**Platter, 18”, Lacquered, with Colored Rim, Process Steps**

Following are the process steps to turn an 18” diameter platter with colored rim, finished in lacquer. The platter must be remounted on the lathe after it is completely finished in order to rub out the lacquer finish as the last step in the process.

1. Mount the blank on a faceplate. If the blank is cupped, mount the faceplate on the concave side (the concave side will become the upper face of the platter). Use hardwood wedges if necessary to get the blank to run true. Use plenty of screws to insure the blank is securely mounted. A blank 18” in diameter and 2” thick is heavy and dangerous!
2. Face the outer 3 or 4 inches of the upper face, taking care not to let the gouge contact the wedges. This establishes the position of the upper face of the platter, which you must do before beginning to shape the bottom of the platter.
3. Turn the edge of the blank so it is complete round (no flat spots around the edge of the blank). This establishes the maximum diameter of the blank.
4. Remove some of the excess wood around the outer 4 or 5 inches of the bottom face of the blank to begin to balance the blank.
5. Cut the foot, and the recess by which the platter will be remounted later to turn the face. The foot should be about 3/32” tall, and the recess should be about the same depth, so they match. The recess, by which the platter will be remounted later in the process, must be very precisely cut in order that the platter be securely remounted to turn the face. The recess should be just barely greater in diameter than the fully-closed jaws of the chuck, which will expand into the recess, so that when remounted, the contact area between wood and jaws is maximized.
6. Cut the remainder of the bottom of the platter, creating a smooth ogee curve from the foot to the rim, and leaving the rim approximately ¼” thick.
7. Sand the bottom to 400, sign it, lacquer the bottom, and return the platter to the lathe to rub out the lacquer..
8. Remove the platter from the faceplate, drill several guide holes near the center of the platter to within 5/8” of the underside (the holes help establish remaining thickness as the face of the platter is turned) and remount the platter by the recess created in step 5 above.
9. Turn the rim of the face of the platter, leaving it wider than its final width, sand to 400, seal with lacquer sanding sealer, re-sand to 400, and color the rim. Use an airbrush, and Transtint metal complex dyes diluted in ethanol, to apply the colors.
10. Turn the center of the platter, taking care not to scratch or mar the colored rim. When the center is turned, you will remove wood adjacent to the colored rim, producing a very crisp demarcation between the colored rim and the natural wood in the center. The center of the platter should be flat (in a plane).
11. Sand the center to 400, taking care not to let the sandpaper touch the colored rim.
12. Lacquer the upper side of the platter, then remount the platter for final rub-out of the lacquer.