

Southern Turners Project Sheet

Make a hollow “Fabergé” Easter Egg



The House of Fabergé is perhaps best known for the exquisite Easter eggs made for members of the Russian Imperial Family.

This project explains one of many ways for you to make your own gem of an Easter egg to house a surprise gift and it can also be used as a lidded box on the stand.

The wood should preferably be dry and close grained.

You will need one piece approx. 65mm square x 150mm long for the egg and another piece 70mm square x 40mm long (maybe of contrasting colour) for the base.

Tools: roughing, spindle and bowl gouges, skew chisel, scraper and parting tools. Scissors for cutting the template might come in handy as well as a piece of cardboard or similar plus glue.

As always, be mindful of your safety during this project.



The Egg:

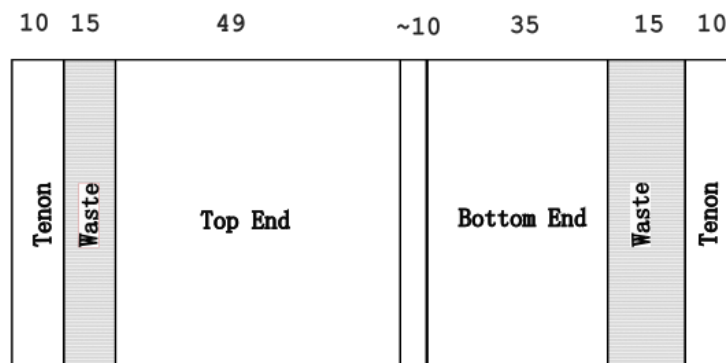
Mount the blank between centres and rough down to Ø60mm.

Turn a tenon on each end (to suit your chuck) and mount the bottom end in the chuck with the other end supported in tailstock.

Mark out using the guide below.

The waste at each end is to assist turning the ends of the egg.

The space between the two parts of the egg should about 10mm.



Turn the area between the two parts of the egg down to a depth of 2.5mm (Ø55mm) using a parting tool.

Then use a thin parting tool to separate the two parts of the egg, leaving a 5mm flange on the bottom end (nearest the chuck) and just a millimetre or so on the top end to use as a guide for fitting the two parts together.



Turn the inside of the bottom end to match the template at the end of this project sheet.

Sand interior surface as required.

Start shaping the outside to match the supplied template.

Reduce the waste at the end to about Ø10mm to assist with the shaping nearer the tip of the egg.



Mount the top end part of the egg in the chuck using the tenon and turn the inside to match the supplied template.

The small flange can be used as a guide for cutting the joint but this needs to be done carefully, testing it frequently with the bottom end so that you don't end up with a sloppy fit.

Sand interior surface as required.

Start shaping the outside to match the supplied template.

Reduce the waste at end to about Ø10mm to assist with shaping nearer the tip of the egg.



Fit the two halves together and support with live centre.
Carefully sand and finish outside as required



Then individually put each half into the chuck and carefully shape more near the tip of the egg, leaving the final cut to be made with a handsaw to reduce the chance of grain pullout.

Hand sand the tips as required or make a jam chuck using the smaller piece of wood to hold each end of the egg.

Finish exterior end surfaces to match.



The base:

Mount using spur drive and live centre and turn down short piece to 70mm external diameter (grain parallel to the bed of lathe). Take care not to split the wood with the spur drive.

Cut tenon on one end and transfer to chuck.

If required, make a jam chuck to finish the end of each part of the egg and then turn down a decorative supporting ring to sit the bottom end of the completed egg in. Sand, finish and then part off.

Templates:

Use these to cut out internal and external templates. Before using, check that they have printed out at scale.

