

Chili Pepper Routed Bowl



MLCS Items Needed:

Chili Pepper Bowl and Tray Template #9189
Top Mounted Bearing Dish Cutter Router Bit #7817
1/2" Router Collet Extension and Wrenches #9465
3/16" Radius Round Over Bit #8651 or #6351

Additional Accessories and Tools Used:

Wood Glue
Jig Saw
Band Saw
Woodworking Clamps
Drill and 3/8" Drill Bit
Maple 11-1/4" x 27" – 2 pcs.
Black Walnut 11-1/4" x 27" – 1 pc.
Cherry 11-1/4" x 27" – 1 pc.
Behlen's Salad Bowl Finish or other suitable food safe finish

Making the Top Laminated Layer:

1. The first step is to prep the wood that will make up the top layer of our laminated blank. Start by ripping two 5/8" strips off of the cherry and black walnut boards for the contrasting strips in the top layer. Next rip a 1-5/8" wide strip out of the top maple layer. Rip a 1/4" wide strip from each of the two remaining outside pieces of the maple for banding to use between the walnut and cherry strips in the top lamination
2. Next step is to glue the lamination together to make up the top layer (see Figure A). Starting from one side use one of the outside maple strips, then add laminations in the following order: a 5/8" cherry strip, a 1/4" maple strip, a 5/8" black walnut strip, the center 1-5/8" maple strip and repeat in reverse order to complete the opposite side of the layer. After all layers are completed, clamp this assembly and set it aside until the glue dries.



Figure A

3. After the glue has dried, use a belt sander or thickness planer if you have one to flatten both sides of the top lamination layer.

Preparing the Lamination Layers and Gluing up the Bowl Blank :

1. There are a few ways to cut the bowl and tray depressions. You can use the router to remove all of material but that is very time consuming. You can use a forstner bit to remove the bulk of the material and just use the router to finish the cutting operation. The fact that we are laminating our layers to create the depth of the bowl, we have another option not available when using a solid single piece blank. We are going to use a jig saw to remove the bulk of the material from the top three layers of our four layer bowl blank. To start, use the bowl and tray template to mark the areas that will be removed (see Figure B). The cut out will only be made in the top lamination layer, middle cherry lamination layer and middle maple lamination layer. Do not cut out the bottom black walnut layer.

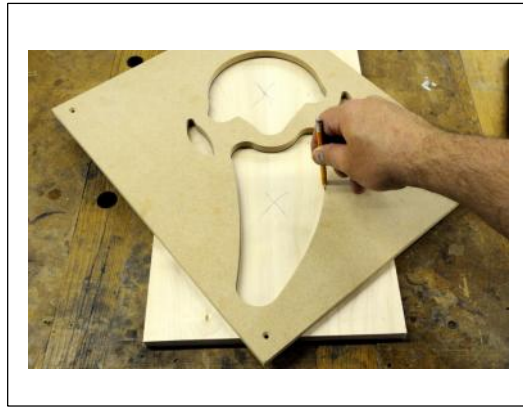


Figure B

2. Next drill a 3/8" pilot hole through the blank about 1/4" inside of the layout line in the area to be removed from the lamination layer. This 3/8" hole is a pilot hole to insert the jig saw blade through the stock. Use the jig saw to remove the interior of the lamination layer, staying about 1/4" inside of the layout line (see Figure C).



Figure C

3. After the three upper lamination layers have been prepped with the recess areas removed, the next step is to glue up all four layer to make up the bowl blank. Use a good wood glue to glue the lamination together and clamp the assembled glue up together allowing the glue to completely dry before removing it from the clamps (see Figure D).



Figure D

Routing the Laminated Bowl Blank:

1. Attach the bowl and tray template to the laminated blank using wood screws inserted through the countersunk holes in the bowl and tray template. Drilling pilot holes will make inserting the screws easier (see Figure E).

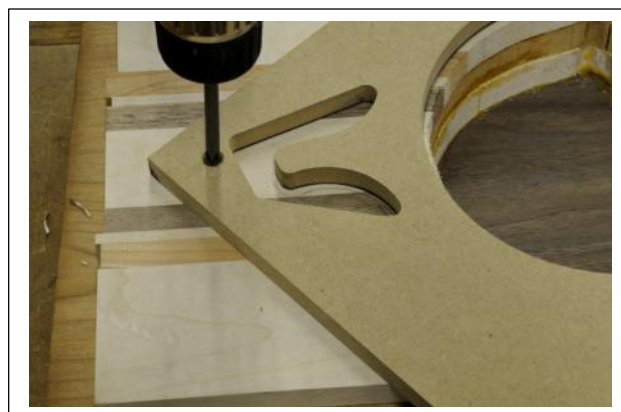


Figure E

2. You will need to attach a large auxiliary base to the router to keep it from tipping into the recess while you are making the interior cuts on the bowl (see Figure F). Make the cuts to remove the remaining material from each of the lamination layers using shallow passes, $\frac{3}{8}$ " each time until you get close to the bottom layer. As you cut deeper, the guide bearing will transition from following the template to start following the inside of the bowl blank that has already been cut.

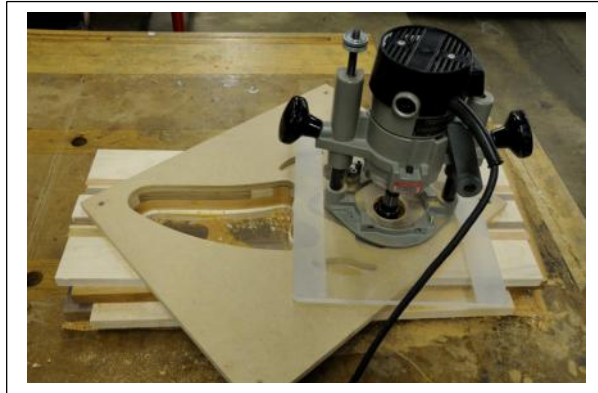


Figure F

3. When making the final pass, you will be cutting only $\frac{1}{8}$ " deep into the bottom black walnut layer (see Figure G). When you have completed the routing of the interior recess, the interior will need to be sanded to remove any routing marks that are left behind. A sanding disc mounted in a drill or drill press will make this step much easier than hand sanding.



Figure G

Completing the Outside of the Bowl:

1. To mark the layout line for the exterior of the bowl, scribe a line $3/4$ " from the interior cut out, and connect this with the three cutouts that were traced from the bowl template around the stem and bowl divider (see Figure H).



Figure H

2. Use a band saw to cut out the exterior shape of the bowl (see Figure I).



Figure I

3. Use a drum or belt sander to finish sand the exterior smooth (see Figure J).



Figure J

4. Use a 3/16" radius round over bit to round over the bottom, and both the inside and outside of the top of the bowl (see Figure K).

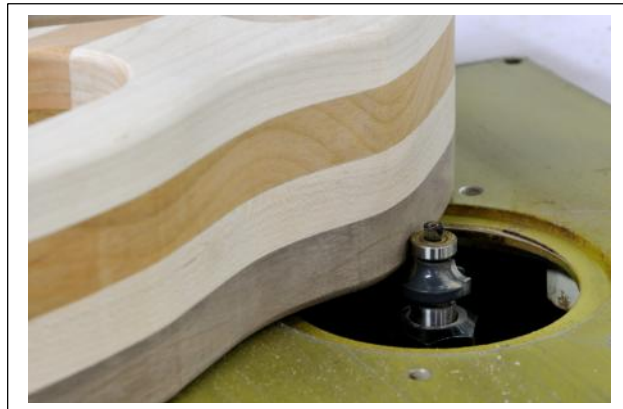


Figure K

5. Apply a few coats of Behlen's salad bowl finish or other suitable food safe finish before using your bowl.