

Brian Wooldridge - Involute Turning - 16th July 2003

Reviewed by Brian Ash (photos Gregory Moreton)



My dictionary defines Involute as ' Intricate ' or ' Curling inwards' and Brian's demonstration was all of that.

He explained that what he was going to do was join four quadrants of wood together, turn them and then reverse them inside out! and turn again to form a candlestick.

Working throughout with Canadian Cherry he started by turning a base for the candlestick. Starting turning between centres and obtaining a clean cut with shear scraping. He used a Forstner bit to drill a hole into which was to go the 'Involute' candle stick stem.

He then showed how prepare and mount the four square pieces of wood, each about 30mm square and 200mm long, ready for the involute turning, He explained how to orientate the grain, stuck together with tape and mounted between the chuck and a ring centre on the tail stock.



Brian proceeded to turn these in his own pre-determined pattern, sanded and finished them. The squares were marked, inverted and stuck together. The previously turned and finished surface now on the inside, involuted.

Using 'one that he had prepared earlier' he marked up the ends to show where the top candleholder

would be located and drilled this end using an auger bit. The bottom end was marked to locate the peg to fit into the previously turned base.

Using a piece of white paper as background to show the shape he then turned and finished the outside of the now hollow candlestick. The bottom of the candlestick was also turned down to fit the previously drilled base.

Sadly I have not been able, in this short write up, to describe all of the processes, but I think it was one of our most interesting demonstrations, certainly different and left a lot of us thinking that we have got to try it.



Thanks to Brian Wooldridge for an excellent Demonstration