

Corian Bracelet

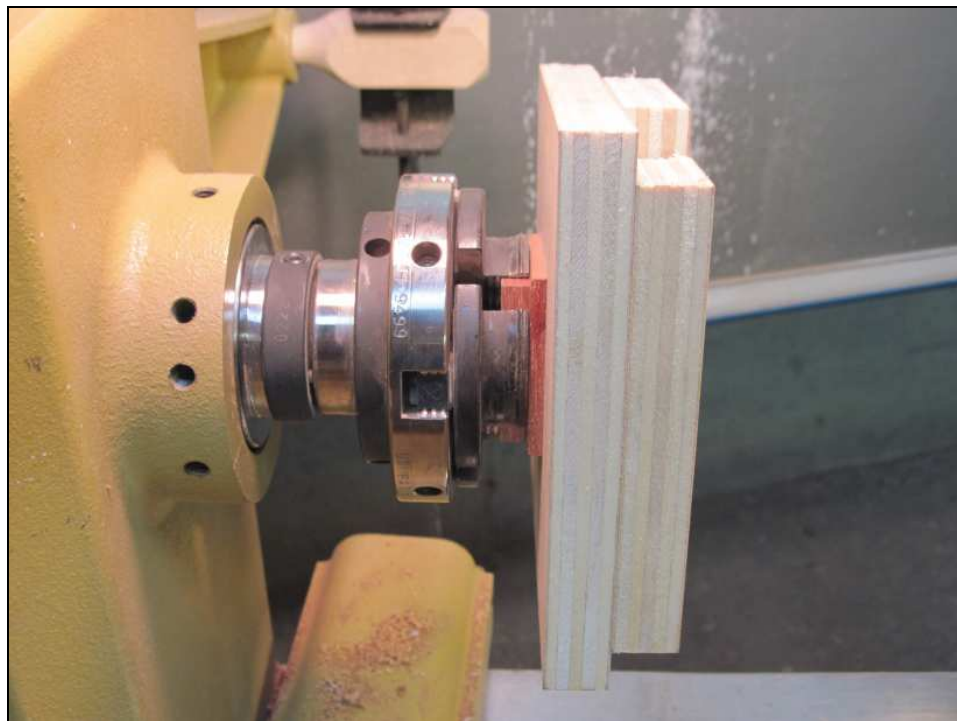
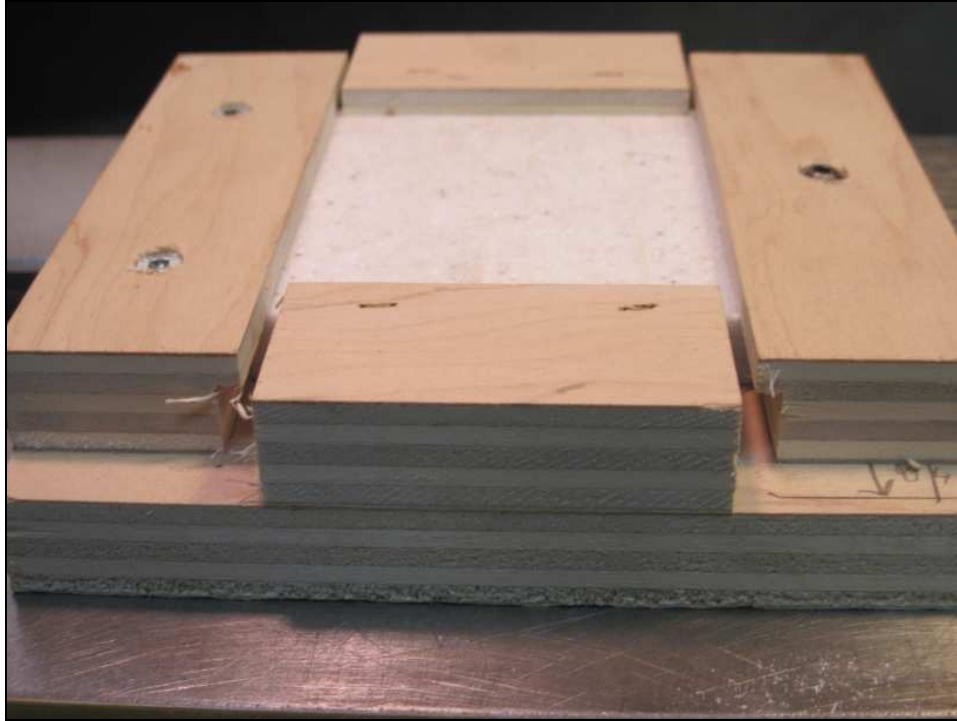
By
Mike Stephens

*Aka
MAKEITOUTOFWOOD*

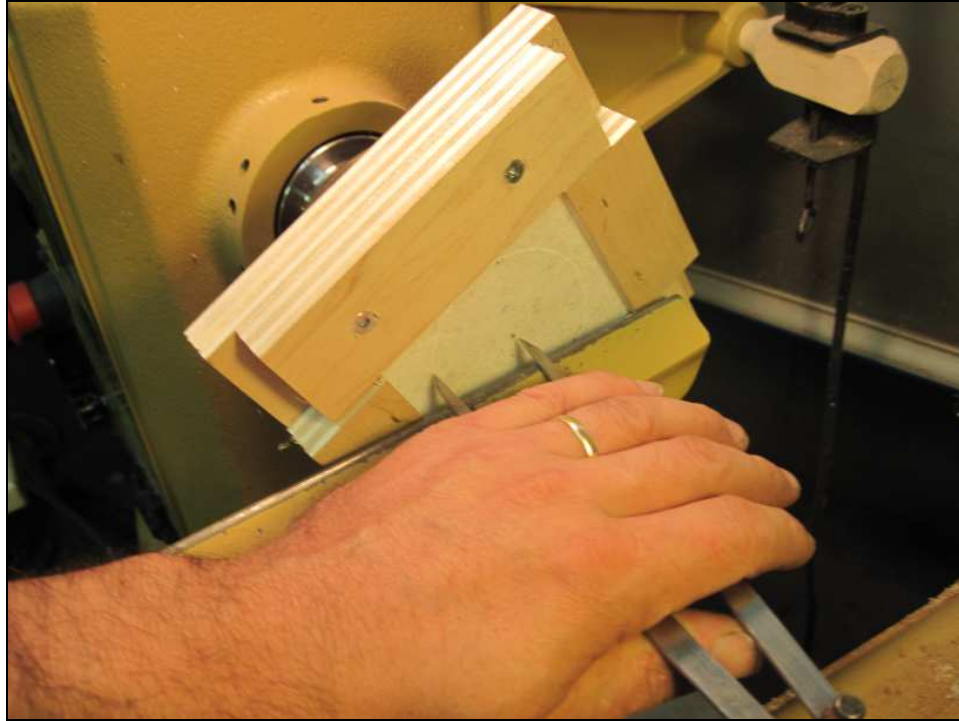
This article provides step by step instructions for fashioning a bracelet out of Corian. Recognition is due to Stephen Gleasner for providing inspiration for these bracelets. An excellent video demonstration of his technique can be viewed at http://www.woodworkingchannel.com/dolphin/vidego_video_library.php.

1. These bracelets are made similarly to Stephen's, but I have put my own "spin" on the process. The process starts by roughing out a blank on the lathe made in a jig as seen below:

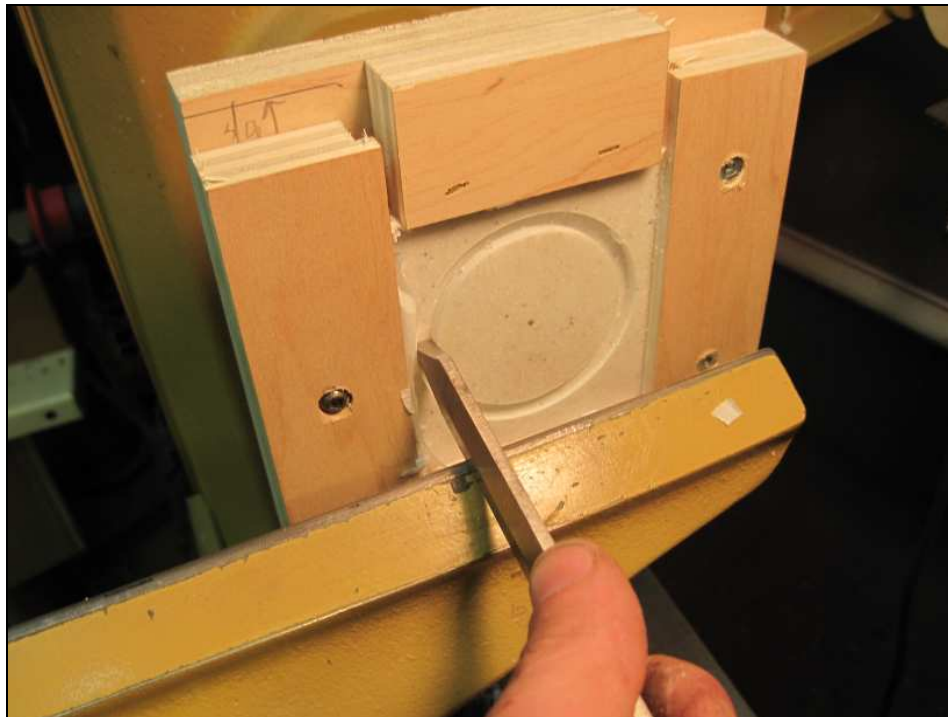




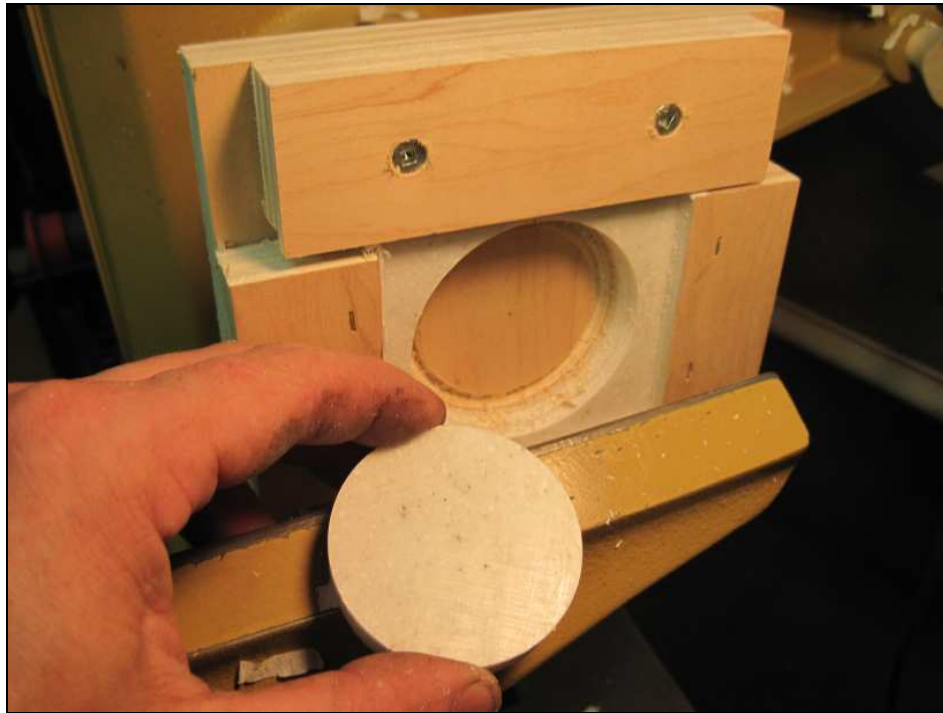
The center is marked with a pencil and the diameter is marked with a pair of dividers.



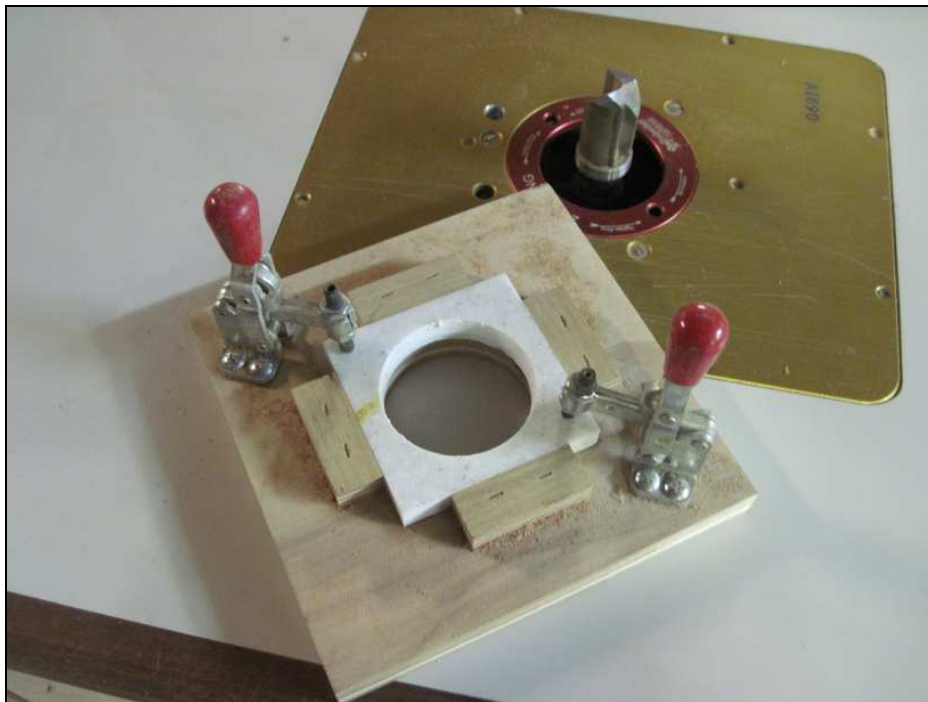
3. The blank is then cut out with a parting tool. Note that the diamond shaped parting tool used in picture is not ideal. I typically use a small thin kerf parting tool because it cuts faster, cleaner and cooler through the Corian.



You are then left with a good size pendant blank, as seen below:



4. The blank is routed to the desired diameter using a jig made on the lathe.



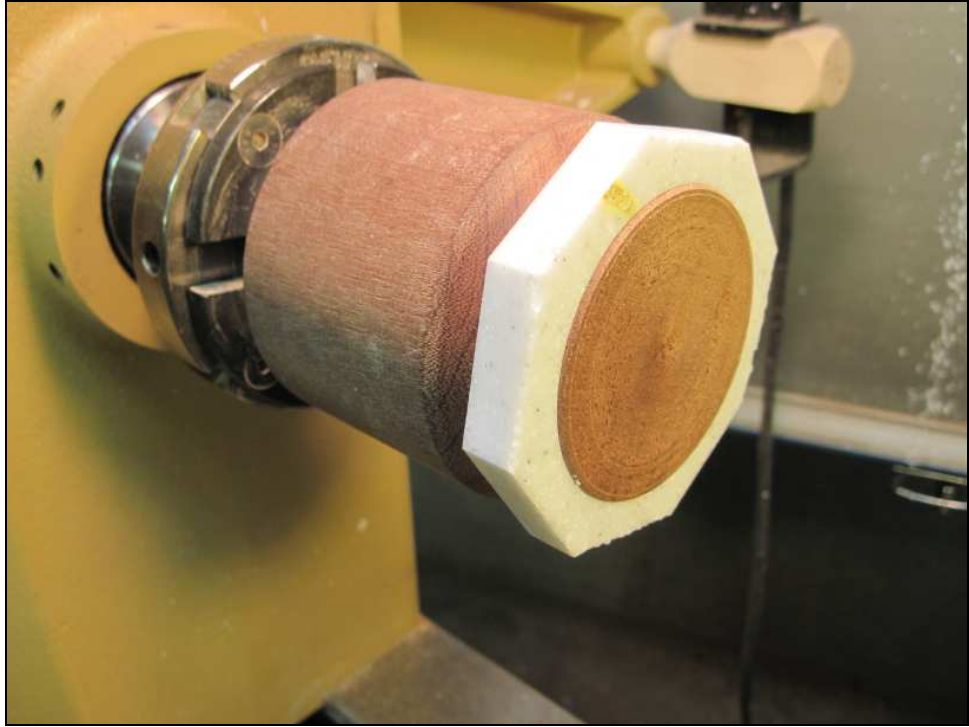
5. Sand the inside.

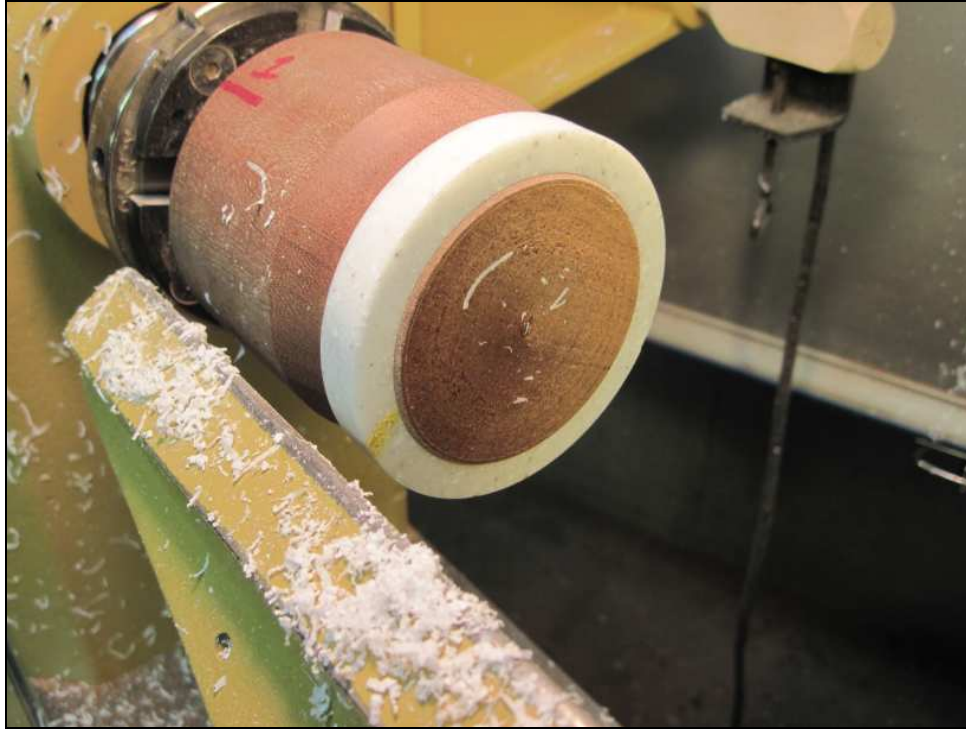


6. Knock the corners off.



7. Mount on lathe using a jamb chuck and true up the blank.

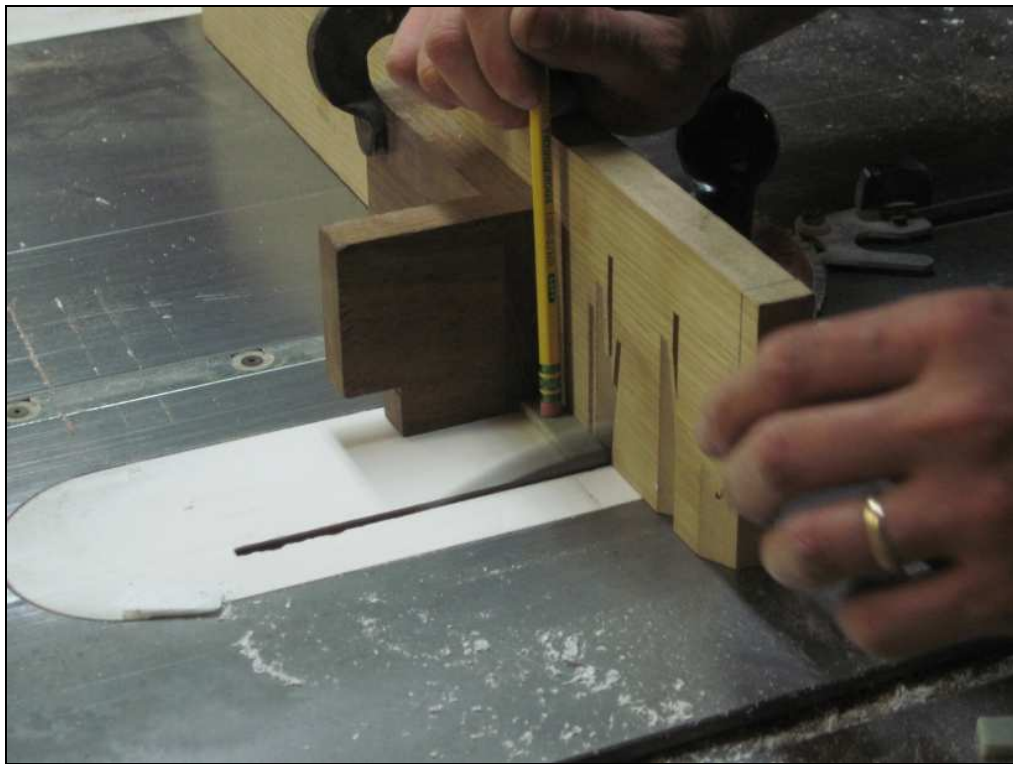




8. The blank is then cut in preparation for insertion of an embellishment that adds a segmented quality to the bracelet:



9. Prepare stock for embellishments. Here I use 2 contrasting colors of Corian but have used wood and even plywood. There is room for creativity in the embellishments.



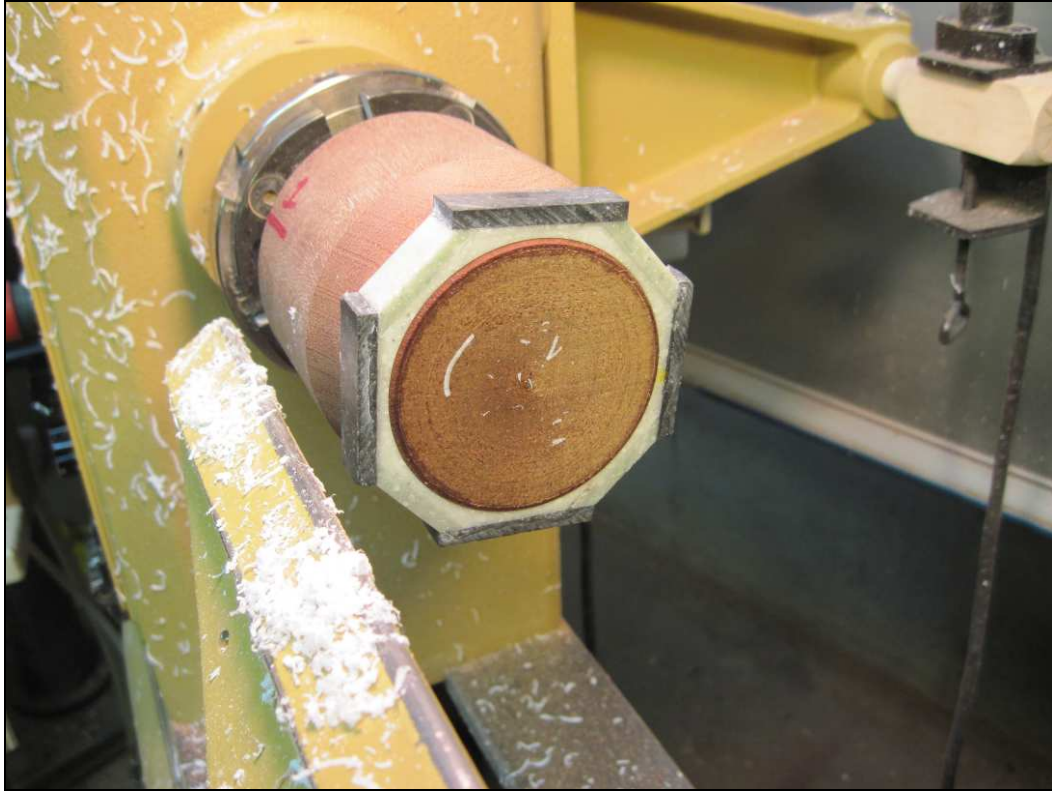
10. Glue on your segments using CA glue and small spring clamps. Lightly sanding the glue surfaces with 220g paper is recommended.



11. Cut the blank again on the table saw, this time with the miter gauge set to 45. Then glue your second color on.

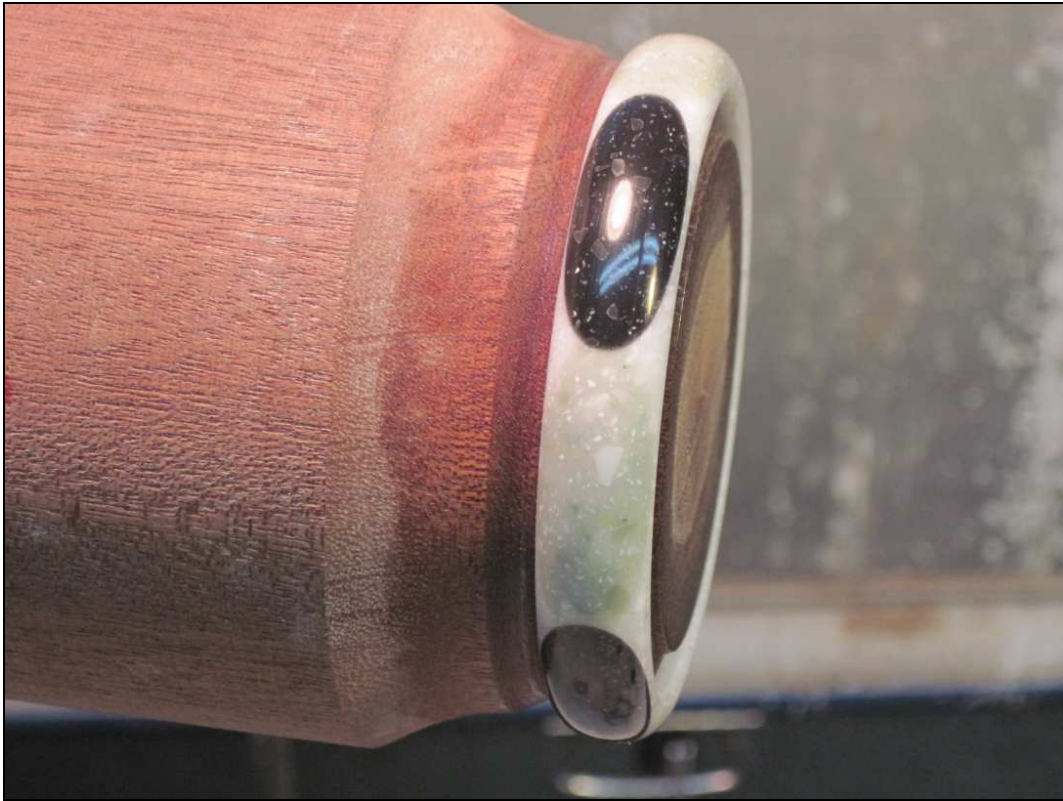


12. Return the blank to the lathe and finish turning the bracelet. I like to use a 1" round nose scraper to true the blank and a 1/2" spindle gouge to shape it. Also a spear tip scraper is used to slightly undercut the bracelet, thus eliminating any sharp edges. It is necessary to flip the bracelet on the jam chuck to finish both sides.





13. The bracelet needs to be sanded. I sand to 600 wet/dry paper. Use water to keep the Corian cool and dust to a minimum. Buff the bracelet with an acrylic polish. The already sanded bracelet is seen below as a finished product:









Thanks for taking the time to read my little article.

I hope you enjoyed it.
Mike