

Kathy's Demo Rims Presented to Ottawa Valley Woodturners Tuesday March 20th 2012

pyro
carving
gilding
copper verdi green
coloured pens prima
dry brush technique with acrylic over pro etc

epoxy: method and hints/lessons
things to bury paua, stickers, anise, wood bits, any
small objects
coloured coffee beans

I use grinder to make them thinner Lee Valley green
tape protector
shellac the surface to prevent leaking colour or epoxy.
Use only a good brush since the hairs will be a terrible
nuisance!

Everytime I make one, there are new lessons learned!
The main lesson I have learned is that it all requires a LOT of
patience.

**ON RETURNING A DRIED BOWL AFTER IT HAS
CHANGES SHAPE.**

I mark out the rim with a point tool to find out what I have to
work with.

Finish the rim treatment.

Then use a push cut to reshape the bottom, nibbling a bit at a
time from the top down until I can use the shear scrape to

make the bottom edge.

I find that if I work from the bottom (centre) out, I get a lot of bouncing and never get a smooth shape.

EPOXY:

Deep trough using a parting tool so I can shape top in finishing

Use 3 lb cut of shellac to seal and keep colour from bleeding out.

Can colour the epoxy with oil paint or acrylic when using wooden pieces and will turn down to them.

Glue down the pieces with either a first pour of epoxy or E6000 glue. Wood glue leaves a milky area around the pieces.

Stickers move if they the epoxy is poured at one go. Start with a single layer to fix them in place.

Use a level to be sure the epoxy doesn't run over the edge and mess the underside of the bowl.

I usually shape and finish the bottom after I finish the rim.

Mix epoxy in plastic cup.

A warm mixture pours better. If it is cold, I put it in warm water for a few minutes to raise the temp. Can use a hair dryer or paint remover torch to get rid of many bubbles but too much heat will affect the inserts or move them. Acetone also pops the bubbles, in a well ventilated area!

Keep the bowl in the chuck so that it runs true for the whole procedure

I use a point tool and a bedan to shape the epoxy since it is very brittle and cracks with a gouge. I have tried an an easy wood tool with a square tip but it is very aggressive and can chip out the epoxy.

Sand up to very fine grit 2000

Source for clear epoxy Polymer Composites .com

<http://cgi.ebay.com/EPOXY-RESIN-4-BUBBLE-FREE-TABLE-AND-BAR-TOP-CLEAR-COATS-/310186223912>

With shipping it comes to about \$90.00

Pumps from Canus plactic Ottawa on Conroy Road south of Baseline. They are out now and I bought some from clcboats in the States. Just google clcboats.com

The pumps from Lee Valley are for the West System(different shaped container).

They also sell epoxy but it's more expensive and I have found that it yellows which is okay if you add colour.

I use acetone and a paint remover heat gun to warm the epoxy and get the bubbles to rise more quickly but I have to stay with it for an hour or more to get all the bubbles out. Wear a mask and have a fan to exhaust the fumes. Very dangerous to breath. I doubt that the mask does anything to help!

Acetone in a plastic container with a spray top pump. (an air freshener container from Cdn tire)

CARVING and PYROGRAPHY:

For carving I like birch because it is quite soft and even grained.

Make a sample piece with a variety of carving patterns to experiment.

Make two beads to define the area of carving. That way the pry has an edge to work up to.

Dremel tool, Proxzon carver, hand carving tools, Burnmaster (heavy duty)or Detail Master (lighter work)

Molly Winton has published a booklet on how to make your own pry tips. Grahaem Priddle also makes them and has shown us in his demo last year.

I have burned out tips with the Detail Master.

Liberal use of masking when keeping edges clean.

I have found that having a Carver's mount is useful so that I don't have to hold the piece and use the carver with the same hands.

Another useful aid is a large (10 lb) bag of rice. The piece will sit well in it while I work.

Kutzall Tools, ball tip and spiral post one are very useful.

Coloured markers from Wallach's Prima.

GILDING:

I'm only starting to use this process. So far I have learned: Michael's for cheap materials to learn on. The sizing doesn't last after you open the bottle.

Getting a clean division between the gilding and the wood is very difficult. Pyro has been my choice so far.

VERDI GRIS: Micheal's has a small bottle version to experiment with.

Basically a copper paint with a copper sulphate wash after which slowly turns the surface green, a neat affect.

Paint copper layer, let dry, mask repaint and add the sulphate. I'm not really sure what the two liquids are.