

PROJECT GUIDE -

HOW TO TURN YOUR OWN ICICLE ORNAMENT

Capture the magic of winter with this delicate and elegant icicle ornament project! Perfect for holiday decorations, gifts, or as a standout product at your craft fairs, this project combines precision, creativity, and festive spirit. Here's how:

MATERIALS & TOOLS

- **NOVA Lathe**
- **NOVA G3** or **Supernova 2** Chuck
- **NOVA 1" Hornung Jaws** (for blanks closer to 1") or
- **Pin Jaws** (for smaller blanks)
- **NOVA Soft Jaws**
- **NOVA Live Center System**
- Basic spindle turning tools:**
 - 1" Spindle Roughing Gouge
 - 1/4" Detail Spindle Gouge
 - Thin Parting Tool
- **Blank:** 3/4" to 1" square, 5" long (pen blanks work well)
- **Finishes:** Silver acrylic paint, acrylic snow paint.

Instructions by: **Jeff Hornung**, Artist and Owner of The Walnut Log Studio and Supply:

<https://thewalnutlog.com/>



1. Wood Selection:

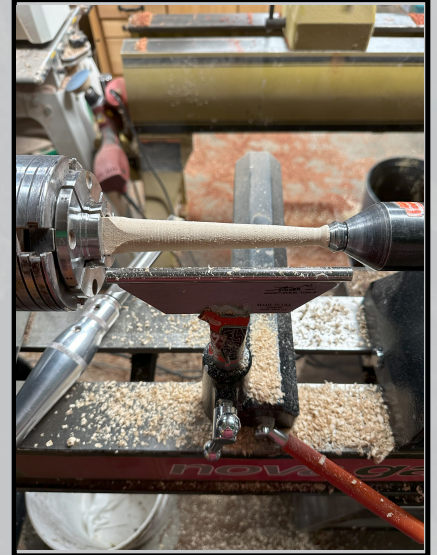
Choose light-colored wood with straight grain for optimal aesthetics and durability.

Recommended woods: Maple, White Oak, Sweet Gum, Sycamore, or Ash. If planning to paint the ornament white or add glitter, these woods hold finishes beautifully.

Tip: Pen blanks are ideal as they are already near the desired size (3/4"–1" square, 5" long).

2. Project Holding:

Mount your blank securely. For blanks near 1" square, use the **NOVA 1" Hornung Jaws** for superior spigot holding. For 3/4" square blanks, the **NOVA Pin Jaws** may offer a better grip.



3. Shape the Icicle:

Rough Shaping: Use a spindle roughing gouge to taper the blank into a long, thin cone. Begin shaping at the tip farthest from the headstock.





Detailed Shaping: Create the **first cone** at the tip. Refine, sand, and move on to the next section.



Progress upward, forming **three additional, progressively longer cones**, refining and sanding each one as you go.



Finish with the **cap end**, shaping it into a decorative half bead with a half cove.

Tip: Turn and complete each section individually to avoid the risk of breaking delicate details.

Parting: Use a thin parting tool to separate the finished piece from the waste.



4. Finishing Touches:

Gently hold the ornament in **NOVA Soft Jaws** to sand the cap end and drill a small hole for the screw eye.

Painting: Apply a base coat of silver acrylic paint for a frosty effect. Once dry, add acrylic snow paint for a wintry sparkle.

Tip: Add curling ribbon or a bow for a festive touch, especially if gifting or selling the ornament.



Pro-Tips from a Turner for Success:

- **Higher Lathe Speeds:** On small-diameter projects (under 2"), higher speeds improve tool control and surface finish.
- **Work Section by Section:** Finish each cone completely before moving on to the next. This prevents accidental breakage and ensures precision.
- **Personalize:** Experiment with finishes and embellishments to create unique pieces tailored to your style.



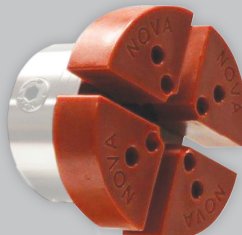
Get your NOVA Tools for this Project:



SKU 6090
1" Hornung Jaws



SKU 5015
Life Center System



SKU 6021
Soft Jaws



SKU 48290/48291 PRO-TEK G3 Chuck
SKU 23262 - PRO-TEK Supernova 2 Chuck



SKU JSPIN
Pin Jaws

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