

Oval Lidded bowl (Candy Dish)

Dennis Ford



1. Select materials with contrasting colors, consider how the color will change over time. For example, Cherry and Osage Orange have very different colors when fresh cut but age will greatly reduce that contrast. If you will be making a finial, choose a strong, dense wood for it and dye it if necessary.
2. Cut recess for chuck into bottom of bowl blank and cut tenon in top of lid blank. Leave center marks in each (those will be needed later). Mount the bowl on a face-plate or screw chuck to cut the recess. The tenon can be cut between centers easily enough.
3. Mount bowl blank onto chuck using recess and begin shaping bowl. Leave about 1" of wood around recess to avoid splitting from pressure of chuck. Be sure to raise the bottom enough to have material for the feet (raise bowl $\frac{1}{2}$ " or a little more). The bowl shape should be a portion of an oval with the bottom **above** the feet.
4. True up top edge of the bowl and form recess for lid. Do **not** sand the **outside** yet. Leave **lip thick** enough for final tuning of shape. Hollow inside of bowl. It is okay to sand **inside** the bowl now but there will be another chance to do that. Mark blank so it can be remounted on chuck again in the same location. Remove bowl from chuck.
5. Mount lid on chuck, true up face and cut joint to match bowl. Try for a snug fit between lid and bowl. You can begin rough shaping the outside but leave enough wood for final shaping later. Slightly hollow lid, leaving enough wood to glue in finial or knob. Note center bump in the next picture, this makes sure the hole for finial will not break through the inside. **Sand inside of lid now.**



6. Next, we will fit the lid to bowl and blend their shapes together. This can begin with bowl mounted on chuck and the lid pressed on with tail-stock or the other way around but will end up with the bowl on chuck. Be sure the lid interior is smooth **before** removing its tenon.
7. Continue cutting lid as far as possible towards tailstock. Sand outside of bowl and as much of top as possible. Attach lid to bowl with strapping tape, finish cutting and sanding the top. Drill hole for finial or knob. Remove tape, finish sanding outside and inside. Remove a small amount to create a **loose fit** between bowl and lid then remove bowl from chuck.



8. Turn finial or knob with tenon to fit the hole drilled earlier. Dry fit the finial or knob and verify the overall shape is satisfactory. Depending on wood choices, you may decide to dye the finial or knob (black is a good option). Once you are happy with results, glue the knob or finial into the lid. (I use Tite-bond glue for this)



9. Verify the bowl is smooth inside and then reverse bowl to finish turn the bottom. I use a leather pad between the bowl and a waste block with tail-stock pressure but a vacuum chuck will also work.



10. If bowl will not have carved feet, make the base small for better proportions. If it will have carved feet, space them farther out for better stability. Note the notch carved out in the picture above, this helps decide how much to remove from the center.
11. The feet can be carved with many different tools. A coping saw and rasp are all that is required but if you have powered carving equipment, might as well use it. I do this in three stages: roughing, smoothing and sanding. The next picture is after the roughing. For the final finish I use paste wax inside and lacquer on the outside.

