

Icicle Ornament Presentation to Pikes Peak Woodturners

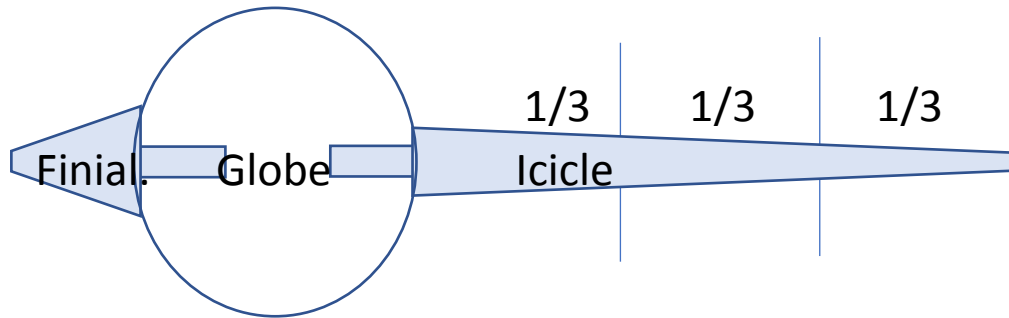


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W.J. (Bill)Smith
wjsmith49@gmail.com

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Plan

1. Make a template and determine where elements will fit
2. Tailor template to length of ball: $.5X - 1x - 2x$
3. Draw out where you want features to go
4. Determine if you want grain matching for top finial and icicle
5. Plan enough space for the tenon that will go into the globe
6. What woods do you plan to use



Turning

1. Turn the ball first
 - No need to make it symmetrical
 - Use a $.5'' - .625''$ bit to drill a hole through the ball and at least $.5''$ deeper
 - Hollow the globe – make sure the inside isn't bigger than the outside!
 - Sand to 320 grit and finish with sanding sealer (1 – 3 coats)
 - Determine which end of the ball will be top and bottom
2. Turn a billet round for the finial and icicle with a tenon on one end
3. Cut the finial
 - Mount billet in a 4-jaw chuck, and bring up the tail stock
 - On the tail stock end, cut a tenon about $3/4''$ long and the diameter of the hole in the top of the globe – use the globe to fit the tenon diameter
 - Undercut the base of the finial so the edge seats on the globe
 - Mark planned length and add $3/4''$ to approximate finished size plus $1/2''$
 - Optional: Rough turn the basic shape (refer to your plan)
 - Cut the finial free from the blank
 - Turn the finial piece around and mount in pin jaws of chuck or in a collet
 - Final turn the finial to shape and drill a hole for a screw eye for hanging the ornament
 - Sand to 320 grit and finish with sanding sealer
 - Cut off part of the tenon being held in the chuck or collet leaving at least $1/4''$ of tenon on the finial to fit into the globe

4. Cut the icicle

- Remount remainder of the billet and bring up the tail stock
- On the tail stock end, cut a tenon about 3/4" long and the diameter of the hole in the bottom of the ball – use the ball to gauge the tenon diameter
- Undercut the base of the icicle so the icicle edge seats on the globe
- Cut the billet about 1/2" longer than the finished size – use your template to ensure you don't cut it too short!
- Remount the billet using the tenon you cut and bring the tailstock up
- Mark the length of the icicle (add about 1/2" for flexibility)
- If the billet is significantly more than 1/2" longer than your planned icicle, you can use a saw or parting tool to trim it to about that length
- With the tailstock in place, taper the billet from the base to the point you marked, leaving about 1/4" diameter at the point end for tailstock support
- Lay out the elements you plan to cut based on your template
- Starting at the point end, form the end of the icicle but do not cut it all the way through so the tailstock can continue to provide support
- With light touch, shape the end 1/3 of the icicle to near final shape
- Finish the tailstock end to a point and pull the tailstock away. (At this point, the tailstock will only be used for alignment if the icicle comes out of the chuck)
- Sand this third to 320 grit – remember that sandpaper is a cutting tool!
- Be careful not to sand over element edges that should be sharp
- With light touch, shape the middle 1/3 of the icicle to near final shape and blend with the end third. USE YOUR FINGERS BEHIND THE PIECE TO SUPPORT IT.
- Sand this third to 320 grit and blend with the end third
- With light touch, shape the last third to near final shape and blend with the middle third. USE YOUR FINGERS BEHIND THE PIECE TO SUPPORT IT.
- Sand to 320 grit
- Evaluate – ensure all elements are blended
- When satisfied, finish with 2 coats of sanding sealer

5. Finishing

- Using wood glue to join the three parts and clamp them end-to-end
- Attach mounting hardware for hanging the ornament
 - An eye screw
 - Tailored earring mount
- Attach a string to the eye so you can rotate the ornament while you spray
- Spray the entire ornament with your favorite finish (I use Deft gloss lacquer)
 - You decide how many coats are enough

MY GOAL IS NOT TO EMULATE CINDY DROZDA'S PRECISION, BUT TO MAKE AN ATTRACTIVE PIECE IN A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF TIME. THE DIFFERENCE: CINDY'S PIECES SELL FOR \$100 AND MY PIECES SELL FOR \$25!!