

CHRISTMAS LIGHT ORNAMENT

Materials needed:

Lathe

$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 1" wood block

$1\frac{1}{2}$ " X $1\frac{1}{2}$ " X $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wood block of contrasting color

Wood glue and clamp

Mallet

Gouge (spindle, bowl, or detail)

Parting tool

Sandpaper (180 – 320 grit or better)

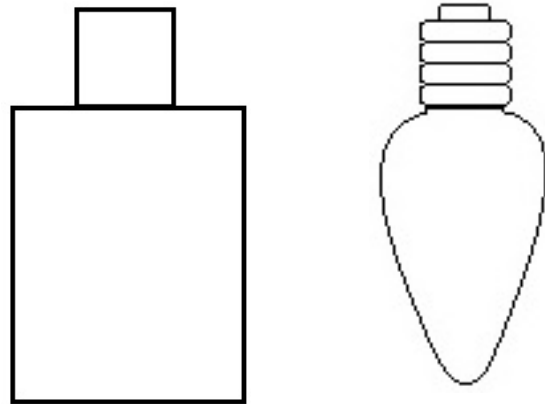
Drive center and live center

$\frac{1}{16}$ " drill bit

Small screw hook (fabric store or hardware store)

Small length of $\frac{1}{8}$ " or $\frac{3}{16}$ " ribbon

High gloss finish (lacquer, high friction polish, shellac, CA glue, etc.)



Process:

Glue smaller woodblock centered to the larger wood block lengthwise; clamp

Use center finder or $\frac{1}{16}$ " drill bit to mark the center of each end

Use mallet to drive the drive center into the smaller end of the woodblock gently

Mount woodblock, drive center onto lathe and bring up tailstock into center of larger end

Rough out each side, starting at ~1200 RPM

Increase the lathe speed to 2000 – 3000 RPM

Start at the larger end by rounding the shoulder where the smaller woodblock meets the larger woodblock, tapering down towards the tailstock end using a bowl gouge or spindle gouge

Make sure to leave around $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch between the tapered end and tailstock to part off later

Once the tapered cone of the larger part is created, using spindle gouge were detail gouge to create the plug portion. This will consist of 3 to 5 small, evenly spaced beads, with a smaller bead at the end

Leave $\frac{1}{4}$ " length at this end for parting off as well

Using a pencil, skew, or parting tool, mark the valley between the beads at even intervals ($\frac{1}{8}$ " to $\frac{3}{16}$ ")

Using the spindle gouge or detail gouge, go in straight and roll the tool outwards to create the bead in each direction

Starting at 180 grit, you small strips sandpaper to evenly sand, taking care not to flatten the beads

Work your way up to 320 grit or better, especially on the larger portion

Part the drive center end until around $\frac{1}{8}$ " remaining

Finish with your choice of high-gloss finish

Turn down the speed to around 500 RPM and part of the larger end off using a spindle or detail gouge

Use a fine tooth saw to cut off the remaining waste from the plug end, sand and finish ends

Drill a $\frac{1}{16}$ " hole in the plug end and gently screw in the screw hook-- use CA glue to secure if necessary

Tie ribbon