

## Steps to make a 2-piece inside-out Christmas ornament:

- 1) Find (2) pieces of wood that have at least two parallel surfaces (such as pen blanks size pieces).
- 2) Using double sided turners tape, tape two pieces together lengthwise. Note you can also glue craft paper between the pieces but will have to allow for drying time.
- 3) Drill small holes in the center of each end of the two pieces that are stuck together...the drill hole should line up with the seam between the two pieces. This will allow the drive center and live center to push into place without separating the two pieces.
- 4) Mount the piece on the lathe between centers. I prefer to have the 'top' of the future ornament towards the headstock and the 'bottom' towards the tailstock.
- 5) Determine the shape you want to use (i.e. snowman, Christmas tree, Christmas bulb etc.) and cut ½ of that image near the center of the mounted pieces. Keep in mind that these pieces will be reversed, so don't cut too deep into the pieces. Sand the cut surfaces once shape is finished to your satisfaction.
  - a. If you want to add colors to what will be the interior image, now is the time to do that.
- 6) Take the two pieces of wood off of the lathe, separate them at the taped seam, turn the pieces 180-degrees so that the cut images are together in the center of the two pieces of wood, glue them together with wood glue and clamp. Allow them to dry at least 30-minutes or more before proceeding.
- 7) Once dry, once again drill small holes centered in the ends and re-mount on the lathe between centers. Cut small tenons on each end of the piece so that both ends can be mounted in a 4-jaw chuck.
- 8) Mount the piece in a chuck with the 'bottom' end towards the headstock and the 'top' end towards the tailstock. Using a Jacobs chuck in the tailstock, drill a small hole centered in the 'top' end of the piece that extends through the wood to the opening cut into the center of the ornament. This will be where you can fish a string through for hanging the ornament.
- 9) Reverse the piece in the chuck so that the 'top' of the ornament is on the headstock end and the 'bottom' of the ornament is towards the tailstock. Go ahead and engage the live center end for as long as possible to add some support.
- 10) Turn the finial that will be at the bottom of the ornament working back towards the area where the cut-out image exists. Be careful not to cut too far into the piece where the cut-out exists. At some point, the live center can be removed and the very end of the finial can be completed.
- 11) Once finial end is complete, start cuts that will mimic the cut-out image on the outside of the piece. Be very careful of how your cuts will interact with the cut-out image. Turn the lathe off very often to make sure your cuts are not cutting 'through' the cut-out image and that there is enough wood left to support the piece.
- 12) Finish cutting around the interior shape, working from the 'bottom' to the 'top' of the ornament (from tailstock towards the headstock/chuck). Sand the outside on the lathe while you still have enough support to do so but you should be almost finished with the ornament at this time.
- 13) Your final cuts will create a bulb, small sphere or other shape at the top of the ornament, then use a cut-off tool to separate the ornament from the chucked wood.
- 14) A little final sanding and perhaps some sealer if desired for the outer surfaces. String some thread through the hole in the top and tie off. You can add some last minute color, maybe a ribbon or small bow if you would like.