

- Approach

- Set for torque, not speed.
- Tools ALWAYS sharp. FREQUENT sharpening.
- Bright LED from above
- No power sanding! Use neoprene backer.
- Use Negative Rake Scrapers

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*Platters*

*Mid-Missouri Woodturners Club*

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*Demonstrator: Erik Betz*

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- Attributes of a “good” platter (Credit: Tom Wirsing)

- PROPORTIONS (vis-à-vis diameter)
- Foot: third to half, smaller better
- Depth: tenth to fifth, smaller better
- Rim width: depends on platter purpose
- Thickness & Weight. Typically ~6 to 12mm.
- SMOOTH CURVE: interior and from foot to rim; area within foot slightly crowned to mimic the topside curve. Rim slightly sloped inward, slightly crowned and undercut.
- FINGER TEST: No ripples or tear-out
- TRANSITIONS: Crisp transitions, rim and foot edges
- FINISH: high quality regardless of chosen utility.

- Overview of Sequence

- Mounting/Prepping: screw chuck/faceplate/sacrificial tenon from top; prep blank
- Thickness: Determine thickness and remove rim wood if needed from top or bottom or both. Set thickness before roughing bottom shape.
- Foot/recess: Mark and Rough (or final if okay to keep chuck recess) Turn, (undercut foot before cutting recess). RECESS SIZE SHOULD BE EXACT.
- Bottom: Turn ogee and edge, Decorate, Finish
- Mount: Flip and chuck mount from bottom
- Top Rim: Turn (hold rim for support), Decorate and Finish if embellished
- Top Center: Turn and Finish
- Foot: Shape/Finish
- OPTIONAL Textured Top Rim (Leave wood on for anti-chatter, esp. large pieces)
  - After cutting the foot, FIRST DO THE TOP RIM from the spindle-side of the lathe, using the full blank for support. Then do the bottom before chuck mounting.

- Mount and Prep

- Mounting choices
  - Faceplate to minimize run-out vibration, esp. for large pieces. Deep threaded screws, 12 to 20 mm deep.
  - Screw chuck for convenience
  - Sacrificial tenon on top
- Prep
  - Round off the edge
  - Face off the bottom
  - SLIGHTLY UNDERCUT for foot

- Foot and Recess

- MARK and foot 1/3 to 1/2 diameter; wide ~ 1 inch per foot

- MARK recess separately for exact chuck fit
- UNDERCUT the foot.
- PEEL out center with gouge to cut 2-3 mm recess
- HONE recess dovetail wall with scraper
- Bottom Rim to Foot
  - DETERMINE and MARK RIM width on the side of the blank, top and bottom.
  - SHAPE BOTTOM OGEE with peeling pull cuts from outer to inner to rough shape; CAREFUL to not skate across the foot
  - CLEAN bottom surface with detail gouge (or careful scraping). Get the shape right, then the surface.
  - NRS (180grit) NO PUSH, finalize surface from foot to rim. RESHARPEN FREQUENTLY. BURR ONLY.
    - Foot side: right side scraper curve
    - Rim side: left side scraper curve
  - SCRAPE FOOT, maintaining under cut
  - SCRAPE A CROWN on the outer rim edge, keeping transitions sharp and not rounded
  - DECORATE the underside
  - SAND/POLISH the underside
- DRILL Depth hole (optional, 13mm from bottom)
- REMOUNT on chuck
- Top Rim
  - NOTE, complete rim top before removing center wood
  - MARK rim width (by eye)
  - CUT small groove inside rim
  - PEEL CUT the rim into slight crown
  - CLEAN rim surface with detail gouge
  - NRS by supporting with paper towel and hand on back
  - Decorate (optional), Finish rim (if different finish than center)
- Hollow the center
  - PEEL cut to rough shape the center
  - CLEAN center surface with detail gouge
  - NRS (left side curve with top straight)
    - If deflecting, support with left hand, paper towel; hold scraper with right hand with outer fingers on the tool rest
  - FEEL FOR DISCONTINUITIES and redress
  - SAND/POLISH
- REMOUNT, reversing again, using Cole Jaws or vacuum chuck to gain access to the foot.
- INSIDE FOOT
  - Remove recess and final shape bottom. Both sides of foot should be symmetrical.
  - NRS/SAND/POLISH