Galloway Woodturners

Project Notes - Handle for plastic shopping bags



Wood required – at least 7" long and 1" diameter. Any hardwood would be suitable, not too coarse grained.

- 1. Mount wood between centres, turn to a parallel cylinder 1" in diameter using a spindle roughing gouge.
- 2. With the lathe running, place a ruler on the tool rest parallel with the wood and use a pencil to mark the left hand end of the handle, then at 3/8", 1 1/4", 3", $4 \frac{3}{4}$ ", $5 \frac{5}{8}$ " and 6".
- 3. Use a parting tool to cut into the waste wood at the right hand end, leaving sufficient wood to support the work.
- 4. Form the narrowest section at the right hand side, ½" diameter, using a series of parting tool cuts then blend them together by using the parting tool at a slight angle as a mini skew chisel.
- 5. Part into the waste wood at the left hand end, leaving sufficient wood to drive and support the work.
- 6. Form the narrowest section at the left hand side, ½" diameter in the same way.
- 7. Reduce the diameter of both ends to ¾" diameter, then shape the beads at each end using a spindle gouge.
- 8. Shape the centre of the handle, working on each side equally in turn with a spindle roughing gouge, finishing with a skew chisel.
- 9. Use abrasives to smooth the work, say 120 grit, 180 grit, 240 grit, 320 grit.
- 10. Decorate with small V-cuts, made with a skew chisel or point tool, if desired.
- 11. Apply a coat of sanding sealer, allow to dry, then rub down with abrasive.
- 12. Apply a coat of melamine, allow to dry then burnish.
- 13. Separate the work from the waste wood at either end and finish the ends by hand.