

Making the Christmas Cracker Method 1

This method requires the use of 'pin jaws'.
Cracker is made in 2 parts.



The length of the finished cracker should be about 5 times the diameter, so for a 40mm diameter item, aim for 200mm finished length, Each half will be 100mm. (plus 10mm for the centre overlap)

Cut 2 blanks, one at 110mm and one at 120mm
This allows for 10mm spigot on each piece, and 10mm for overlap.

Turn each piece to round, between centres, with a 10mm long spigot 20mm diam on one end of each.

With the *shorter* piece in the chuck, drill a 35mm to a depth of 35mm, with a forstner bit. Sand internally.
Reverse onto pin jaws and again drill 35mm x 35mm hole. Sand internally.

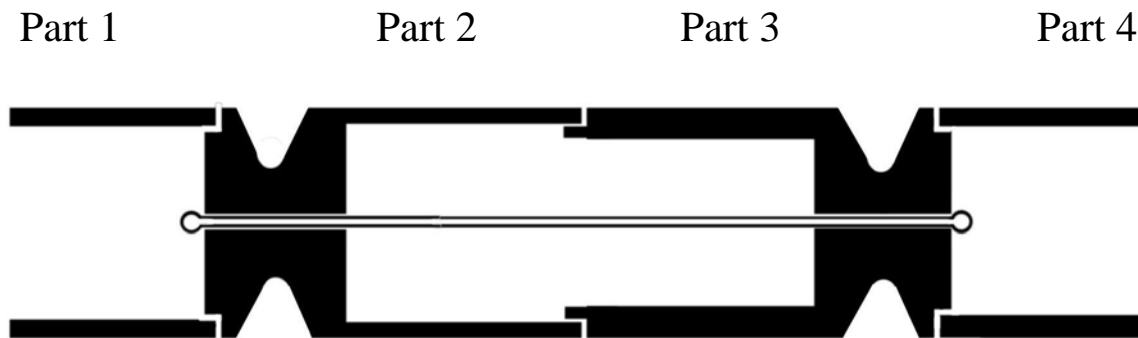
Mark the centre and with tailstock support, cut a cove to represent the narrow part of the cracker. Drill a 5mm hole right through.

With the *longer* piece in the chuck, drill a 35mm hole to a depth of 35mm, with a forstner bit. Sand internally.
Reverse onto pin jaws and create a tenon, 10mm long to fit into other part. Drill a 30mm hole to a depth of 45mm. Sand internally.
Mark the centre and cut cove and drill through as before.

With the assembled cracker mounted on the lathe, sand to a finish and make decorative vee cuts if required.

Making the Christmas Cracker

Method 2



The length of the finished cracker should be about 5 times the diameter. So for a 50 mm diameter item, aim for 250 mm finished length.

Cut three blanks,

one at 150 mm, for the two ends. Parts 1 and 4

one at 110 mm for outer section, Part 2

one at 130 mm, for inner section, Part 3

This allows for a spigot on each piece, and for overlap.

Turn each piece to round between centres, with a spigot on one end to suit your jaws.

MAKING THE END PIECES.

With the *longest* piece in the chuck, drill with a forstner bit, 40 mm diam, 70 mm deep. Sand internally. Part off at 50mm. This will produce the 'tube' for part 1.

Again drill and part off for part4

MAKING PART 2

With the *shortest* piece in the chuck, drill a 40 mm hole to a depth of 40 mm with a forstner bit. Sand internally.

Mark at 55 mm from right hand end for centre of cove.

Mark at 70 mm from right hand end for shoulder.

Cut a cove to represent the narrow part of the cracker,

Cut a tenon to the left of the shoulder mark, to suit inside size of end tubes (40 mm)

Drill 6 mm hole right through.

Part off.

MAKING PART 3

With the piece in the chuck, drill a 35 mm hole to a depth of 50 mm with a forstner bit. Sand internally.

Cut a tenon to fit internally in part 2.

Mark at 55 mm from the shoulder of tenon for centre of cove.

Mark at 70 mm from the shoulder of tenon for shoulder.

Cut a cove to represent the narrow part of the cracker,

Cut a tenon to the left of the shoulder mark, to suit inside size of end tubes (40 mm)

Drill 6 mm hole right through.

Part off.