

October 15, 2012

## **Wine bottle stopper turning instructions**

Drill 3/8" hole in end of 1 1/2" or 2" by 2" blank of figured or burl wood. Glue in 3/8" dowel or thread on screw chuck or collet chuck. Place blank between centers.

Using a 3/8" or 1/4" spindle gouge and skew turn the desired shape at high speed, taking small cuts to minimize breaking dowel. Using the skew will give the smoothest finish, but be careful of dig-ins or disastrous results can occur. Leave tailstock on until most of shape is defined and then cut off small spigot with skew. Do not make too long or wine bottle with stopper won't fit under cabinets. Sand to 600 grit at slow speed. Apply friction polish at high speed and Renaissance Wax.

Remove from chuck, apply yellow woodworkers glue to dowel and slide on cork. Cut off excess dowel on band saw, keeping fingers out of the way and the stopper firmly held on the bed.