

## Embellishment by Design – Spiraled Egg

Handout

### Overview.

In this demo I show you how to use off-lathe indexing methods to easily create a pleasing spiral design on an egg or similar closed form. I then complete the project with rotary carving, woodburning, and coloring techniques. Through the use of *time lapse* techniques, you see the final result that normally takes several hours. When time allows I also turn the egg with a skew and highlight some tips for those who have not yet made peace with the skew.



### Process.

- Make a perfect egg.
  - No amount of carving or texture will fix a bad form!
- Think of a spiral design you like.
  - How many sections does it have?
  - Is it a complete spiral, or is it wavy?
  - I like 5 & 10 & wavy (and sometimes 7 / 14).
  - Index 10 sections on the egg.
    - If you start freehand, it's likely to end up like the famous sign.
    - Do you put it back on the lathe (and setup your indexing rig)?
    - Most built in indexing have 24 or 48 stops.
      - Sections that divide evenly into 24.
      - 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, & 12.
      - 5, 10, 7, & 14 are not on the list.
        - Common in nature.
        - Fibonacci sequence.
          - He wasn't crazy about 7.
          - Curious about rabbits.
- Draw the spiral.
  - Use a fixture.
  - Mark as many rings as you need.
    - One near top and bottom are probably adequate.
    - Estimating in between usually works out ok.
    - Draw *spiralish* guidelines. Check for consistency.
- Carve the segment boundaries with an inverted cone or similar bur.
- Blend the secondary curves within the form with a cylinder or similar bur that allows adequate

Plan Ahead

## Rick Urban - Woodturner

<http://RickUrbanWoodturner.com/>

[RickUrbanWoodturner@gmail.com](mailto:RickUrbanWoodturner@gmail.com)

access.

- Refine the surfaces as needed.
- Texture the surfaces.
  - Considerations.
    - Directionality can matter.
    - Randomness can matter.
  - Carving possibilities.
    - Stipple (ball).
    - Short narrow strokes (knife edge, cutter, inverted cone, cylinder).
    - Long flowing strokes (knife edge).
    - Cleanup with small taper (2mm).
  - Woodburning & Branding possibilities.
    - Stipple.
    - Troweled (side of skew tip).
    - Staccato strokes.
    - Flowing lines.
    - Daisies, starfish, leaves.
    - Fish scales.
    - Basket weave (home made coil).
    - Geometric (triangles, quadrangles).
    - Mud cracks, ice flow, bark.
    - Cleanup with a skew tip.

### Tools You May See In This Demo.

- Carving.
  - Marathon micromotor rotary carver.
  - Master Carver Micro-Pro rotary carver.
  - Inverted cone bur, 3-8 mm.
  - Knife edge bur, 6 mm.
  - Tapered bur, 2.1mm.
  - Collet adapter, 1/8" to 3/32".
  - Concave bur, carbide spiked, 3/8".
  - Cylinder bur.
  - Cup bur.
- Woodburning.
  - Burnmaster woodburner.
  - Colwood woodburner.
  - Skew tip.
  - Blunt writing tip.
  - Homemade spoon shaped tip.

To learn more, visit my website at <http://RickUrbanWoodturner.com/>  
or email me at [RickUrbanWoodturner@gmail.com](mailto:RickUrbanWoodturner@gmail.com)