

# Rick Urban Woodturner

Demonstration: **Where's My Wood? – The *Lost Wood* Process.**

## Companion Guide

This handout is not intended to be a stand alone *how-to* guide but rather a companion to the realtime demo on this topic.

Primary Audience: Beginner to Advanced  
Time: 1.5 hours  
Prerequisites: None.



## Objective.

Illustrate creation of a flattened / oval form.

## Preparation.

Kraft paper.  
Grocery bags are a good thickness.  
Avoid very thin paper.  
Printing may bleed into the wood with the glue.

Blanks (for 4" diameter by 2 1/2" high forms)  
2 - 1 1/2" by 2 1/2" by 4" board.  
1 - 3/4" by 2 1/2" by 4" waste board.  
(Similar density, different color)



## Introduction.

Introduced by Art Liestman, 2013 AAW Symposium, Tampa\*  
References at the end of this document.

The *Lost Wood* process.  
Turn a round form.  
Remove the center portion.  
Rejoin the remaining *halves*.

Examples of end products.  
Pot O' Gold, Vessel, Pod, Dory, Cup.



***Trap!***  
Easy to inadvertently sand an angle on the gluing surface.

## Process.

### Blank preparation.

Glue 2 halves plus waste block with a paper joint.



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### Proportions.

Length = total thickness. (square blank)

Thicker waste ==> flatter form.

Grain orientation. Remember how wood moves.

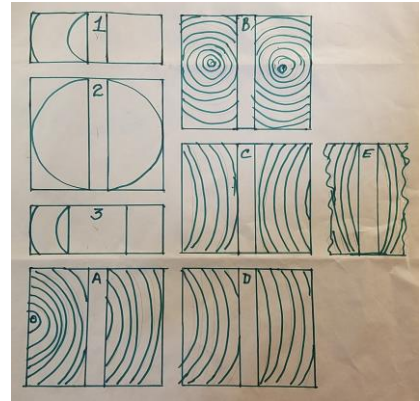
Glue joint preparation.

Alignment pins – optional but useful.

Figure matching.

Thin kerf saw – reduces grain mismatch.

Danger areas: Voids, sparse glue.



### Mounting and Turning the Form.

Marking centers.

Find the center of the *wastewood*.

Uneven thickness of the wastewood *will* cause problems.

Wall thickness.

Drill holes in the waste wood to gauge wall thickness.

Allow for planned embellishments such as carving and piercing.

### On-lathe embellishment.

More precision required.

Indexing requires adjustment.

### Separate the *halves*.

Use a chisel, knife, cleaver, etc.

Place the tool carefully to cleave only the paper joint.

### Reglue the form.

Prep the cleaved surfaces for regluing.

Outside edges must meet cleanly.

All work on interior surfaces must be complete.

### \* References

Lowell Converse, The Lost Wood Process, American Woodturner Spring 2000

<https://www.woodturner.org/common/Uploaded%20files/AmericanWoodturner/AW2000s/AW1501-2000.pdf>

Holland Van Gores, American Woodturner April 2017

<https://www.woodturner.org/common/Uploaded%20files/AmericanWoodturner/AW2010s/AW3202-2017.pdf>

Art Liestman, Beyond Round, American Woodturner August 2012

<https://www.woodturner.org/common/Uploaded%20files/AmericanWoodturner/AW2010s/AW2704-2012.pdf>