



CORIAN, FRIEND OR FOE?

I like Corian and always have. I won a piece in the wood auction at a local woodturning club. (just another reason to belong to a club.)

What is Corian, and are there Corian trees in my area? Corian is a product by Dupont. It was created in 1967 by Donald Slocum. It was placed in the market as a solid surface material in 1971. A formula of Acrylic Polymer and Alumina Trihydrate, from bauxite ore. The product is produced by Dupont in three thicknesses, 6 mm, 12 mm and 19 mm. Which easily converts to approximately ¼”, ½” and



¾”. The standard for tops is the ½” material, doubled at the edges for appearance and strength. Corian trees went extinct in the late 60’s due to poor management hoarding and hoarding.

My personal Corian is a by-product of the counter top industry. A young man, who once was my apprentice, operated custom a Corian facility in New Orleans, prior to Hurricane Katrina. His shop experienced a flood of over 6 feet, destroying his equipment and scattering his staff.

I now rely on other shops for scraps. But have to pay by the pound for the material. Sort of like charging for trash. The rips, which occur during slicing, is a great source of material for segments, pens and trinkets.

Treat Corian as you would any material you would considered for segmenting or layering. The main things to consider are:

- This material will not shift shape due to atmospheric conditions. It does not have to be dried. Shrinkage is almost non-existent.
- The material can be cut, sliced, sanded and polished like any other plastic material. Please note that heating it up by sanding or polishing can deform the surface. Treat it like it’s special.
- Corian can be glued with a special sealing material by Dupont or good old CA glue. I prefer the Medium Thick from Star Bond, but any high-quality CA will work. Consider using a medium thick, as it gives you more assembly time.
- For doing layering, used for pens and such, consider the manufacturing process. The colored aggregate will sink to the bottom of the mold. This is actually the top of the surface. When you lap the material to fasten it, flatten the finish instead of the back. When you put a finish to a finish you will get less of a color loss and less of a line.

I normally overcut the material, lap the face with 180 grit sandpaper, clean and then glue. I use spring clamps because a lot of holding may force out the CA or adhesive.

Lapping the material is just like flattening a manifold on a car. You have to use 180 grit sandpaper, which I adhere to a piece of glass (a sample piece from a real glass shop) with spray glue. This gives the face a very true and flat face. Anything else will show the joint.

Once the piece has cured (2 hours) I then drill for the mandrel or glue it into the shape for the project. If segmenting, you may want to create the angled cuts, glue your ring, and then flatten the ring before gluing it into a stack.

The real beauty of this material is that it can be cut, or machined, just as you would any hardwood. Drilled with a twist drill, brad point drill or hole saw. Sawn on a fine tooth table saw or band saw. You can mix colors and accents if you stay in the Corian product line. (lots of copy cats out there)

I love creating with Corian, beautiful material for a beautiful project, and one which will keep them saying, “How’d he do that?”

Turning Point

April 5, 2020

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Solitary?

I feel like one of the actors/prisoners in *The Great Escape*. Do one thing against the rules and you get to spend some time in solitary.

I'm on a self-imposed quarantine at this time. I have limited my exposure, and that of my wife, to all other human beings. We have considered the ramifications of this virus and decided that the best thing to do is isolation. Sometimes it is difficult, but the payback of just being alive offsets that.

This give me lots of time to work on projects for World Wide Woodturners. While I'd like to, I can't be in the shop right now. I'm in a drug test program which limits my shop time, driving, a little walking and, of all things, remembering. So I'm doing the next best thing, talking about woodturning.

When we started WWW this fall we had very strong intentions of growing this program around the activities, plans and programs of our members. We are patiently awaiting to hear from you. I get lots of e-mail photos of completed work, and as Ronnie did, the procedure in doing so.

Where are your photos, articles, videos and input to the program? We have lots of room for your input. In fact, we'll dedicate all the space you need for your information. Be it planning, layout, rigs & jigs, and even turning techniques. We're just waiting on you. Just be sure to include your name, we can't use your e-mail nickname. **Cap'n Eddie Castelin**



A bowl in the Making



Your Momma was right,

If you don't wash your hands

you'll catch a disease that could kill you.

Gallery



Robert Clark



Sa Cha



Lyle Rawlins



Oscar Zuniga



Brian Hunwick



John Barrios



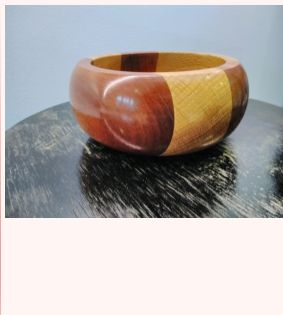
Oscar Zuniga



John Hunwick



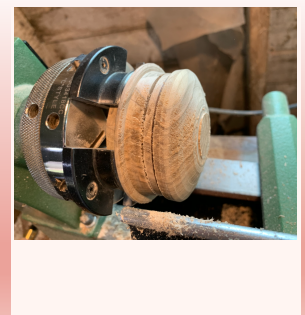
John Barrios



Sa cha



Joseph Potter



Patterson

I took up woodturning because,
punching people all day is frowned
upon.

Your Gallery, presented by World Wide
Woodturners, incorporating the artwork
provided by some of the greatest turners in the
world, YOU!

To have your work displayed, send a digital
photo to: worldwidewoodturners@gmail.com

We will use the photos in this newsletter and
on our videos.

Gallery



Doug Rowe



Doug Rowe



Fergieva



Jason Fort



Fergieva



Brian Hunwick



Patterson



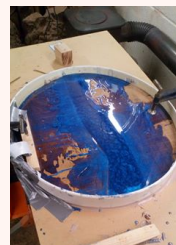
Robert Clark



Ronnie Bonnette



Brian Hunwick



John Brogden



Ronnie Bonnette



Aaron Nichoson



Aaron Nichoson



Aaron Nichoson



Aaron Nichoson

SPECIALTY TOOLS...

...CONTINUED

In the recent past, I have taken a look at some the specialty tools used in woodturning. These can be very important to the completed project, but then, some are great ways to produce income for its creators.

This week I want to take a look at Chinese Ball Tools. Chinese ball tools have been around for a long time, but better planning and machining now make them



easier to use and bring a lot of attention to your work. These are indeed attention grabbers at art and crafts shows.

I have had several conversations with the manufacturer, which chased away all the ghost, and dispelled all the wife's tales spread about this tool.

In the examples shown on the right are an excellent presentation of the Chinese Ball turning technique. The tools shown above will do all the tapered coring and



slotted or groves which give it movement. You may notice the single holes between the tapered holes. These allow the shavings to escape and add more ornamentation to the finished. The piece looks best when oil treated as a finish.

The layout is extremely important and you will wish you paid attention in the geometry class in the 7th grade. I didn't and had a real fight on my hands. You have to start by turning a perfect sphere within the tool's standards. Then you create a ball holding jig.



I have one of PVC and one of wood. I took my ball to an old-fashioned hardware store and asked someone who knew their trade to help me out.

Oops, I forgot to mention that you also have to cut the movement grooves before plugging the hole.

Plugging the hole is crucial to the moment of the inside them main ball. You have to plug them with a tapered plug to prevent movement when cutting the other tapered holes and movement grooves. Not plugging will allow the inner balls to move, and you don't want that.

It is a very complex procedure, taking lots of time and tons of patience. But when completed, this will be a show stopper and a true work of woodturning art.

Threaded inserts...

...or time to get screwed.

During a recent video presentation for World Wide Woodturners, I showed a piece I created with a threaded insert. One member of our Advisory Team went looking for inserts and found a few at a new locations. I have to admit that these new sources are much better than what I previously purchased and used. Better material, better machining and great

Operation. Much smoother than the cheap version and worth the \$\$\$\$.



These rings are machined from brass, or other materials, to exacting standards. I have created several urns using this product and was amazed by the ease of installation. You will need the larger version for this application, I know of at least two manufacturers who produce 3" and 4" rings for this. There are rules, or guidelines, for urns. This was established by the mortuary managers. You should check to see if your art can be used in their facility. But if a family wants to split up the remains, the rules don't count

Urns can be a great skill builder, especially if you do segments, imagine an urn created with some lumber from their home, or a tree from their yard. The possibilities are unbelievable.

This is a gift which will last forever.

