

Spiral Ribbon Finial



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Steps (page 1):

1. Turn a tenon on the blank. Mount it in a scroll chuck.



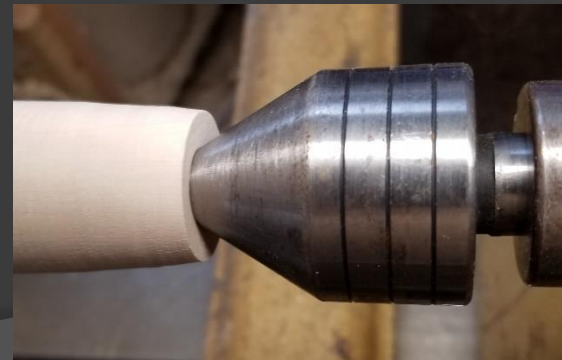
2. Drill the blank. I typically use a 1/2" drill, to a depth of 3".



3. Physically measure and mark the depth of the inside hole.



4. Use a live center to stabilize the piece, typically a 60° cone.



Steps (page 2):

5. Turn the barrel down to a comfortable thickness and define the bottom of the ribbon section.
6. Turn the bottom features. I standardize all my tenons on finials to $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick. I use a $\frac{1}{4}$ " wrench as my tenon thickness "gauge".
7. Once the finial is parted off, lay out tape to define the cut/carving lines. Then carve out the



Steps (page 3):

7. Once the finial is parted off, lay out tape to define the cut/carving lines. Then carve out the finial.



Notes:

- Do not use a small branch for these finials, centering your piece on the pith. There's a good chance you will destroy your tenon at the end, due to the pith.
- Prior to carving the ribbon out, measure again where the bottom of the interior cavity is, and mark it out on the exterior.
- When carving, remember to plan for the transition from the ribbon to the bottom of the interior.
- For me, so far, the most effective carving tools for the ribbons are the Dremel cutting wheel (the carbide one, NOT the "cutoff wheel") and small cylindrical or tapered stump cutters. Phil Stevens used his scroll saw.
- I mostly used Dremel sanding drums to clean up the edges and interior.