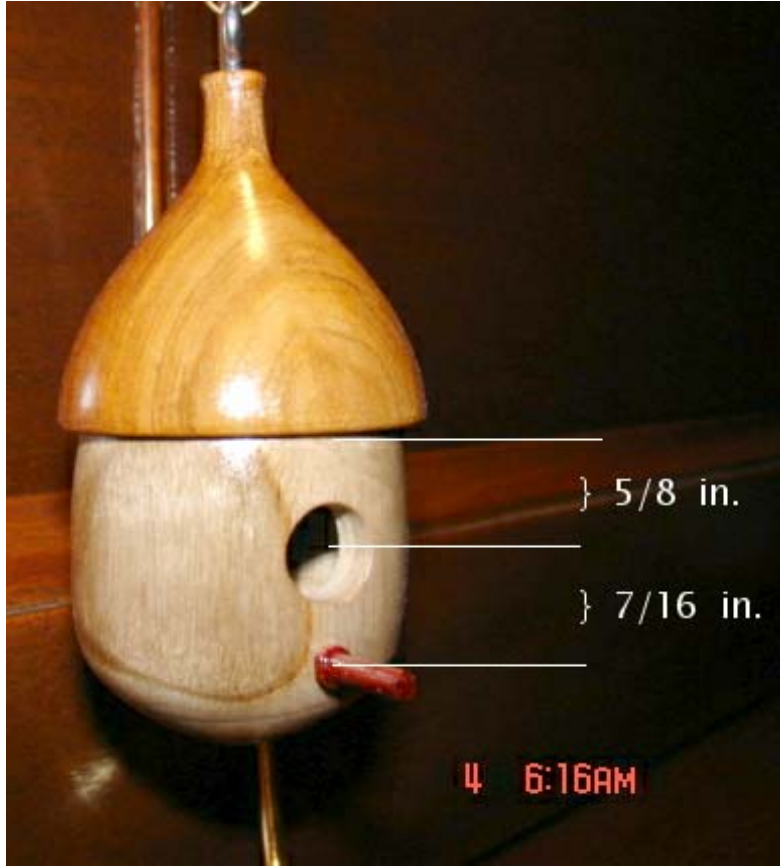


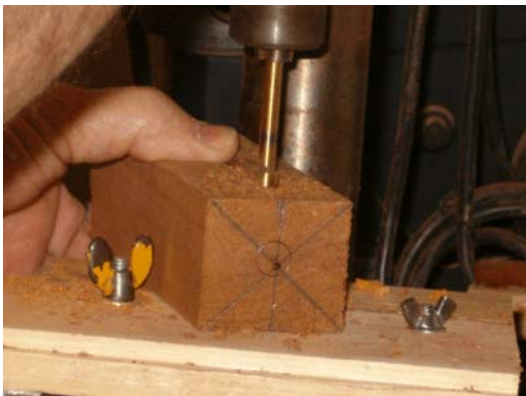
Birdhouse Ornaments



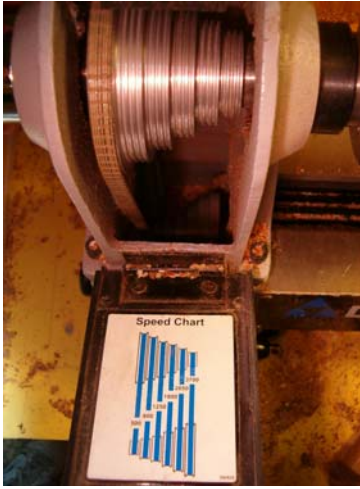
The body of the Acorn is made with square straight grained stock about 3in. long and about 1 1/4in. square.



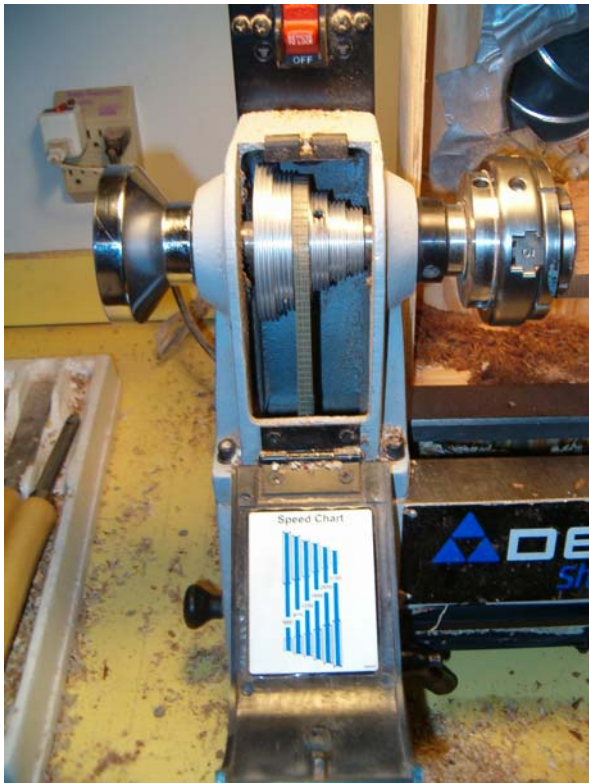
Before turning the body, I mark and drill the openings. It's easier to cut the openings before you turn the bodies shape.



I drill a 3/8in. hole about a 1/2 to 3/4in. deep for the entry to the birdhouse and a 7/64in. hole for the perch.



I use a forstner bit to hollow the body of the acorn. But, before I start hollowing, I slow the lathe to its slowest speed, about 500 RPM. The depth of the hollowing depends on the body design, but is usually between 1 to 1 ¼ inches.



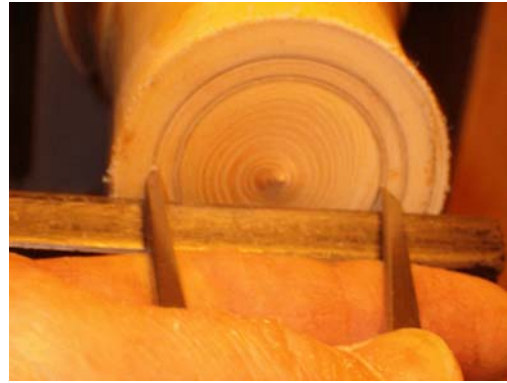
Don't forget to change the speed. I normally set the speed to, around 1200 RPM.



Now that all of the openings are cut in the body, use a roughing gouge to turn it to a cylinder. I shape the birdhouse using a 3/8 spindle gouge.



As you shape the body be careful not to remove too much material from the base. Before parting off the body it's a good idea to rough sand the body.



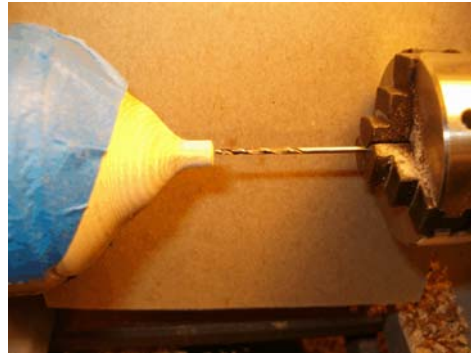
The cap (like the body) can be turned from scrap material. The cap material needs to be about 2in. in diameter and 3in. long. Once the cap material has been turned to a cylinder and the end has been squared, a divide can be used to find center. Notice, if the divide draws two circles, move the points until only one is drawn.



Once center has been established a cutoff tool can be used to fit the body and cap.



The cap can be used as a jam chuck to refine and sand the shape of the acorn body.



Once the cap is parted off, the stem can be drilled for the eyelet



Now for the perch. With the material held in a three-jaw chuck use a small gouge to turn the perch to about 1/16in. diameter.

