# Turning a Dovetailed Vase

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#### MLCS Dovetail Joinery System

- The MLCS Fast Joint precision joinery system offers a broad range of dovetail patterns that can be created with a router.
- Combining these dovetail patterns with vertical staves in a tapered vase yields a unique combination of joinery techniques that can be turned on a lathe
- This presentation provides an overview of the process used to make dovetailed vase



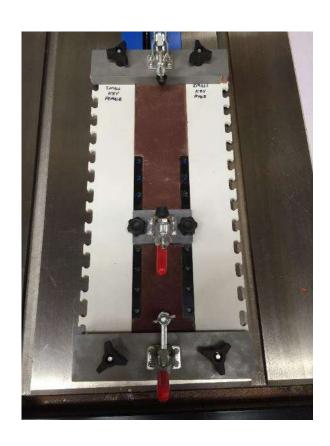
#### Selecting the 'palette'

- The first step is to pick the 'palette' of wood to be used.
- Contrasting wood provides the best visual appeal.
- Because the vase developed for this example has six staves, three contrasting woods; maple, cherry and purpleheart, were used.



#### MLCS 'small key' dovetail template

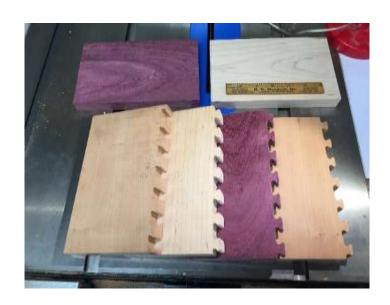
• The 'small key' template was used to cut the dovetails





### Dovetails joined and glued

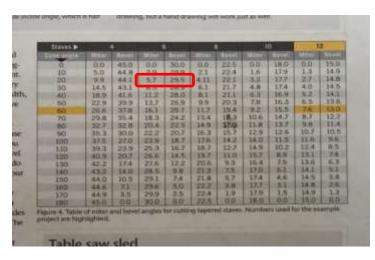
• The contrasting boards were glued together





#### Cutting the Staves

Double angle staves were cut for a tapered vase



20<sup>o</sup> taper: Miter 5.7<sup>o</sup>, Bevel 29.5<sup>o</sup>

This table is from an American Association of Woodturners (AAW) article on 'Tapered-Stave Bowls' written by Bill Wells in the April 2016 issue





#### Glueing the Staves

- Six vertical staves were cut.
- Three of them were cut with the Fast Joint dovetail joints centered and three were cut from the three blank wood selections.
- The six staves were then fit-checked, glued and clamped. The clamps shown were adapted from the article by Bill Wells





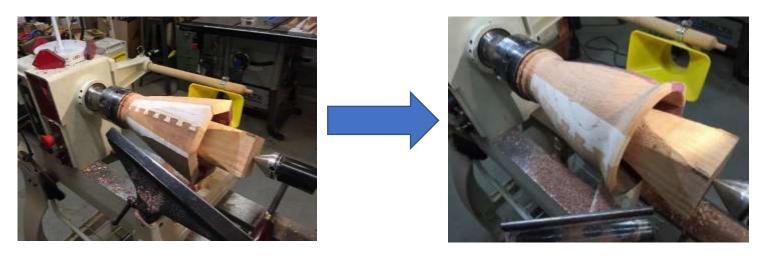
#### Turning the Vase

- The assembled stack of vertical staves were transferred to the lathe where a base section was mated to the smaller end.
- Once the cherry base was mated to the 'stack', a tenon was cut in the base so that the 'stack' could be held on the drive end of the lathe with a 4-jaw clamp.
- The lathe used here is a Jet 16-42 with variable speed





## Completing the Shape







# Final Finishing

The vase was finished with Watco Oil and buffed



