

The Basic Christmas Ornament

The Globe, Tools Needed

spindle roughing gouge (depending on grain orientation)
3/8" spindle gouge
3/8" drill bit
small square nosed scraper
small round nosed scraper
small skew
parting tool
bent angle tools

Turning The Globe

Rough Stock (about 2 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 2") glued to a waste block which is held in #2 jaws.

1. Turn the globe to a finished diameter of about 2 1/4" .
2. Shape the globe with a 3/8" spindle gouge. (leave sufficient mass to allow hollowing)



3. Drill a 3/8" hole through the entire ornament. This aligns the top and bottom of the ornament.
4. Use a small square nosed scraper followed by a small round nosed scraper to open the interior of the ornament. (Use of these tools allow you to access the interior of the globe with the bent angle tools)
5. Use the bent angle tools to hollow the interior of the globe. You will need a shorter bent angle tool as well as a longer one to hollow the interior.



6. When you are satisfied with the interior, continue shaping the exterior of the globe and sand to your satisfaction.
7. Part from the waste block.

The Icicle, Tools Needed

½” spindle roughing gouge
3/8” spindle gouge
small skew
3/16” spindle gouge (optional)
small parting tool
½” skew (optional)

Turning the Icicle

Rough stock (about 1 1/4” x 1 1/4” x 7”) held in pin (spigot) jaws.

1. Place the icicle stock in your pin jaws and use the spindle roughing gouge (SRG) to begin forming the first icicle segment. (Note: The tail stock does not support the icicle stock, you must use a light touch with the srg.) Use the 3/16” spindle gouge to form the top of the icicle segment. Sand and move on to the next segment.



2. Using the same technique, turn three or four icicle segments.
3. Using the 3/8” spindle gouge and the small skew turn a vee groove and cove at what will be the top of the icicle. Sand. Then use a small parting tool to turn a tenon that will allow the icicle to fit into the bottom of the ornament globe. Part from the lathe using a small parting tool and use thick CA glue to glue the icicle into the globe.



The finial is turned using the icicle scrap

4. Use the SRG to true up the remainder of the stock, then use a ½” skew laid flat on the tool rest to turn a tenon that will fit into the top of the ornament globe.
5. Using the small skew and the 3/8” spindle gouge turn the remainder of the finial to your satisfaction. Sand.



6. At this point, I part the finial from the lathe, reverse it and hold it in the pin jaws so that I can do any final finish cuts and so that I can drill a small hole to insert either a small screw eye or the top of a fish hook for hanging on a tree. Glue tenon into top of ornament.
7. When completed, I spray the ornaments using Deft satin lacquer.

