

Woodturning a Snowman Box

Turn a festive Snowman Box that is sure to be this year's favorite decoration.

Turning the Snowman Body

Step 1 - Select a blank [3" x 3" x 4-1/2"](#). Use a [Center Finder](#) and mark the center on each end of the blank.



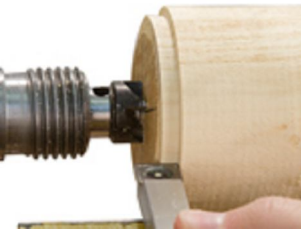
Step 2 - Mount the blank on the lathe between centers using a [Cone Center](#) and [Drive Center](#).



Step 3 - Rough down the blank to 2-1/2" diameter using a [Roughing Gouge](#).



Step 4 - Turn a tenon on one end of the blank to fit in the jaws of your chuck.



Step 5 - Mount the tenon in a chuck. Support the opposite end with a revolving center.



Step 6 - Using a [Spindle Gouge](#) turn the snowman body to shape as per the [Snowman Box Diagram](#) dimensions.



Step 7 - Remove the revolving center and use a [7/8" Forstner Bit](#) and drill a hole in the blank 2-1/2" deep.



Step 8 - Using a [Parting Tool](#), part off the blank leaving 1/8" of excess material on the base of the snowman. Leave the remaining blank in the chuck.



Step 9 - Turn a 1/2" long tenon on the remaining blank to fit the drilled hole in the snowman. Check for fit frequently.



Step 10 - Mount the drilled end of the snowman on the tenon. Use a revolving center in the tailstock to support the blank. Turn a flat or slightly concave base on the snowman. Leave a small tenon of waste material to support the blank while sanding and finishing.



Step 11 - Sand the snowman through [320 grit](#).



Step 12

- Finish the snowman with your choice of finish. We recommend using [Deft Clear Wood Finish](#) to seal and finish the blank. Apply the Deft to the snowman with the lathe stopped using a brush or rag. Apply liberally to the blank and wipe off the excess. Once dry, use a paste wax and [Steel Wool](#) while the lathe is running to smooth the deft, leaving a streak-free surface.



- **Optional Step** - Use [White Liming Wax](#) or paint to color the snowman body white.

Step 13 - Remove the snowman from the lathe. Use a chisel or handsaw to remove the remaining waste material from the base of the snowman. Sand and finish the exposed ends.



Turning the Snowman Hat/Head

Step 1 - Select a blank [3" x 3" x 3-1/2"](#). Use a [Center Finder](#) and mark the center on each end of the blank.



Step 2 - Mount the blank on the lathe between centers using a [Cone Center](#) and [Drive Center](#).



Step 3 - Rough down the blank to round using a [Roughing Gouge](#).



Step 4 - Turn a tenon on one end of the blank to fit in the jaws of your chuck.



Step 5 - Mount the tenon in a chuck. Support the opposite end with a revolving center.



Step 6 - Using a [Spindle Gouge](#) turn the snowman hat/head to the diagram dimensions.



Step 7 - Sand the snowman hat/head through [320 grit](#).



Step 8 - Finish the snowman hat/head with your choice of finish. We recommend using [Deft Clear Wood Finish](#) to seal and finish the blank. Apply the Deft to the snowman hat/head with the lathe stopped using a brush or rag. Apply liberally to the blank and wipe off the excess. Once dry, use a paste wax and [Steel Wool](#) while the lathe is running to smooth the deft, leaving a sealed and streak-free surface.



-
- **Optional Step** - Use [White Liming Wax](#) or paint to color the snowman head white.

Step 9 - To make the snowman look authentic, use a [Tombow Marker](#) to color the hat black. *Hint: You could also use paint or black shoe polish if needed.*



Step 10 - Use a Parting tool or long point of a skew and part the snowman hat/head from the remaining blank. Sand and finish the top of the hat.



Optional Decorating Ideas

-
- **Optional Step 1** - Drill a small nose hole in the face of the snowman. Turn a small nose to fit in the drilled hole. Use CA glue and glue the nose into the hole.



- **Optional Step 2** - Drill two arm holes in the snowman that will fit a couple small twigs. Use CA Glue or Epoxy to glue the twigs into the arm holes.



- **Optional Step 3** - Use a woodburner or black marker and draw a face and a few buttons on the snowman.



Enjoy your finished Snowman Box.



The following items were used to complete this project:

- [Snowman Box Diagram](#)
- [Center Finder](#), [Cone Center](#)
- [Drive Center](#)
- [Roughing Gouge](#)
- [Spindle Gouge](#)
- [Forstner Bit](#)
- [Parting Tool](#)
- [Sandpaper](#)
- [Deft Clear Wood Finish](#)
- [Steel Wool](#)
- [Tombow Marker](#)
- [White Liming Wax](#)