Christmas tealight lantern

Based on November 2022 AAW article by John Lucas

Credit to Ed Maleski, Harold Mills for their demonstrations

Presented by

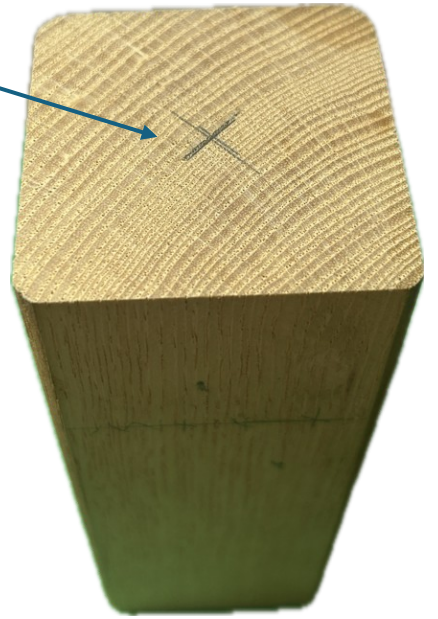
Ken Honadel

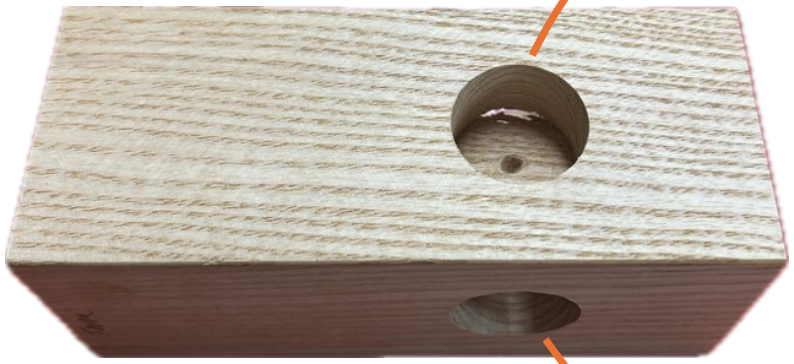
Lay out lines as on block

Layout bottom section 1”, where the light holes will be, inside a square of 1 ½” and the height, 4” overall.

Block length

Find block center and mark



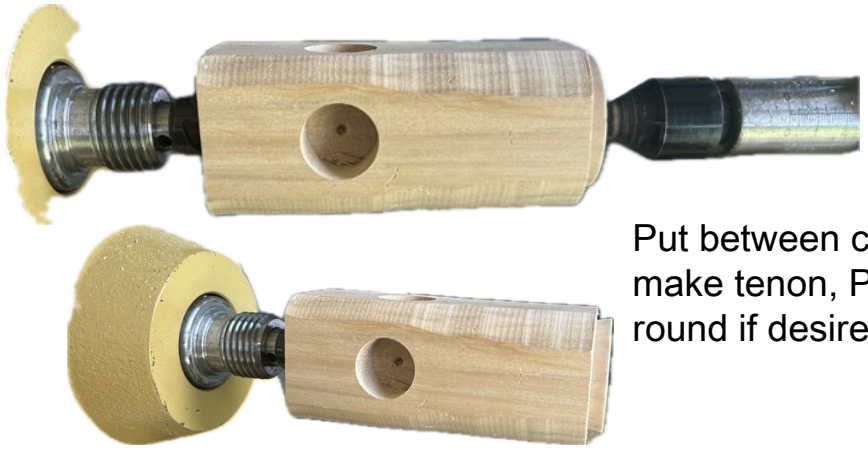


Drill 1” holes on all 4 sides.
Go only partially through.
Mass will be removed when drilling through center.

Tea Light dia will predicate block size

For a 1 3/8” tea light 2 1/8” X 2 1/8” by 6”

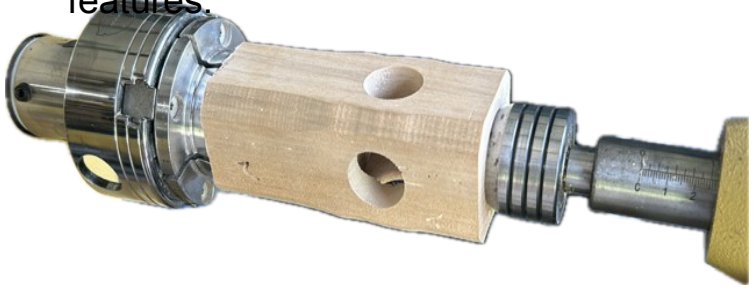
For a 1½” or 1.4” tea light 2 3/8” X 2 3/8” by 6”



Put between centers, make tenon, Partially round if desired.

Put in chuck, center and drill 1 ¼” hole to just above the 1” holes.
Drill size needed for tea light to fit.

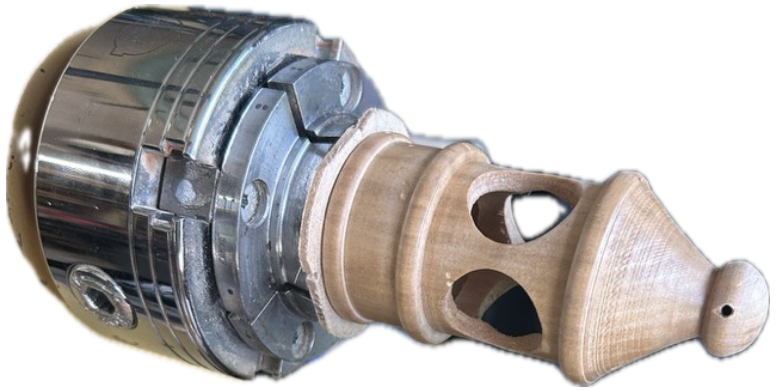
Using 60* live center to hold piece steady. Can be done without but work slower. When rounded, layout lines to determine where you want beads or other design features.



Time to turn 😁

Sand in place is easiest. Part off and finish top. Might be a good time to apply finish of choice.

Finishing can be done using a jam chuck and finish the top. Lay out for bail type top or insert a eyelet screw.



Install the tea light. May need to wrap with tap to make snug fit. Or hot glue could be used to hold light in place.

Hang from tree, set on ledge. Let the light shine!