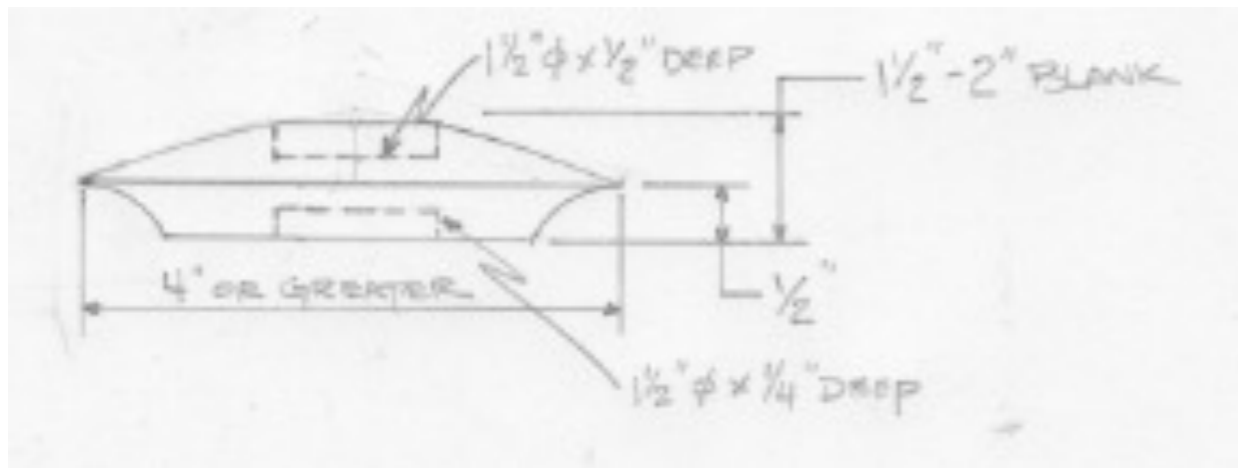


UFO Tea Light



Begin with a blank 4"- 7" in diameter and 1 1/2" - 2" thick. Drill a 1 1/2" diameter by 1/4" deep hole in the bottom of the blank. Mount blank to an expanding four-jaw chuck using the hole just drilled. If your blank is not yet round, turn the outside diameter round. Mark a line 1/2" up from the bottom. Now turn a gentle curve from the 1/2" line to the top of the blank. When you have a curve that you're satisfied with, drill a 1 1/2" hole in the top of the blank. Ultimately this hole should be 1/2" deep. However, if you want to hide the center point/hole left by your drill, drill this

only about 3/8" deep (the length of the point on your drill bit being about 1/8" long. With the tool of your choice (probably a flat scraper, parting tool or bedan) deepen the hole to 1/2" deep with a flat bottom. Sand the top. Finish it now if you wish to use a friction finish. (In future steps you may remove this hole and lose the ability to chuck the tea light here.)

With the top completed, reverse chuck the blank using the hole in the top. Turn a curve similar to that shown above from the edge of the blank toward the center. The bottom of your tea light should be approximately 70-80% of the diameter of the tea light. Turn the bottom slightly recessed so that the light will sit flat.

At this point you can friction finish the bottom if you wish. OR you can flatten the bottom of the bottom hole to eliminate the center point hole left by your drill bit. OR you can deeply dish the bottom of the tea light so that it could also be used as a small bowl. If you chose to make the bottom a bowl shape and you have not removed the holes left by your drill bit's center, measure very carefully so as not to make the bowl too deep. You can leave about 1/8" thickness at the bowl bottom, but ONLY if you have previously flattened the bottom of the hole you drilled in the top. If that pesky drill bit center hole is still there (remember that the tea light will function just fine if you leave the center point's hole) you run a risk of having a tiny hole in the bottom of your funnel. Oops, I meant tea light. You could also add any embellishments to the top while you are still chucked in the bottom hole.

If you retain the 1 1/2" hole in the bottom of the tea light you can use either the top or bottom holes to re-chuck the tea light for finishing, re-shaping or holding it while you hand carve embellishments. If you turn the bottom into a bowl shape you can no longer inset the bottom into a chuck to work on the top of the tea light.

Note for the larger diameter tea lights use the thicker blanks or even the 1 1/2" blank. Just play with the shape until you have what you believe a UFO looks like!