

# MAKING A PENDANT



For a pendant, attach a solid waste block to the index faceplate using small wood screws. The size of the waste block should be slightly smaller than what you are turning. This makes it easier to grasp the finished piece to pull it off the waste block. The small circle is where I cut the hole for the cord on a pendant, with the mandrel in the #8 hole. This also helps line up the pendant if you need to finish the other side, too.



Some turners do the back of the pendant first. Put a few grooves to give it a nice finish look or even do off-center cuts. Do not sand this too fine, it could slide on the double-faced tape. Part off about a 1/4" disc.



Attach 2 plates, make sure "0"s line up, use either sets of screws, it's a personal preference.

Put double-faced tape on the back of the pendant then attach it to the waste block. I bring up the tailstock, tighten but not so much it makes marks, leave it about a minutes just to compress the tape to the disc and waste block.

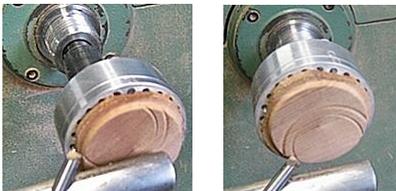


With the mandrel threaded into the middle hole on the off-center plate, clean up the surface of the pendant.

Then put the mandrel in an offset hole to create your design. \*email me for a spreadsheet for seeing how cuts will look. Note holes and sequences of indexing you like so you can reproduce them later. Turn the speed on the lathe to SLOW.



\* Slow the rpm's down so the lathe doesn't vibrate. If you have a variable speed, start with the very slowest speed and gradually turn it up. You can use a skew flat on the tool rest or a small detail gouge to make the cuts. Turn the lathe by hand and use pencil to mark desired cuts. You can erase pencil, you can't erase a cut! I like to do a cut 2 or 3 times to get a nice deep, clean cut.



\*\*Keep your hands on the outside of the tool rest at all times. You will be cutting "air" half the time so be sure to keep the tool on the tool rest waiting for the wood to come around. When the wood comes back around, the tool jumps but keep it steady on the tool rest. After making 2 or 3 pendants, you won't even notice this.

Move the tool to make a second cut or rotate the index plate for unique designs.



The mandrel in the #8 hole is best for turning the opening for the cord. You can do the same design but give it a different look just by the placement of the hole. A few beads add a classy touch, Michael's has the best selection of cord, beads, clasps and earring wires.