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Bill Krier
Editor
WOOD® magazine

Adobe Acrobat Troubleshooting Guide

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Put Your
Snacks

In Orbit

Turn a lazy Susan that's
practically out of this world



Though it brings to mind extraterrestrial objects, such as space stations and flying saucers, our turned lazy Susan boasts down-to-earth practicality. At any gathering, you only have to fill the four compartments with snacks, and this beauty becomes the center of the universe.

Turn the bowl in the body

Note: If your lathe won't swing 15"-diameter work over the bed, you can turn outboard (if your lathe permits) or scale down the turning.

Locate the center on one face of your 2×15×15" mahogany stock. Draw a centered 15" circle on the stock, and bandsaw the blank.

Chuck the blank so the surface that will be the top of the lazy Susan faces out. (See the box at the *right* for a hint on chucking lathe work.) If you don't have a lathe chuck, glue a wasteblock to the back face of the blank, and screw your faceplate to it.

Adjust your lathe to a slow speed, around 400-500 rpm. Turn the blank to 14¼" diameter, and true the face.

Hold a pencil against the face of the spinning blank 1¾" from the edge. Inside the circle drawn, form a flat-bottomed bowl 1¼" deep. A bowl gouge and a heavy scraper will accomplish the job. Slope the side slightly inward at the bottom, and curve it into the bottom as shown on the Section View drawing.

Draw another circle on the face, this one 1½" from the edge. Then draw a line around the edge of the blank 1¼" from the face. Form a sloped surface between these lines, as shown in *Photo A, next page*. You can rough it out with a gouge, and clean it up with a bowl scraper.

Make a clean-up cut along the flat surface between the sloped face and the bowl. Sand the interior, the sloped face, and the top. Maintain fairly sharp edges for a crisp look.

You'll need . . .

Stock: Mahogany, 2×15×15" (or narrower stock edge-glued to this size) and ¾×2½×2½", one piece each size; wenge, two pieces ¼×3½×18".

Lathe equipment and tools: Chuck, faceplate, ½" bowl gouge, parting tool, bowl scraper, 1" skew.

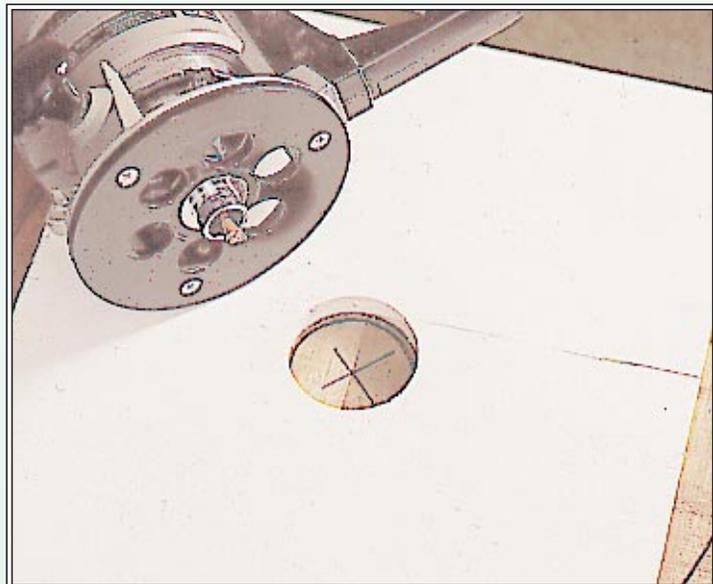
Get off to a quick start by routing a recess for the chuck

Jerry Selover, a Des Moines woodworker who turned our lazy Susan, showed us how to save a few steps when mounting a blank on an expanding-jaw woodturning chuck.

The method relies on a routing template made from a piece of ½"- or ¾"-thick plywood or particleboard. (A piece about 12" square would be about right.) At the center of the piece, bore a hole that's a little larger than the diameter of the dovetail recess required for your chuck jaws. (The hole needs to be large enough, that when used with your guide bushing and dovetail bit, you can rout a recess of the proper size. A 2½" hole in our template produces a dovetail recess that's 2¾" in diameter.) Bore the hole with a circle cutter or holesaw to ensure a smooth edge.

To prepare a blank for mounting, draw a circle the size of the template's hole at the center on one side of the blank. Position the template on the blank, locating the hole over the drawn circle, as shown *below*. Clamp the template to the blank or secure it with double-faced tape.

Fit your router with a pattern bushing, and install a dovetail bit, as shown in the photo. Adjust the cutting depth to suit the chuck's requirement. Then, rout the dovetail recess in the blank, guiding around the inside of the template hole.



You can rout a chucking recess in your blank using a scrapwood template and a template bushing on your router. Rout the recess with a dovetail bit.

In Orbit

Kerf the body for the dividers; then turn the bottom recess

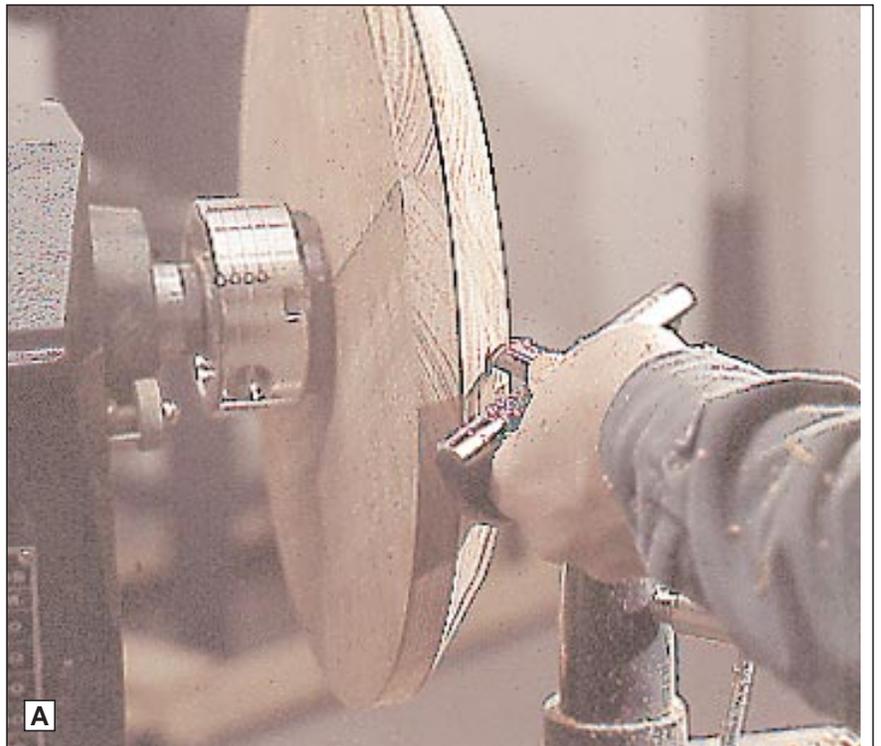
Saw two $\frac{1}{4}$ " kerfs 90° apart across the diameter of the turning, using a dado blade and tablesaw. Set the cutting depth to make the kerfs $\frac{1}{8}$ " deep across the center of the bowl. To saw the kerfs safely and accurately, build a fixture like the one shown in the illustration *below*. Saw the kerfs as shown in *Photo B*.

Next, turn the bottom of the bowl, using a jam chuck like the one shown in *Photo C*. To make the chuck, attach a $1\frac{1}{2}$ "-thick, 12"-diameter disc to your lathe faceplate. (We laminated two pieces of $\frac{3}{4}$ " particleboard scrapwood for the one shown.)

True the face and edge. Then turn the disc to fit snugly into the bowl recess. Fit the lazy-Susan body squarely over the jam chuck. Bring up the tailstock to stabilize the turning.

Draw a line on the bottom face $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the edge of the body. Referring to the Section view, form a sloped surface between the line and the lower edge of the top face. Draw four equally spaced lines along the sloped lower surface, and cut the V-grooves where shown on the half-pattern. The tip of a skew forms the grooves nicely.

Complete the lazy-Susan body by turning a $\frac{1}{4}$ "-deep recess $9\frac{5}{8}$ " in diam-



Run the lathe at a slow speed, 500 rpm or less, when turning the chamfered top edge. The guideline on the edge shows the chamfer's limit.

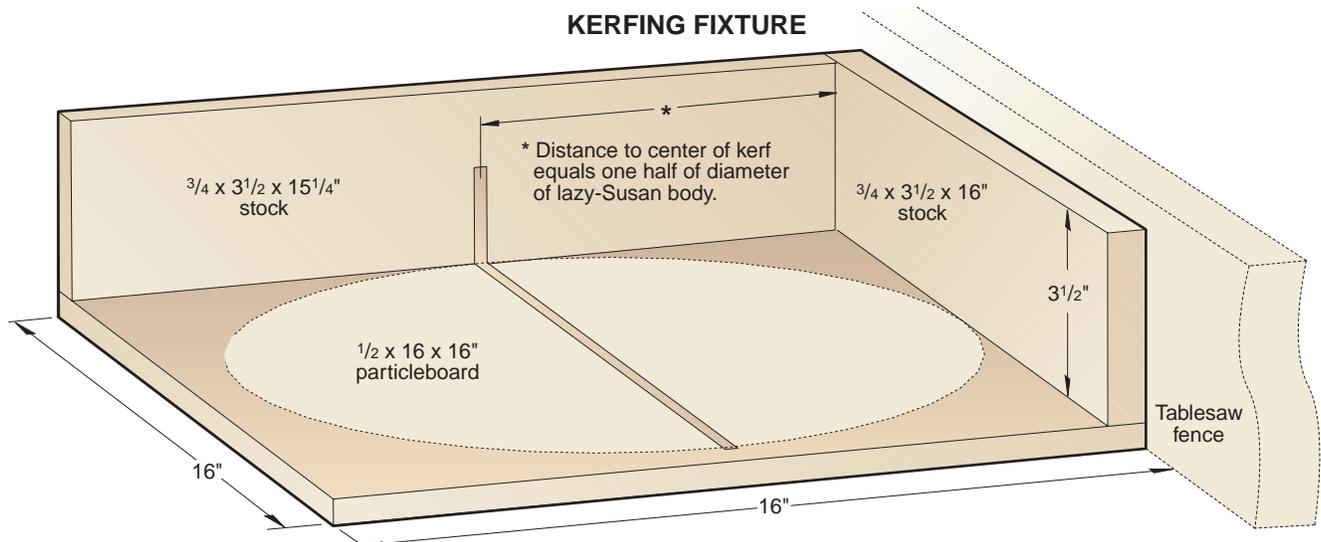
eter to receive the lazy-Susan bearing. Work as close to the tailstock center as possible; then slide the tailstock back to complete the recess. Sand the bottom of the body. Dismount the body from the lathe.

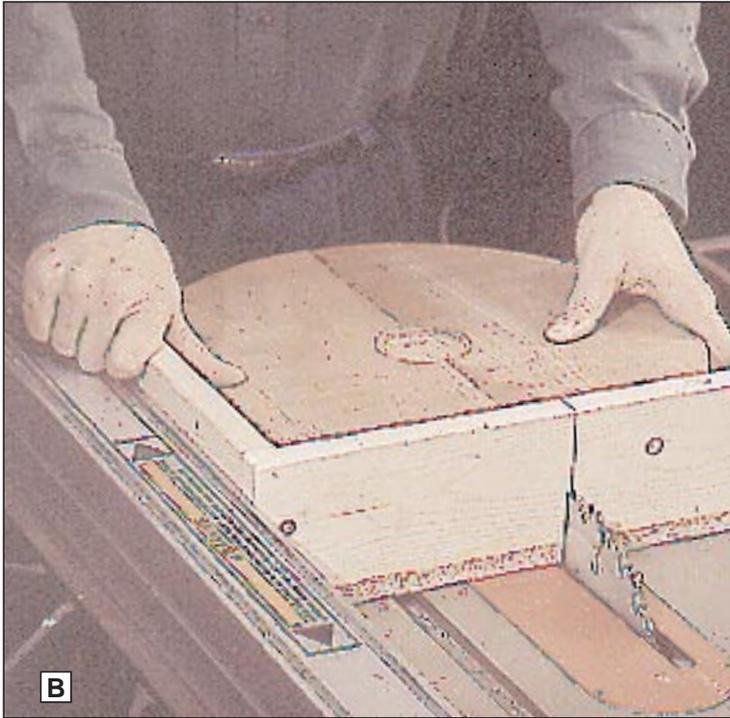
Install the winged dividers, and cap them with a turned knob

Transfer the Divider Full-Size Pattern onto two pieces of $\frac{1}{4}$ "-thick wenge (or another contrasting stock). Lay out

one divider with a notch from the top and the other with a notch from the bottom. Scrollsaw or bandsaw the parts, staying slightly outside the lines. Sand to the pattern lines. Fit the dividers into the kerfs in the body, and glue them into place.

Now, turn the knob that will sit atop the junction of the two dividers. To do this, attach a scrapwood waste-block about $1\frac{1}{2}$ " thick to your 3-4" lathe faceplate. Turn a $2\frac{1}{4}$ "-diameter





B A simple sliding table carries the body when cutting the kerfs for the dividers. Saw the kerfs with a 1/4" dado blade.



C Fit the partially turned body over a jam chuck so you can turn the chamfered bottom corner and the bearing recess.

tenon about 3/4" long on the face of the wasteblock.

Bandsaw a 2 1/4"-diameter disc from 3/4"-thick mahogany. Glue the disc to the tenon on the wasteblock. Then, turn the disc to 2" in diameter, form the knob, sand it, and part it off.

Install a 1/4" straight bit in your table mounted router. Then, employing a sled fixture similar to the one used to kerf the lazy-Susan body, rout two grooves 1/8" deep across two diameters 90° apart on the bottom of the knob. Glue the knob to the dividers.

It's about time for a spin

Apply a clear finish. (We sprayed on several coats of lacquer, sanding with 320-grit sandpaper between coats.)

Position the lazy-Susan bearing in the recess on the bottom of the body. Take care to center the bearing. Mark the locations for the bearing's mounting screws, and drill pilot holes for the screws. Be careful not to drill through into the bowl. Screw the bearing to the body, driving in the screws slowly to make sure they don't poke through. 🍳

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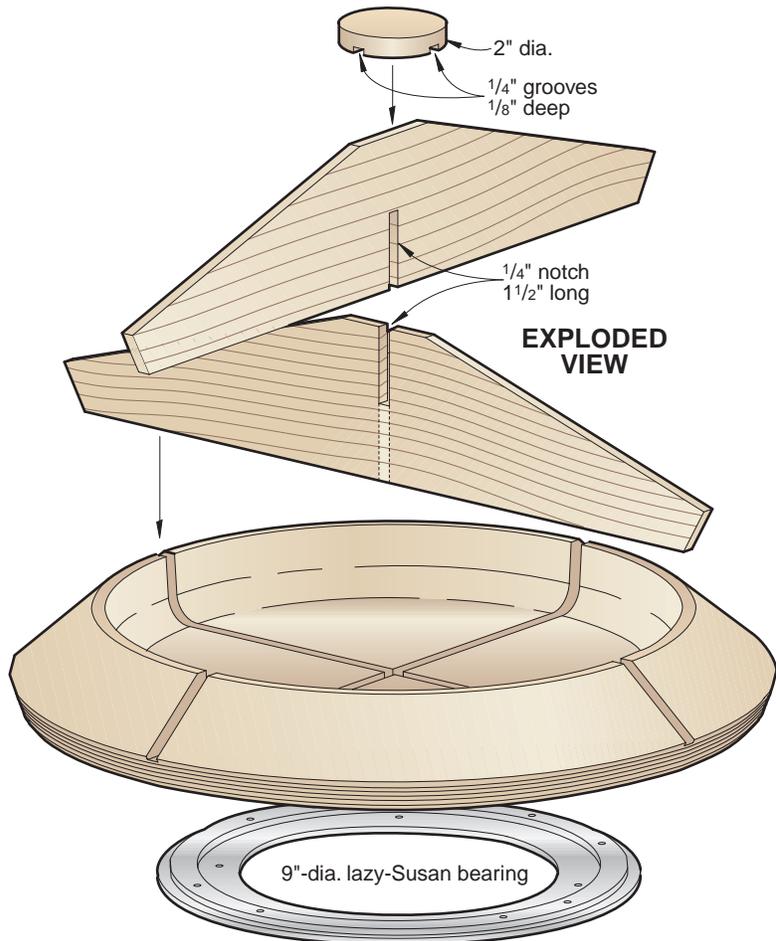
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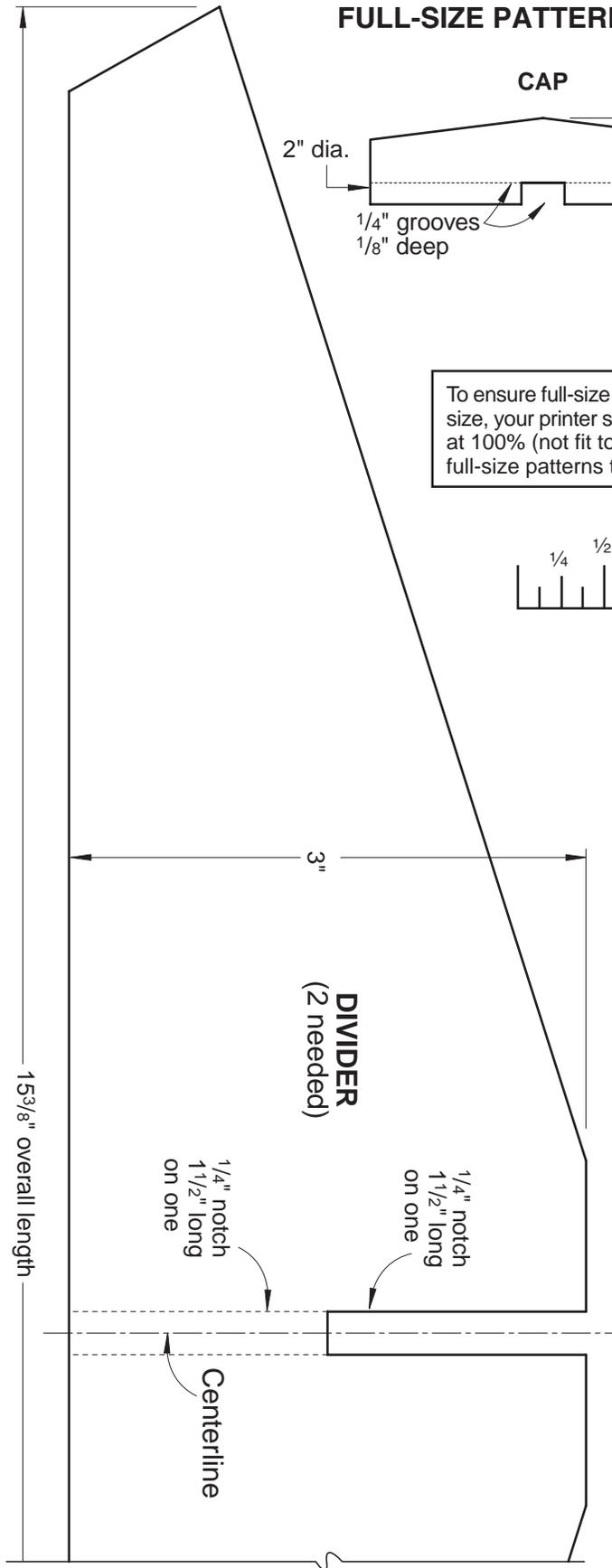
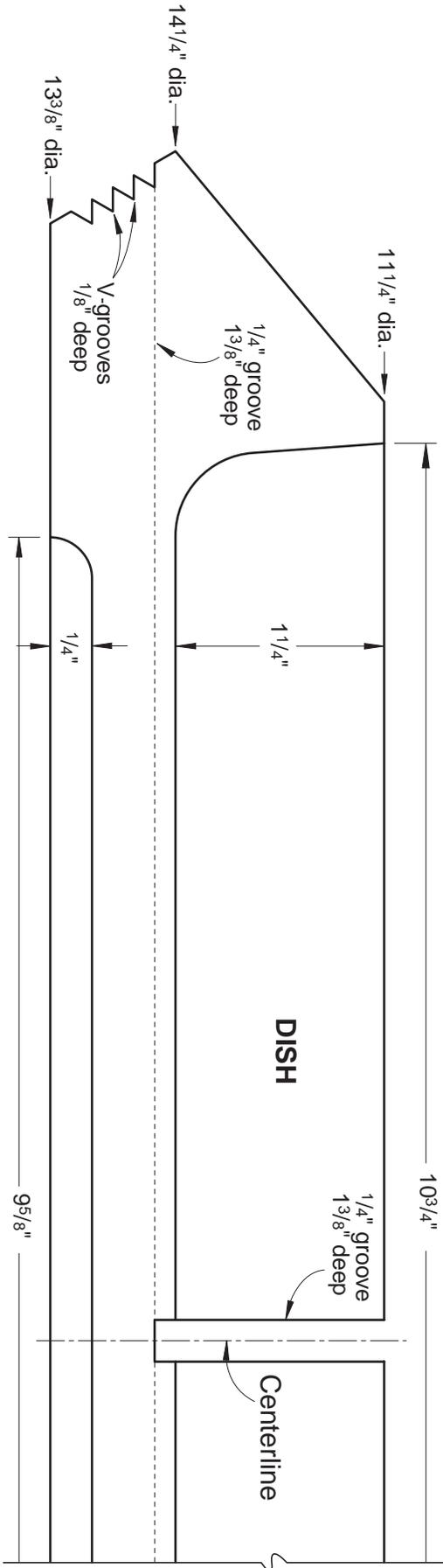
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Illustrations: Roxanne LeMoine; Lorna Johnson

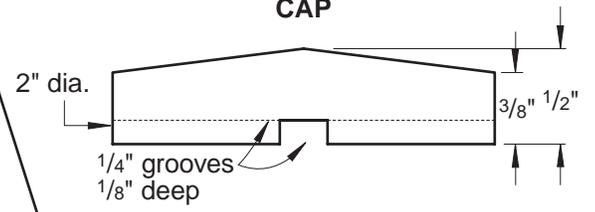
Lazy Susan turned by Jerry Selover



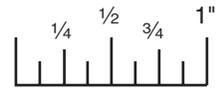


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