



a natural state

Artist: Tim Greene

Video 3: Bowl Design

Greene: These here are bowls that I actually roughed out about a year and a half ago. I like to rough them out in advance so as they dry, they'll dry a little quicker because they're not so thick. And as they dry, it'll move if it's a little bit thin and it won't crack so bad. You still see some cracking, but the type of work I do, some...you know, the cracks flow into the rest of the continuity of the piece of work.

And this piece will probably be drawn up in this direction and drawn down here, so it'll almost be like a little bit of a jagged crescent. This'll be a very elongated and flowing piece of work when it's finished. It has a lot of work between now and then. There's probably about another seventy hours of work in that piece.

You can see some of the holes that I've incorporated into it. Here was a crack here that I stretched out...elongated. This was a knot here. The knot...the grain of a knot has gone in a different direction than the rest of the wood. That's why a knot will shrink up and fall out of a piece of lumber. And as it shrinks, it cracks up. By eliminating the knot--making a big hole there—I cut down on the cracking around it.

This piece here is actually an example of a scar, which is a collar that's grown over. At one time, this was a branch coming out of the tree. This was the trunk of the tree, and it was coming out in this direction. But the tree grew out and over and closed off the branch, making all this snarly look. And the branch actually rotted a little bit, so I have a hole there. But the focus of this bowl isn't so much the inside as the base. You can see the contrast of the rough along with the smoothed-off, finished look over in here.

I try to blend the rough with the smooth together in a way that doesn't look out of place. It looks like it flows from one to the other, but I don't know as I'm always successful. That's, that's for someone else to say.