Candlestick Turning Project - ITEM #FP003
Required Components; #PKCANKIT1 or #PKCANKIT2, Cup, and Base

PSI offers a selection of wood species in turning stock 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" x 12" and 2" x 2" x 12" for turning decorated candlestick spindles. You will find that turning candlesticks on a lathe and other spindle work using similar projects, is very rewarding. Candlesticks and related projects such as oil lamp bases, clocks, and small bowls are fun to turn and make popular gifts.

Two styles of attractive matching components to complete your project are available. Following are turning instructions and suggested plans for popular candlestick spindle profiles.

Preparing the Stock for Turning

To turn any of the suggested profiles you may use any PSI spindle blank 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" x 12" or 2" x 2" x 12" long. Saw stock in half. Each blank yields a set of 2 candlesticks. Mark the center of each end and drill a pilot hole at each of the marks.

Turning the Stock

Note: Turning this project requires mounting your workpiece between centers using a 4-prong drive center at the headstock and a live tailstock center.

Diagram A - Turning the Blank

Use a hammer to tap the spur center tip into the pilot hole in the wood. Mount the spur center onto the headstock of your lathe. Slide the tailstock with live center tip into pilot hole in the wood. (See Diagram A). Check that the wood is tight in the spur center.

Using turning tools, (a spindle gouge is preferred) take the wood down to the profile of your choice. (See our suggested profiles Diagram B) Be sure that the end diameter of your profiles match the brass components you have picked.

Fine sand the wood in a sequence from coarse to fine grits. Finish with your choice of an appropriate polish. Excellent results can be achieved on the lathe with Shellawax cream or liquid, or brush on PSI’s Hi-Gloss Project finish.

Assembly

Remove the finished spindle from the lathe. Drill a longer pilot hole for the screws, to prevent splitting the wood. Screw the appropriate components into each end.

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