **tenon** sized to fit your chuck:
 - ~3/8" long
 - Clean shoulder, square to the base



3. Rough Shaping

- Turn the blank round.
 - Rough out the **external shape**.
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4. Mount in Chuck

- Remove from centers and mount using the tenon.
 - True up and **face off the top**.
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5. Drill Starter Hole

- Use a spindle/detail gouge to cut a small cone:
 - $\sim 1/4$ " deep, $\sim 1/2$ " diameter
 - Drill a $1/2$ " **hole** to near final depth (leave some material at bottom).
 - Mark desired bottom depth on outside.
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6. Refine Outside Shape

- Insert live center into drilled hole for support.
 - Refine the exterior profile and final diameter.
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7. Open the Vessel

- Remove tailstock.
 - Use a bowl gouge to open:
 - ~1½” diameter
 - ~1” deep
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8. Hollowing Process

- Use your preferred hollowing tool.
- Start at the center and work outward in **light cuts (~1/8”)**.
- Gradually expand the interior to near final wall thickness.
- Frequently:
 - Stop and clear chips
 - Check wall thickness

⚠ Safety Note (important):

- Keep the **straight portion of the tool on the tool rest**
- **Never rest the curved/swan neck section on the tool rest**

9. Interior Refinement

- Use a round or teardrop scraper to:
 - Smooth tool marks
 - Refine final interior shape



10. Define the Bottom

- Determine final bottom thickness.
- Cut a **parting line** ~ $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep.

11. Sanding & Finishing

- Sand inside and outside thoroughly.
- Apply your chosen finish.

12. Parting Off

- Reduce base to ~ $\frac{3}{8}$ " diameter.
- Angle parting tool to undercut slightly.
- Part off or saw off if preferred.

13. Final Touches

- Sand the bottom nub smooth.
 - Apply finish to base.
 - Sign your piece.
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