Celtic Easter Eggs Inspired by the Workshop Companion

Block of wood or epoxy size: 2 ¼” X 2 ¼” X 6”

Final Egg Size: 2” X 2 3/4” (Approximately)

-I made the egg jig with some ¾” thick scrap wood.

-I used 2 miter gauges and scrap wood for joining the 2 miter gauges together.

-Set the table saw blade angle to 23 degrees using the table saw gauge or 67 degrees with a protractor.

-IMPORTANT: The height of the table saw blade must be 1/8” below the top of the block.

-Clamp the homemade jig to the miter fence and mark lines to position where the cuts will be on the egg. Make the 2 angle slots in the egg jig and miter fence WITHOUT the block.

-Position the egg jig to the miter fence and slide miter fence and egg jig over top of the table saw blade, clamp the egg jig to the fence.

-Slide the block into the jig and clamp it to the fence.

-Mark dot on right side of block to ensure cuts are made at correct spots. (Not like my mistake)

-Cut the first angle slot in the block.

-Re-position the block to the next line, Cut the second angle slot.

-If the table saw blade is .100” thick, make the inlays the same thickness. I used a homemade thin strip jig for that.

-Make the inlays about 2 5/16” to 2 3/8” square. There will be 8 inlays per egg.

-If using maple for the egg, it’s nice to use a dark color inlay to give contrast.

-Spread glue into the slots using mechanic’s wire.

-Spread glue on both faces of the inlays, push theinlay into block with grain up and down for added strength when pushing in the inlays and let dry. Keep a damp paper towel handy for wiping hands and excess glue from block.

-Trim the excess inlays and glue with a bandsaw or jig saw.

-With the dot marked on right side of block, turn the block 90 degrees, cut a second set of angle slots, glue the inlays, let dry and trim excess again.

-Turn the block 90 degrees, cut a third set of angle slots, glue the inlays, clamp, let dry and trim excess again.

-Turn the block 90 degrees, cut a fourth set of angle slots, glue the inlays, clamp, let dry and trim excess again.

-Set block up in lathe and utilize the tail stock for extra support.

-Turn block round until all inlays are exposed. The diameter of the block should be just over 2 inches.

-Mark the desired length of egg. About 2 3/4”. Make a mark 1 1/8” from the end of the egg. This will be the largest diameter of the egg. (Set big end of egg closest to head stock).

-Make marks with a parting tool just outside the 2 ¾” marks.

-Start shaping the egg. I usually shape the small end most of the way, remove the tail stock and finish shaping the small end.

-Finish shaping the large end butleave enough material to support the egg for sanding and applying finish.

-Part the egg from block, finish sanding and applying finish.

REMEMBER: NO 2 EGGS ARE IDENTICAL.

These are called a Double Knot pattern. Can use the same jig for a Single Knot pattern.

Could make another jig with 45-degree slotsfor the Inter-Twined pattern.

-------------------------------------Materials/Tools---------------------------------------

-Block with 2 inlays glued in and 2 loose inlays for checking the fit.

-Block with all inlays glued in and trimmed.

-Epoxy block.

-Egg stands from Pizza 73.

-2 Miter gauges attached with a fence

-Necessary EGG Jig to hold block to fence.

-3/8 & 1/2 bowl gouges, 1/4 & 3/8 spindle gouges, 1/16 & 1/8 parting tools&Small skew

-Red coat, Safety glasses, face shield& lefthand glove.

-Sandpaper 100, 150, 220 & 320 grits

-Chuck, with 75 mm jaws

-1 ¼” to 1” Adaptor for different size spindle.

-Measuring tape

-Spanner wrench.

-Pencils, felt pen.

-Vernier caliper & outside caliper.

