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Subject: How to deal with twisted cup?

Posted by [GarMan](#) on Sat, 03 Sep 2005 00:35:41 GMT

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I have a piece really nice curly birch that's 1/4" x 8" x 24", but it has twist and cup in it. What's the best way to flatten it out? I tried wetting it for a few minutes and sandwiching it over-night. It came out flat but curved back during the course of a day. Should I try this again but soak the piece over-night first? thx, gar.

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Subject: Re: It wants to be a tree

Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Sat, 03 Sep 2005 04:58:35 GMT

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Trees are round. Wet heat in the form of steam is necessary. Put it in a sealed vessel (Ha!) steam it for a few minutes and clamp it to a flat surface to dry. Or save it for kindling this winter.

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Subject: Re: It wants to be a tree

Posted by [Shane](#) on Wed, 07 Sep 2005 04:21:38 GMT

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You can make a quick and easy steam chamber out of a piece of steel duct and any old heat source hot enough to boil the water (just remember if your using a flame source to keep the direct heat away from the wood.) Done it plenty of times years ago making cherokee style bows. Learned that it's better to apply dry heat with a heat gun to dry wood and wet heat to newly cut wood after much messin up, though.

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