

Chapter 8

Earring Stand

TIME: 1½ HOURS

These little novelties are confirmed good sellers. Being modestly priced many will buy on impulse, particularly if the stand is attractively designed and well polished. The finished product is shown in Fig 8.1.



Fig 8.1 The finished project.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

The 24 x $\frac{1}{8}$ in (3mm) holes bored in the earring-carrier should not exceed $\frac{3}{16}$ in (3mm) from their centres to the edge of the disc, otherwise it will prove difficult for the hooks on the earrings to engage the hole. For the same reason the thickness of the wood at the hole location should not exceed the same measurement.

I think it advisable to avoid profiling the finial to a sharp point as it is capable of inflicting a nasty puncture wound.

The $\frac{1}{8}$ in (10mm) holes bored in the centre of the base and earring-carrier not only receive the corresponding spigots turned on the pillar and finial but also provide the means of chucking them for profiling (i.e. on a scrapwood friction-drive chuck, as illustrated in Fig 8 of the mug tree project).

The profiling of the components can be varied from my example as long as proportion and nice flowing curves are incorporated in the design.

Another important requirement is for the joints to be a precise push fit.

Figs 8.2 and 8.3 provide dimensional and constructional details, and you should look carefully at these before proceeding.

CHOICE AND PREPARATION OF STOCK

The choice of wood is left to individual preference, but of the home-grown species I prefer yew wood. Most of the exotics are obviously suitable, as are woods of contrasting colour.

The central pillar is prepared from $\frac{1}{4}$ in (19mm) square stock and cut to a length of approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ in (137mm) long, accurately centred at both ends. The Chapman light-pull drive can again be put to good use to drive the pillar, as the diameter of the drive is less than the diameter of the tenon.

I make use of two templates to mark out the base and earring-carrier. These are made from $\frac{1}{8}$ in (3mm) plywood and cut to the required diameters, 3 in (76mm) and $2\frac{1}{2}$ in (67mm) respectively. Each has a small hole dead centre that will take a pointed awl.

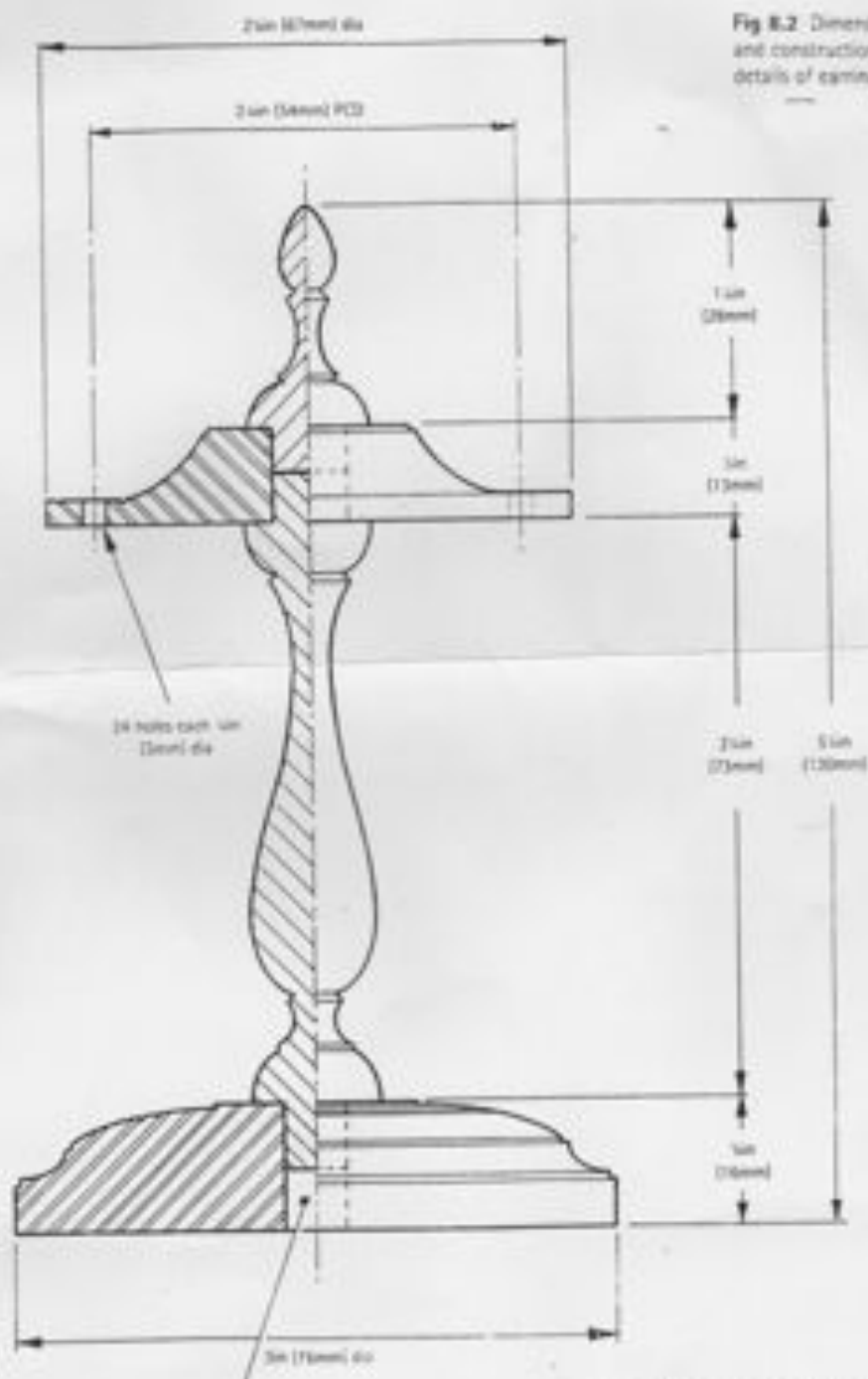


Fig 8.2 Dimensional and constructional details of earring stand.

Note that the 1/2 in (13mm) spigot is stopped to enable the other half of the hole to be pushed on to a corresponding spigot for assembly (after gluing) and clamping.

PCD, Pitch circle diameter - a circular construction line, used for spacing holes or slots.

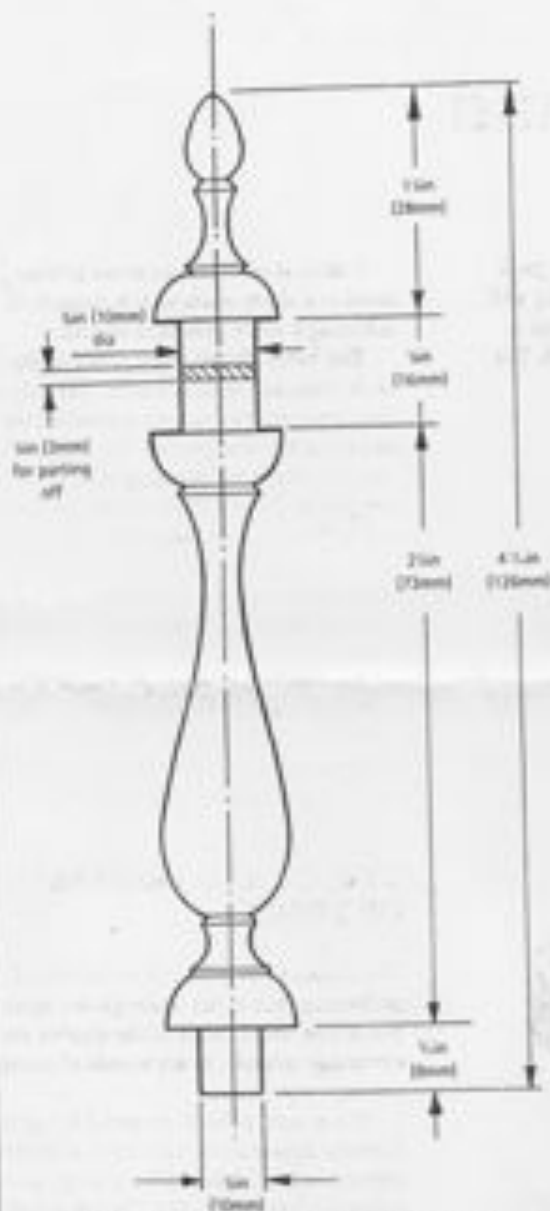


Fig 8.3 Dimensional and constructional details of carrying stand pillar.

Plane the stock to the required thickness ($\frac{1}{2}$ in/13mm and $\frac{1}{2}$ in/13mm respectively) and mark out the diameters with the aid of the templates, pricking the centre with an awl. Continue by hand-sawing to size, then bore a $\frac{1}{2}$ in (13mm) through hole in each piece.

The smaller pieces intended for the carrying carrier now require the 24 x $\frac{1}{2}$ in (3mm) holes drilling in them. To simplify this process I use a metal jig as shown in Fig 8.4. It will be seen that on the underside of the jig there is a steel peg ($\frac{1}{2}$ in/13mm diameter) which locates in the hole in the carrying-carrier, enabling the holes to be accurately and speedily drilled. After drilling the first hole, it is advisable to insert a steel peg or nail into the hole to prevent the wood from moving. Fig 8.5 shows the jig in use on the pillar drill, though a hand power drill could also be used if the wood is well clamped.



Fig 8.4 Metal drilling jig. The $\frac{1}{2}$ in (13mm) diameter pin for location in the corresponding hole in the wood can be clearly seen.



Fig 8.5 The jig in use. Note the nail that has been inserted in the first hole drilled to prevent the wood moving.

