

Hollowing long neck vase forms:

1. Shape a cylinder between centers with a tenon on one end. Mount the blank in a four jaw chuck. The tenon end is the top of the vase. You will be hollowing from the bottom of the form. Begin turning the outside of the form, but only “up” to where the neck begins to turn back to its smaller diameter. I do not shape the outside of the form to a diameter less than two inches. Doing this would make the piece unstable for hollowing. It may be helpful to make a fairly accurate sketch so measurements of the various diameters along the length can be transferred to the actual piece.
2. I hollow thru a  $\frac{3}{4}$  diameter hole which I drill to the depth where I stopped shaping the outside. I hollow the bottom most portion to  $\frac{3}{16}$  thick and the rest to about  $\frac{1}{8}$  thick. This keeps the weight near the bottom of the form. At this point, only the bulbous portion is hollowed. Most of the form’s bulk is removed during this step. At this point, I increase the diameter of the hollowing hole by  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch , but only a  $\frac{1}{16}$  inch deep. This forms a stepped hole into which I will fit a plug.
3. Continue to shape the outside reducing the diameter and forming the long neck. Do a bit on the outside then hollow that portion, do a bit more on the outside, hollow that portion, etc. I hollow the neck until the inside diameter is about  $\frac{3}{8}$ ”. After that, I shape of the neck on the outside up to the chuck. I use the wood in the chuck as part of the neck, but you could make the final shape to this point and part the waste off. The downside of this is that you loose the center point made when you first shaped the tenon (between centers).
4. I reverse the piece onto a long jam chuck which is the same diameter as the hollowing hole ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ”) and as long as to reach to the  $\frac{3}{8}$  diameter inside the form. I bring up the tailstock using the center point to apply pressure on the inside and bottom section of the neck. There is no pressure on the bottom or thin sides doing it this way. Essentially, you have a short spindle tuning to complete the final shape of the neck. Turn away the tenon and blend in a flair at the very top of the neck. Sand, then....
5. At the drill press, drill a hole as small as you like that will not breakout the sides of the neck. Use the original center point to start the drill.
6. From here, I power carve the inside of the flair with rotary tools.

It might work to fashion a donut chuck to do steps 4,5 and 6. This would allow turning the inside of the flaired top.