

Salt Shaker

Steve Cook

Materials:

- 3" x 3" x 5" to 6" long piece of hardwood (cherry, maple, etc.)
- 2" x 2" x 4" of same wood or maple

Lathe tools:

- Drive center
- Live center
- Drill chuck with morse taper
- Four jaw scroll chuck
- Forstner bits: 1 5/8" and 1 3/8"
- 1/8" twist bit (preferably not a brad point)

Tools:

- Spindle roughing gouge
- 3/8" spindle gouge

- Bedan tool
- Parting tool
- Skew (optional)

Directions:

- Mount the 3 x 3 blank between the drive center and live center and turn to a cylinder with spindle roughing gouge
- Turn a tenon on what will be the top
- Mount in chuck, true up end with spindle gouge
- Mount drill chuck in tailstock with 1 5/8" forstner bit
- Drill 1 5/8" hole about 1/4" deep
- Mount 1 3/8" bit and drill hole 3" past the 1 5/8" hole
- Remove drill chuck
- Using spindle gouge (easy tools work great for this also) create a small dome at the bottom of the hole
- Turn exterior to desired shape (check depth of hole)
- Part off from chuck
- Remount the work on spigot jaws, finish turning the body, sand and finish
- If you do not have spigot jaws use a 2 x 2 x 4 piece of poplar to make a jamb chuck: turn round between centers and create a tenon, mount in chuck and true up, turn a 1 3/8" tenon about an inch long, turn a 1 5/8" tenon behind the 1 3/8" tenon, mount blank on jamb chuck and finish top (you can also bring up the tailstock for support)

- Mount the 2 x 2 blank between centers, turn round and create a tenon on one end
- Mount in chuck and true up cylinder with spindle roughing gouge and end with spindle gouge
- Using bedan tool turn a 1 5/8" tenon to fit bottom of salt shaker, this should fit snug and be slightly recessed
- Turn a second tenon smaller than 1 3/8" (needs to be smaller than the 1 3/8" hole)
- With spindle gouge turn a small funnel in end 1/2 to 3/4 wide and deep (with spindle gouge at center on tool rest push in slightly at center of blank and swing tool away from you)
- Using drill chuck and 1/8" bit in tailstock drill a hole at least 2" deep or through the blank (take care to clear chips often to avoid the bit wandering, drill speed between 400 and 600 rpm)(always make sure to hold onto drill chuck)
- Note: A larger hole can be drilled for sea salt, ground pepper, etc.
- Turn blank from smaller tenon tapering down to about 1/2" diameter (the bigger this is the less salt you can fit in the shaker)
- Make a mark 2" from the smaller tenon and cut off (you can dome this cut or make it flat, dome will let out a little less salt)
- Note: Any size or shape shaker can be made as long as you have the same ratio between the depth of the hole and the length of the funnel piece (about an inch between them)
- Fit funnel in salt shaker, I glue it in with Titebond 2
- If it is necessary to remove the funnel before gluing, compressed air works great.

- Pour salt in the funnel with the shaker upside down, turn over and shake for salt to come out. Enjoy and make your friends curious!