

Wood Turning Simple Bowls

Beginners Notes by a Beginner

Draft 2.2

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Part 1: Safety: A Quick Summary and Some Tips

Watch [this safety video](#) first

- 1) Although wood turning can be very enjoyable it has the potential to be hazardous so always act with care, knowledge, and without unnecessary haste. Do so at your own risk. (For example a cracked piece of wood is potentially dangerous on the lathe see: <https://youtu.be/5RhSSK7Www?si=QZJbJaH5H2ZbWUKH>)
- 2) When possible, learn to turn wood initially under supervision and guidance. Supplement your knowledge by watching videos (see part 5) created by expert turners, reading web pages, books or magazines and by practicing on scrap wood.
- 3) Wear the appropriate personal protection equipment (or PPE): eye protection, a face shield, and a good quality well fitting dust mask to FFP2 or FFP3 standards or a respirator. Work in a good light.
- 4) Fine dust can be created by sanding [and turning tools such as scrapers](#).
- 5) Remember that some woods can produce toxic or allergenic dust, including commonly available species used in wood turning in the UK. Yew, for example, is toxic. Before turning any exotic or unknown species, the operator *must* consult a toxicity database to determine the required level of protection. See https://www.mountainwoodworker.com/articles/toxic_woods.pdf
- 6) Airborne wood dust can cause:
 - Respiratory Symptoms: Coughing, sneezing, shortness of breath, and allergic reactions such as occupational asthma and hypersensitivity pneumonitis.
 - Irritation: Inflammation and irritation of the eyes, skin, and mucous membranes.
 - Long-Term Effects: Wood dust is a known human carcinogen, and prolonged, high exposure can increase the risk of serious health problems, including nasal cancer.
- 7) Turn on the room ventilation so that air is being expelled.
- 8) If others are using noisy machinery such as a table saw, wear ear protectors or ear plugs.
- 9) Wear strong closed toed shoes or steel toe capped shoes if you have them (Metal chucks are very heavy and some tools have sharp points!) Be aware that shavings on the floor can make it more slippery.
- 10) Do not leave tools on the lathe bed, put them on the bench or in the rack.

- 11) Do not wear loose clothing that might get caught up in the machine, for example, long baggy sleeves. Do not wear gloves while the wood is spinning.
- 12) Tie up long hair and tuck it under a net or cap.
- 13) Start with small pieces of wood when learning so that potential problems are minimised if something goes wrong.
- 14) Carefully inspect the wood for cracks and defects that might make it unsafe to proceed and also a waste of time.
- 15) Learn how to mount the wood safely and firmly on the lathe at both ends of the wood.
- 16) When the wood is attached to the lathe, turn the piece by hand to make sure it turns clear of the tool rest.
- 17) The lathe direction of turn should be set to anti-clockwise when viewing the wood from the tailstock end.
- 18) When turning the lathe on, stand clear of the spinning wood just in case it is insecurely attached or unbalanced.
- 19) Turn on the lathe with the speed turned down to zero and turn the speed up slowly. Until the blank piece becomes balanced by the initial cuts, keep the speed low enough to minimise vibration. [Larger bowls should be turned more slowly for safety reasons.](#)
- 20) When learning, do not be over ambitious by cutting the bowl wall or base too thinly, as this might cause the piece to disintegrate while spinning. Thin bowl walls can make a noise when a cutting force is exerted on them.
- 21) Always hold the tool with both hands, with the tool resting on the tool rest. Hold the tool handle with the dominant hand and the bar of the tool near to the tip with the other. With a long-handled tool, it is also possible to rest the handle on the torso.
- 22) Have the tool rest near the piece so that the fulcrum or balance point of the tool is close to the wood. This allows better and safer control with the long handle and reduces vibrations.
- 23) Never put your fingers between the tool rest and the wood.
- 24) Do not move the tool rest while the wood is spinning.
- 25) Do not force any tool heavily into the wood, as that is unnecessary for good, smooth and safe cutting. If you find you are having to apply force while [using a tool properly, it is probably too blunt.](#) 'Let the wood come to the tool' and cut as it comes into contact with the cutting edge.
- 26) Learn how to hone the cutting edge quickly with a diamond card file. With sharp, newly honed, tools, little force is required to make good cuts.
- 27) When using a bowl gouge, make the *initial* tool contact with the wood in a safe way without any cutting taking place. Then adjust the tool contact angle or orientation to begin the cut.
- 28) Learn how to minimise 'catches' with each type of tool, both when turning on the outside and inside of a bowl or hollow form such as a vase.

- 29) A catch occurs when the tool digs into wood and control of its orientation and presentation to the wood is lost. This will cause damage to the work surface or bits to break off, the piece to come off the lathe, or worse!
- 30) Do not rush or attempt to use 'aggressive cuts' that remove a lot of wood on one pass of the tool.
- 31) Adopt a good stance to allow the body to move from side to side and the torso to pivot around the hips. Control the cuts by moving the body rather than moving the hands and arms.
- 32) When sanding after cutting, it is a requirement that the vacuum extractor is switched on and is connected to the ventilation extractor hood and pipe. Note that some very fine cuts with refining tools such as scrapers can also produce fine wood dust. There is also an extractor fan for the room.
- 33) Move the tool rest and banjo out of the way when sanding.
- 34) Use 2 hands when sanding. One hand holds the abrasive and the other holds the wrist of the dominant hand. Alternatively, hold each end of longer strips of abrasive with the abrasive stretched over the wood.
- 35) Do not put the fingers inside a spinning hollow form such as a vase or round box when the lathe is turning. Use a kinetic or power sander and a round foam pad or a stick or rod with sand paper wrapped around it. Wrap the sand paper in a clockwise direction.
- 36) When applying liquid finishes and burnishing, use paper towels rather than rags, as these will tear easily if they become caught in the machine.

Also See:

<https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Woodturner/Resources/Safety-Materials/Safety.aspx>

Part 2: The Axminster Tools Wood Lathe and Its Parts

AT350WL Woodturning Lathe

The AT350WL utilises the very reliable inverter technology usually found on much larger machines

The AT350WL Wood turning Lathe (for a review, [see this web page](#)>)

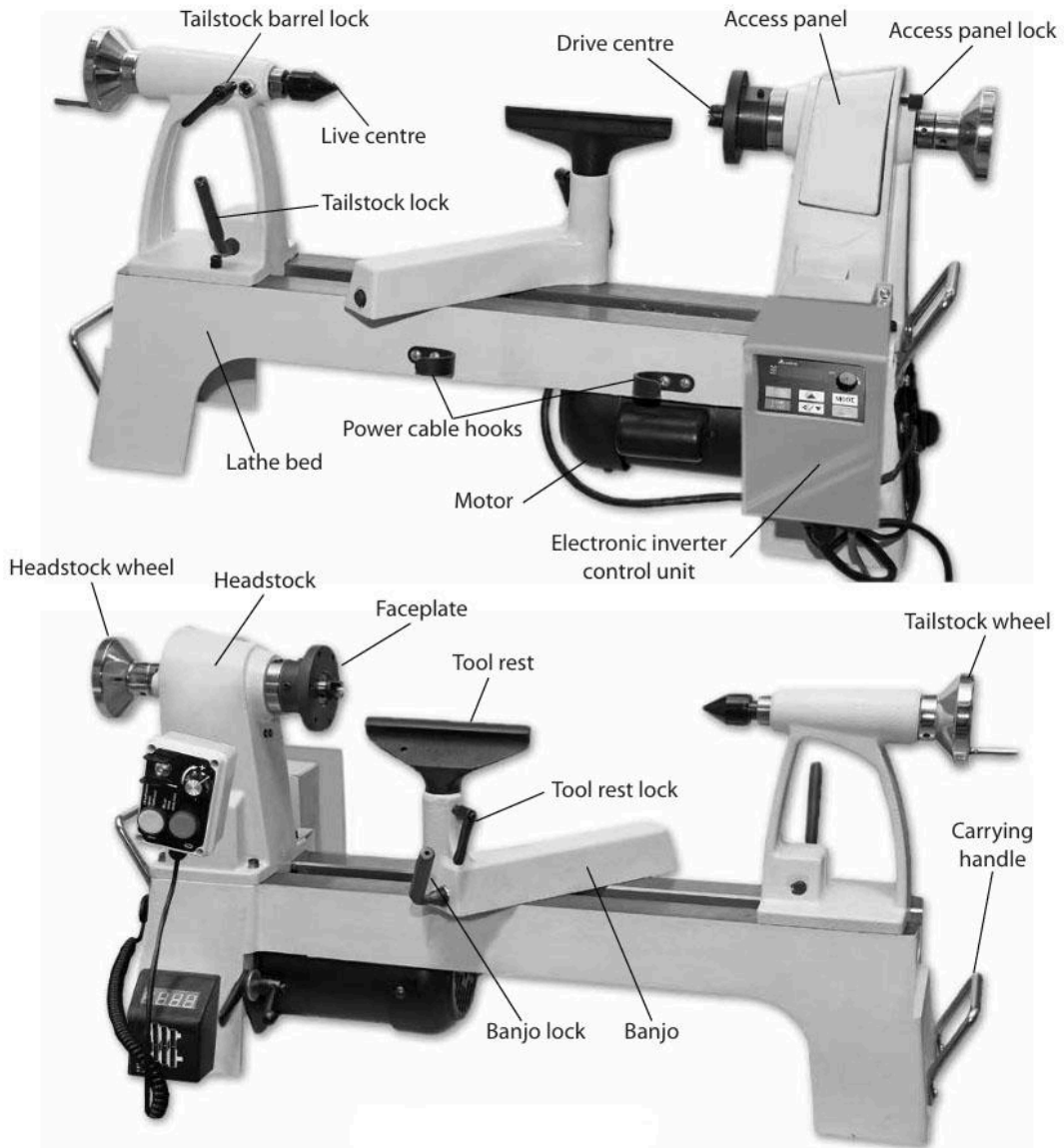


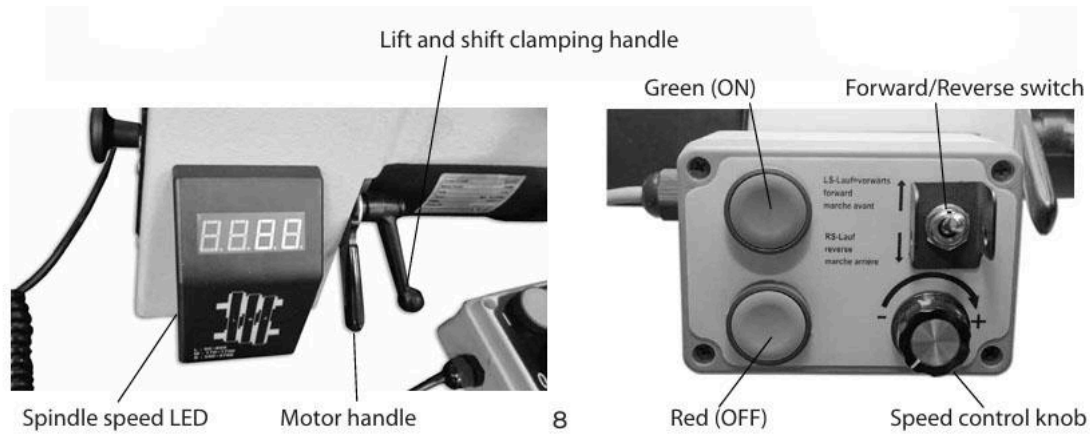
It is a good idea to learn the names of the parts so that you can make relevant searches, ask questions or read about them.

(See

<https://turnwoodbowl.com/identify-and-understand-parts-of-a-wood-lathe-and-accessories/>)

ILLUSTRATION AND DESCRIPTION





The live centre on the tailstock spins freely on ball bearings. Its function is to provide support, especially at the start of turning a piece of wood, and so increase safety and stability of the cut.

The Tool Rest

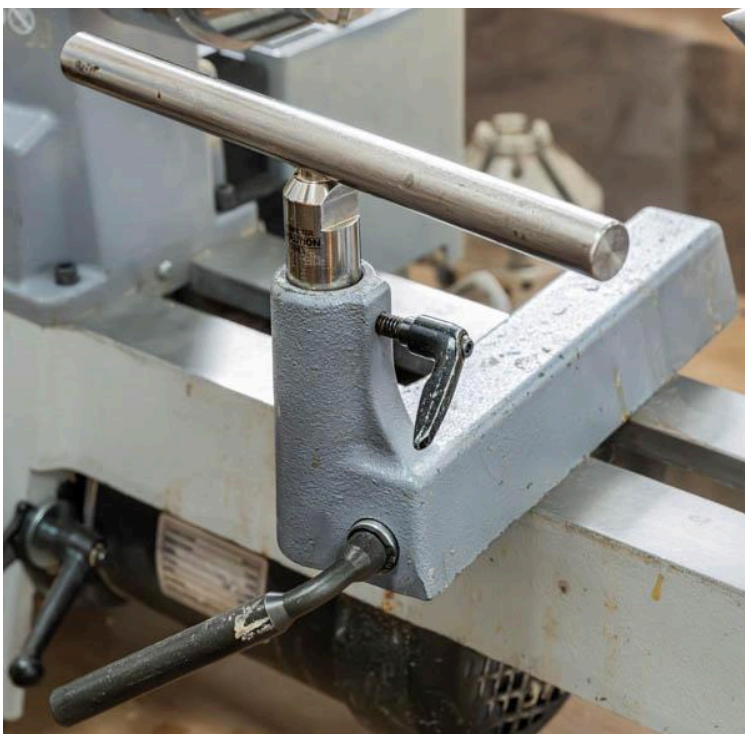
Tool rests come in different shapes and lengths.



The short tool rest allows the beginner to rest the fingers when holding the tool near to its tip. It is also good for making small bowls.



The s-shaped tool rest is useful when cutting the inside of a bowl, for example. It helps reduce overhang of the tool from the rest when the bend is placed close to the cutting surface. This helps to reduce vibration and so makes cutting easier.



The long tool round rest is useful when cutting larger bowls and long spindles (not shown)

Part 3: Attaching Wood to Lathe

Find the Axial Centre of the Wood Blank



With a square blank piece of wood, it is possible to saw the corners off or use a band saw to make it round. If using a band saw to make a round blank, draw a circle with a compass. Make sure to keep the blade straight without applying a twisting force to it. Turn the

wood, not the blade, as it can snap!

Use a round [centre finder, compass, or corner type finder](#) to mark the centre on each side of the bowl blank or block of wood. Draw pencil lines from each corner or the edge, Mark the centre with a bradawl on both sides.

Pieces of wood with small cross-sections can be mounted directly into a chuck at the drive end and be supported by the 'active centre' attached to the tailstock.



[A faceplate](#) with 6 screw holes.

When turning a bowl, attach a faceplate of the appropriate size. Do not use brittle plasterboard screws. Use good quality wood screws with about 7 turns penetrating the wood.

A screw-on faceplate ring that fits within the 4 jaws of a chuck can also be used.

Do not use the same screws for a long period of time, since they might exhibit metal fatigue.

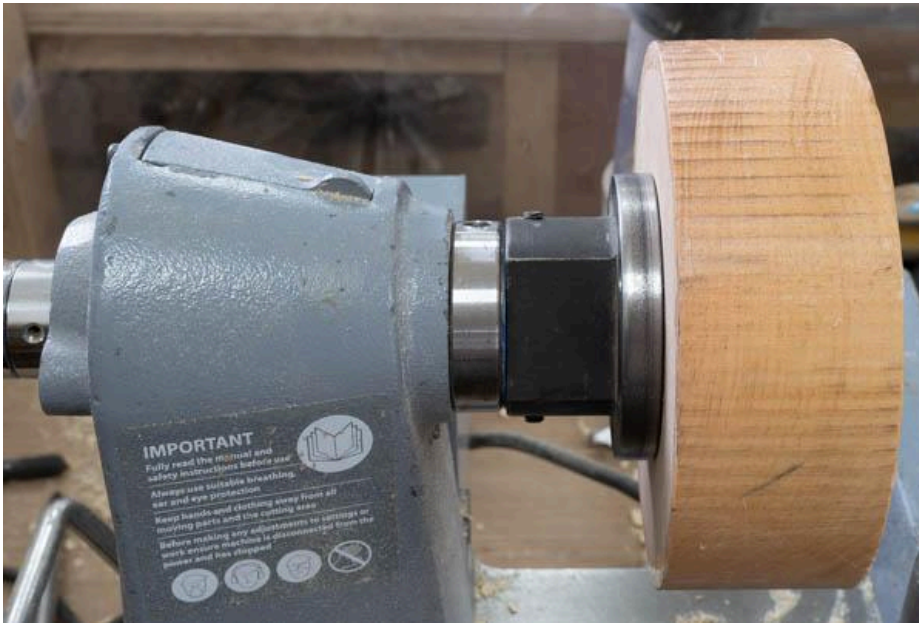


The faceplate is attached to a commercially created 'bowl blank' that was treated with wax to minimise cracking of the wood.

Note: the faceplate is attached to the side that will become the top of the bowl.



The faceplate is mounted on the drive screw.



The bowl blank mounted directly on the drive screw.

Using 'centres' to mount small pieces

When making a small bowl, it is possible to start 'between centres' and cut a tenon so that the wood can then be fitted into a chuck.



These are drive centres that can be mounted onto the headstock.

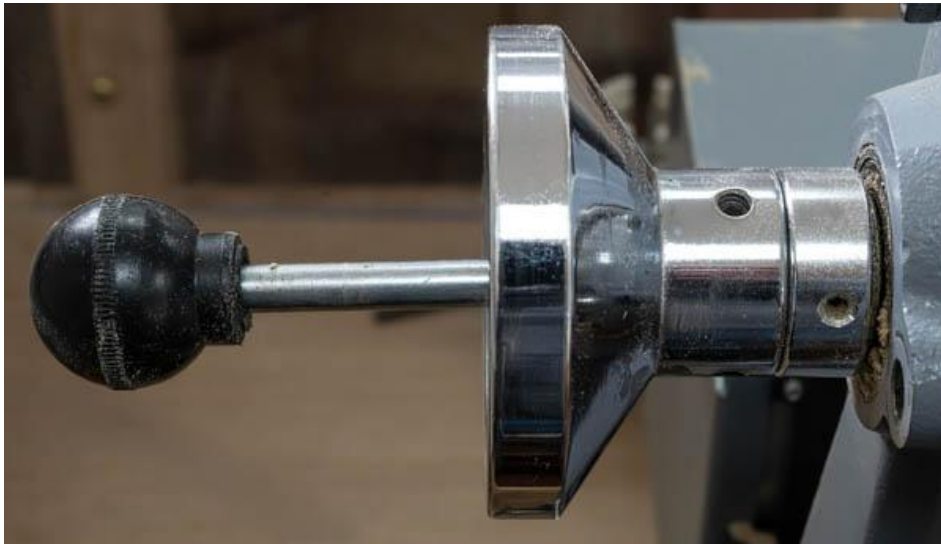


These are the 'live' centres that can be placed in the tailstock. The heads spin freely on ball bearings. The live centre on the right is designed to distribute the force more evenly without putting a large hole in the piece.



The drive centre has been hammered with a mallet into the wood

It is in principle it is possible to make a small bowl almost entirely between centres, however the central columns of wood on the outside then on the inside need to be [removed with a chisel and sanded.](#)



Both centres are removed from the lathe using the push rod with the round black plastic handle.

The Four-Jawed Chucks

A chuck is used to mount the bowl blank after a recess (mortise) or a protruding spigot (tenon) is cut in the base. The chuck jaws are either expanded into a recess cut in the bowl base or compressed around a tenon (spigot) that has been created by removing a few millimetres of wood from the exterior of the base.



The chucks have removable jaws that are each attached with bolts. The chuck jaws are secured with an Allen key after they are brought together in the centre.



A set of jaws for smaller recess or tenon. The key is shown inserted into the base for adjusting the jaw position.



The base and the jaws are numbered and must be placed in the order inscribed on the chuck.



Gripper jaws, sometimes called 'shark jaws'. The deep-toothed and serrated surfaces of gripper jaws provide a very strong hold on the wood, reducing the risk of slippage, especially at high speeds. They can be used with deeper tenons (spigots). In this case, the jaws have a depth of 1.5 cm



Alternatively, use a worm screw in the chuck rather than clamp the wood directly. The pilot hole for the worm screw should not be too wide because that will provide insecure contact with the wood. If the worm screw is 10 mm for example in diameter, use a 9 mm drill bit to make the hole in a hardwood blank. Use a tape on the drill bit as a depth marker. Put the piece of wood on the screw. Then turn the wheel to screw fully on, with the face of the chuck snugly against the wood. If the wood blank is not tall, then the depth that the screw penetrates can be adjusted with wooden or MDF spacers with central holes.



A 10cm faceplate ring on an Axminster SK100 chuck. The countersinks for the flat screw heads are on the other side of the ring. See [40 seconds of this video](#) to see a faceplate being mounted on the lathe



A recess (or mortise) was cut in the base of this simple beginner bowl. The chuck jaws were turned outwards to hold the blank in expansion mode.



The recess (or mortise) was drilled in this small sapele wood bowl blank using a pillar drill and a Forstener bit. It was then mounted directly in the chuck in expansion mode.



At the end of turning, this small sapele bowl has been turned around and 'jammed' on the chuck. The tenon (or spigot) that is protruding from the base is being partly removed cautiously using a spindle gouge.

Part 4: Tools

Carbide Tipped Tools



Carbide Tipped Scrapers or Conventional Tools

Use carbide tipped scrapers or bowl gouges, or a mixture of both as required.

Carbide tipped tools with changeable cutting heads are more simple to use and might be more suitable for those who only want to make a few bowls. However, they do not leave such a well finished surface. They can produce 'tear outs' that need to be removed by lots of sanding. This partly depends on the type of wood. Pine, as a coarse grained wood, is very prone to tear outs.

Carbide cutters can be [easily resharpened](#) with a fine diamond card file, provided they are just dull, and the cutting edge is not damaged.

These tools are suitable for beginners or occasional users since they require less skill and are easiest to use. They are presented to the wood horizontally from the tool rest.

The above image shows diamond, square, and round carbide tipped scrapers. The carbide tips are either rotated or changed with a simple torx wrench



Side on view of the same tools



A carbide tipped in which the cutter is [set at 45 degrees](#) in order to make a shear cutting action easier and so produce a smoother cut surface. ([see video demo](#))

Round tips can be used to finish the inside or outside



Replacement cutting heads showing both sides. These can be resharpened by placing them cutting edge down on a wet diamond card file and moving them with one finger. See https://youtu.be/uX3UYi0XhK4?si=Q8ur_I72gMaDI_QA

See my unlisted YouTube playlist: [Wood turning bowls with carbides.](#)

The Bowl Gouge

This gouge allows efficient removal of wood and is the main tool used in making bowls. It is possible to make a bowl using just this one tool.



The bowl gouge is forged from a round bar of [high-speed steel](#) (HSS). Tools that are made from M2 and M42 HSS steel alloys provide hard edges that stay sharper longer. Cryogenically treated versions of these metals are even more durable. The shank is ground to produce a deep flute (U-shaped) running along part of its length.

The cutting edge is ground with a bevel, typically at $\sim 40^\circ$ – 55° , though more steep micro bevels also exist. Some (production) turners use larger gouges with [micro bevels](#) to finish the bottom of deep bowls by. Bowl gouges can have a variety of profiles, either as initially ground by the manufacturer or the user.

There are various sizes and cutting edge types (see [a short video](#) or a [well illustrated web page](#) for more information). A favourite grind of some expert turners is a bowl gouge with 55-degree bevel angle and swept back wings (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aqRe_C4gj5c). The swept back wings can be used to shear scrape.

It is desirable to control the angle of the side bevel on bowl gouges. Steep sided edges might be sharper. However, that might cause them to wear faster and possibly be more 'grabby' (see <https://youtu.be/b4OBiBBYGZE?si=m8SZgObTisYcPs4>)

The aim when using a bowl gouge is to 'ride (or rub) the bevel' against the wood. By keeping the bevel in contact with smoother surfaces can be produced and the

chances of catches are minimised. See the [Riding the Bevel](#) video by Kent Weakley. If the bevel [is coloured with an ink](#) marker, it is possible to see if the bevel is in contact with the wood or a sheer scraping action is being used with only the edge in contact.

The primary functions of the bowl gouge are:

- 1) Roughing or removing large volumes of wood when shaping the outside and hollowing the inside of the bowl.
- 2) Shaping: ideal for establishing the final profile, as the flute directs shavings away and allows for a continuous cut.

The nose (or tip) can be used in either a pull or a push cut, with the bevel resting on the wood surface to maintain control and prevent catches.

When the bevel is properly supported, the cutting action minimises 'tear-out'. However, skilful use of the bowl gouge requires control of bevel angle and flute orientation. Improper presentation to the wood can lead to "catches" and damage to the workpiece.

Scraping with the Bowl Gouge

On bowl gouges that have been ground with the backswept wings, it is possible to use a scraping cut with the bottom wing of the bevel. This cut is used for making slight shape refinements, removing 'tear out', or tool marks. This refining shear cut can be made on the outside, but not the inside of a bowl.

The wings must be ground straight or convex (*but not* concave, or it will just cut at the point or end and perhaps produce catches). Have the handle down when scraping with the bowl gouge. (See:

<https://turnawoodbowl.com/9-steps-shear-scraping-perfection/> and <https://youtube.com/watch?v=5zvgt9gG24&si=R1qsOiUDWpnZsGUY>)

The tip of the gouge needs to be above the bowl centre so that it does not cut the surface.

The gouge can be moved forward and backwards with the angle of the wing around 45 degrees with the handle down.

(See: <https://youtu.be/ajMZGRrsjt4?si=nRF6c7m3OCrgMcNp>)

The Scraper

[The scraper](#) is a flat refining tool with a bevelled cutting edge. Richard Raffan shows the [end can be square or rounded symmetrically, or unsymmetrically](#) in the shape of a so-called French grind. There is also the spear point scraper with slightly rounded

edges and a central sharp point. The spear point is a tool probably best avoided by beginners because of the possibility of bad catches if the point is accidentally engaged.



A negative rake scraper in which the top has a shallow grind. This tool is useful for beginners, since it is less prone to catches. Negative rake scrapers can also have a more conventional, almost straight, but radiused cutting edge with conventional flat upper and lower bevels. Tomislav Tomasic ([see his website](#)) has a [very useful video on this](#) topic, showing the use of a scraper with a 20-25 degree upper bevel and a 45 degree lower bevel.

In principle, a bowl can be cut with freshly sharpened scrapers alone https://youtu.be/D_d0tk1DCz0?si=iNcYfCckWmBBZHig; however, that is not an effective way to proceed. Cutting with scrapers is slower than with bowl gouges. Scraping also blunts the cutting edge. https://youtu.be/Xxx2LzhZP_M?si=TXi0lqr_oFwy-u2V

Unlike gouges, these tools scrape rather than slice. They are often used to smooth out irregularities, especially in the interior. Scrapers are presented to the wood above the centre of the bowl with the long axis of the tool at an angle of less than 90 degrees, i.e. the handle should be tilted up. This reduces the possibility of catches. In order to avoid catches, try not to engage very long stretches of the cutting edge.



When tilted to the side, the scraper can produce a fine, slicing action that reduces 'tear-out'. This finer type of use is called 'shear scraping'. Note the very fine shavings produced by shear scraping. A negative rake scraper, like that shown above, is useful for a beginner.

With the exception of the spear point scraper, these tools are simple to use and safer than a gouge when working in tricky grain directions (e.g., end grain in bowls). The cut surface is still likely to require sanding.

The cutting edge of scrapers wears quickly, especially on negative rake scrapers (that have a bevel both on the top and bottom of the tool). In order to keep it sharp, hone regularly, even during the course of making one bowl the edge become dull.

It is possible for very experienced workers to make a [bevel riding cut with scrapers](#); however, beginners are more likely to produce bad catches with that technique.

See my unlisted YouTube playlist: [refining bowls surfaces with scrapers](#).

The Parting Tool

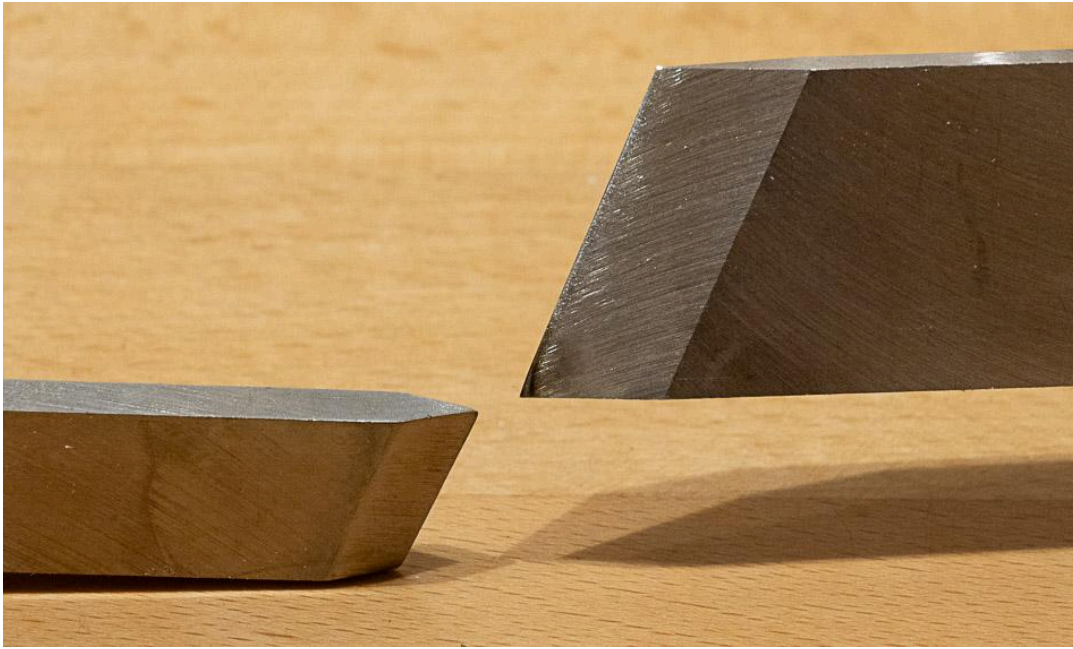
This is usually a narrow bladed tool with a flat cutting edge, although [they can be as wide as 10mm](#). They are either rectangular or of a very shallow diamond shape in cross-section. As the name suggests, this tool is used for parting off most of the base before the central part is finally removed with a saw. However, this tool leaves a relatively rough surface; not intended for shaping or finishing.



It can also be used to mark wall thickness of the bowl or the diameter of a mortise (recess in the base of the bowl). Wider forms of this tool can additionally be used to form the tenon (spigot). One advantage of using a parting tool to make the wall edge is that it can create a ledge for the bowl gouge to start cutting.

The Skew Chisel

The skew chisel can be used in a 'peeling cut' to make a tenon on the base of a bowl. It can also be used on the outside of a bowl to make decorative lines. It should not be used on the inside of a bowl.



Two sizes of straight skew chisel

Avoid using skew chisels to refine the external surface of bowls, as it is very likely to produce 'catches'. A very clear demonstration of how catches can easily occur in spindle turning is given by Richard Findley at

<https://youtu.be/wpfJLVQ1G6Y?si=a0FOcbuilEGxtPbm>

A comprehensive explanation of the different skew chisel types is given by Mike from Craft Supplies USA <https://youtu.be/-SxFXT2WXhM?si=T-KbqXJc42sGhkNS>

Decorating and Texturing Tools

Indented lines, grooves, or elevated beads can be cut on the outside of a bowl with a spindle gouge or a double pointed beading tool with a curved end.

If using a spindle gouge to cut repeated beads, do so going uphill and turning the flute between 9 o'clock to cut in and 11 o'clock to roll over in a shear cutting action and angle so that a smooth surface is produced.

https://youtu.be/6j77T1ow6iM?si=_3iiZHzzfC_R_lu4. It is important not to roll the tool onto the upper unsupported edge of the tool.

Lines can also be burnt onto wood using wire attached to two handles. Alternatively, lines can be cut with a diamond shaped carbide scraper and [dark lines burnt on with a piece of Formica](#).

There are also other specialist tools that can be used for decorating the base and outside of the bowl. See

<https://www.youtube.com/live/iZIAWB80YhE?si=v6ljOCExtS3zsLQB>

Part 5: Making the Bowl

A) Using Carbide Tipped Scrapers

It is possible to cut an entire bowl with carbide tipped tools ([see this example](#)). Present the carbide-tipped tools at centre height and horizontally from the rest. Gently apply the gutting edge when starting the cut.

On the outside, it is possible to remove wood in bulk by cutting steps with a square carbide tip. The steps can be cut either from the side or from the base of the bowl. By cutting steps from the base of a conventional end grain bowl, there might be less wear on the cutting edge.

On the outside of the bowl, use the square cutter to cut a tenon or a mortise (recess) on the bottom. Then cut the internal dovetail angle with the edge of a diamond point scraper.

A continuous surface can then be produced by cutting at an angle to the base using either square or round tips ([Demonstrated by SJ Woodworks on YouTube](#)).

A smoother surface can be created when the tool is rotated to 45 degrees or more to produce fine shearing cuts. For this reason, there are tools on the market that have the carbide cutter set at a 45-degree angle to a flat shank. According to Glen Teagle use the lower part of the cutting edge on a round cutter when shear cutting.

Decorative lines or beads can be cut on the outside of a bowl with a [diamond shaped tip](#). However, concave carbide tips designed for beading are also available.

In the inside of the bowl, the square tool tip can be used for bulk removal of wood either using straight plunge cuts or using the point of the square tip when entering the wood at an angle. A round carbide tipped scraper is then used to finish the surface before internal sanding.

B) Bowl Cutting with Conventional Gouges and Scrapers

Starting with a Square Blank

If the corners of a square blank are still in place, swivel the rest and keep clear of the corners. It is possible to just start cutting from the base towards the front. In this way

the base and wall can be formed in one series of actions. If the corners are sawed off then move the tool rest more towards the wall and closer in.

Place the tool rest at a height such that the cutting edge of the bowl gouge is on or just slightly above the centre line.

When using conventional gouges and scrapers, the cutting angle and orientation of the tool is VERY IMPORTANT.

Level up the Side of the Blank

Start the lathe slowly and turn up to less than vibration speed, try about 850 rpm or less on a larger blank.

Do not take the cut from the base all the way to the top, as the edge will be unsupported and cause tear out. Instead, finish before and very near to the top and cut from top down a little to finish.

It is possible to true up the outside rim of a nearly round blank with a bowl gouge in so-called roughing cuts (However, DO NOT use a spindle roughing gouge). When cutting the side with a bowl gouge, the tool handle should be down with the cutting edge pointed up.

Go back and forward with the handle down and the flute turned in the direction of travel. (A HIGH handle position can produce bad catches.)

Level the Base if it is Really Off

If the base is very uneven or tilted at an angle, it is desirable to level it so that it is perpendicular to the axis of turning and the piece turns without undue vibration. It is very easy to do that with a carbide tipped square scraper. The bowl can then be rotated at a higher speed without vibration when the blank is cut to become more symmetrical. (See cutting technique on base in a later section)

Shape External Wall of the Bowl

When turning a bowl shape start at the surface that will become the bottom of the bowl with the gouge handle down and the *flute* turned towards the top side of the bowl in an almost perpendicular orientation, then turn slightly to start the cut. It is possible to use pull or push cuts. Martin Saban-Smith says that push cuts give a better finish.

Kent Weakley from Turnawoodbowl.com says, at the edge, start with a push cut and dig in a little towards the very edge of the base. "Where the bevel goes is the shape that is going to be created by the tool". Use the tip of the bowl gouge on the push cut while 'riding the bevel'. Richard Raffan says it is possible to 'open' the gouge

slightly, but not far enough to have a bad catch. Opening in this context means turning the flute towards the 12 o'clock position.

Have the tool contact point on or just above centre, but not too high. Use the bowl gouge with the handle dropped and the nose up. See Richard Raffan's [introduction to using bowl gouges](#).

It is possible to rotate ('open') the gouge and cut slightly to the right of the point on a push cut. However, if the gouge is tuned too much, the wing will not be supported on the bevel and so will catch (source Richard Raffan). [Spindle gouges are worse](#) in this respect, as the wing is not supported by the bevel. Richard Raffan argues that [pull cuts are more efficient](#) and can take very thick shavings. However, these are used for roughing, not finishing cuts.

Do not move the gouge with the hands. Instead, move the body round. Stand forward at the start of the cut with weight on the right and pivot the body from there. It is possible to switch over from a pull to a push cut when pull runs out of body movement. On push cuts, keep bevel contact running (or riding). Do not try to go around the bowl from base to the top of the side in one cut. Stop, turn the rest straighter and go to push cuts.

On pull cuts, start with the flute facing 3 or 9 o'clock, depending on the slope of the outer surface. In making the outside shaping cut, engage the nose then drop the handle and slightly 'open' the gouge to begin the cut. An open flute means the flute is neither pointed at 3 nor 9 o'clock but is turned round somewhat.

If the top portion of the bowl is enclosed, i.e. sloping in to form a smaller mouth, the cut should be made in the opposite. In that situation, the push cut should be made from the top of the bowl to the widest point of the outer surface. In this way, all of the cut will be supported by longer wood fibres.

Finishing Cuts on the Outside Surface

It is possible to refine the outside of the bowl and make the surface smoother by sheer scraping with a scraper using very fine cuts, and with the tool well below centre (for example <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OBFsbKsgxZ4>). The cut is less aggressive if the tool is tilted with the right edge up by squeezing fingers back and forward. Try a 19 mm or ¾ inch scraper.

When using scrapers, have the cutting edge on or above the centre line. The tool handle is raised slightly to cut so that the contact angle is less than 90 degrees. When using scrapers, have the handle pointed up and the blade down so that the contact angle is less than 90 degrees, but at not too steep an angle. (Aid to remembering: Skyscraper). Try using a curved scraper, so that both corners do not

stick in at the same time (see for example:
<https://youtu.be/OBFsbKsgxZ4?si=xxrLilQUUJSjo0oA>)

In a more advanced technique with the bowl gouge, it is possible to make [finishing cuts](#) on the outside surface. To produce this cut, really drop the handle and use the inner lower wing to shear the surface. That action is more difficult because the tool can skate along the surface if not held properly. For finishing cuts with a bowl gouge, use pull and push cuts with flute turned towards the wall and shear scrape on the lower side of the gouge only with bevel wing almost parallel to the side of the bowl. Place both wings lightly on the side, then rotate the nearest wing slightly outward to start cutting on the bottom wing. The type of shavings will depend on wood. Cedar, for example, is an oily wood and will not produce shavings when scraping the outside. However, the surface should be smooth.

Shaping the Base of the Bowl

The first action on the bottom of the bowl is to level the base so that it is perpendicular to the axis of rotation. This action can be done with a bowl gouge. Use a pull cut when the flute is almost 'closed' towards the base. Alternatively, use a push cut with the bevel always parallel to the base. It is possible to 'open up' the gouge provided the bevel is always parallel to the base. When shear scraping the outside, it is always the lower supported wing used to cut, never the upper wing!

After levelling the base, cut a tenon (spigot) or mortise (recess). Mark the base with a circle using callipers or pencil for the tenon or mortise. If using callipers open to the diameter of the tenon or mortise, DO NOT use both points, use the left one only. Alternatively, adjust the calliper distance to the radius and line up the right point with the centre.

When making a mortise (recess) or protruding tenon (spigot) it is possible to use a parting tool to mark the diameter for the appropriate chuck size. If using a narrow parting tool, cut 2 contiguous rings to provide access for a bowl gouge to be used in push cut mode towards the middle. It is possible to use a bowl gouge in a push cut with flute slightly turned towards 3:00 handle down and also pull cut with flute turned to nearly 9:00

To help make the choice between tenon or mortise, see:
<https://turnawoodbowl.com/wood-bowl-mortise-or-tenon-which-is-best/>

To produce the correct depth and shape of tenon, see:
<https://turnawoodbowl.com/5-worst-tenon-shapes-wood-bowl-foot-spigot-attach/>
<https://turnawoodbowl.com/bowl-tenon-secure-wood-bowl-foot/>

To cut the dovetail on the tenon it is possible to use a detail spindle gouge, a skew

chisel held flat on the tool rest, or a detail diamond carbide scraper using the left edge.

To make a mortise, see:

<https://turnawoodbowl.com/wood-bowl-mortise-recessed-lathe-chuck-attachment/>

A mortise can be cut with a parting tool or a bowl gouge. The dove tail angle can be cut with a parting tool, a spindle detail gouge or a notched scraper designed for the purpose.

If the bowl has a mortise and a flat ring-shaped foot, make an outer ring line with a pencil and level off between the edge of the mortise or tenon and the edge of the foot.

To decorate the bottom of the base, it is possible to use a 'radius scraper' with a notch cut in the left-hand edge.

Decorating the Outside of Bowl

The base and outside of the bowl can be decorated with lines, grooves or beads. Decoration can be done with a spindle gouge or a pointed diamond shaped carbide tipped tool (See tuning beads on a bowl by Richard Raffan, <https://youtu.be/BtN81mlbwKQ?si=rR517k15Dp24OF9i>)

On the outside surface, a parting tool can be used to cut grooves that could then be filled. The surface of the filler is cut back to the bowl surface with a scraper.

Bands of decoration can also be made by carving and the addition of coloured materials such as Milliput, epoxy putty. A marbling effect can be created by incompletely mixing two colours of Milliput.

Removing the Workpiece

Remove the bowl by unscrewing from the worm screw or removing from the faceplate, or by opening the chuck jaws. If difficulty is encountered in unscrewing the chuck from the headstock, use the chuck key and the push rod and turn in opposite directions or lock the drive if necessary. Remember to remove any locking pin before restarting the motor!

Hollowing Out the Inside

DO NOT use a spindle roughing gouge!

Re-mount the base of the bowl using a four jawed chuck. This is done either in compression mode with a protruding tenon (spigot), or in expansion mode with a mortise (recess) that were previously cut in the base.

Use push cuts with a bowl gouge to hollow the inside. Remember to start with the flute 'closed' (at 3 o'clock, facing away from the user) and then slightly 'open' during the cut and arc upwards by dropping the handle. When moving near to the centre, partly 'open' the gouge to maintain bevel contact. The position of the tool needs to move more towards the centre to keep the bevel in contact as the flute is 'opened up'. Kent Weakley says, as you push the gouge towards the centre, ['close the flute' towards 3 o'clock](#). At the same time, [slow the push to cut the slower moving central wood](#). Make a little ring or ledge to hold the gouge so that it will not 'skate' uncontrollably outwards.

If using a bowl gouge to make concentric inward push cuts keep the angle the same and the height at centre and when moving inwards twist the flute slightly upwards.

As push cuts go further out, start the cuts with flute more at 3:00. To steepen the wall, ride the bevel cutting slightly to the right of the nose. When cutting near to bottom move the gouge and pivot the cutting point towards the centre then push. When fully extended and closer to the bowl centre, do not pivot the gouge to the middle; instead move the tool along the rest. Ease pressure when moving towards the centre to cut more slowly as the central wood is moving slower.

As an alternative, mark the bowl wall thickness with a parting tool and push into the cut with a bowl gouge. On large bowls, turners often initially leave a large mass of wood in the centre while shaping the wall. This approach is said to add stability when forming the walls of a large bowl.

Refining the inside with a scraper

If using a scraper on the inside of a bowl, have the cutting edge about 2 mm above centre so that the angle of the inside rim is less than 90 degrees to the top of the tool to avoid catches. Near the rim on the inside, tilt the scraper on its side and have the scraper pointing up to shear scrape.

If using a scraper to finish the inside (or a *negative rake* scraper), place the cutting edge just above the midline. Start with the handle down and then lift the handle to start making a cut. Use light pressure to produce very fine cuts, very fine shavings and a smooth surface.

If a 19 mm radius scraper or wider is used, it is best if only part of the tool edge cuts. Scrape out bands moving concentrically outwards from a central (screw chuck) hole. Near the rim of the bowl, use the tool tilted up to shear scrape to prevent bad catches at the edge! Richard Findley argues that refining with a scraper works best around the bottom of the bowl rather than on the walls where a rotation is occurring between end grain and side grain.

If there is a bump in the wall or the base that can be felt with the fingertips, it can be [marked with either one or two pencil lines](#) made by turning the bowl by hand.

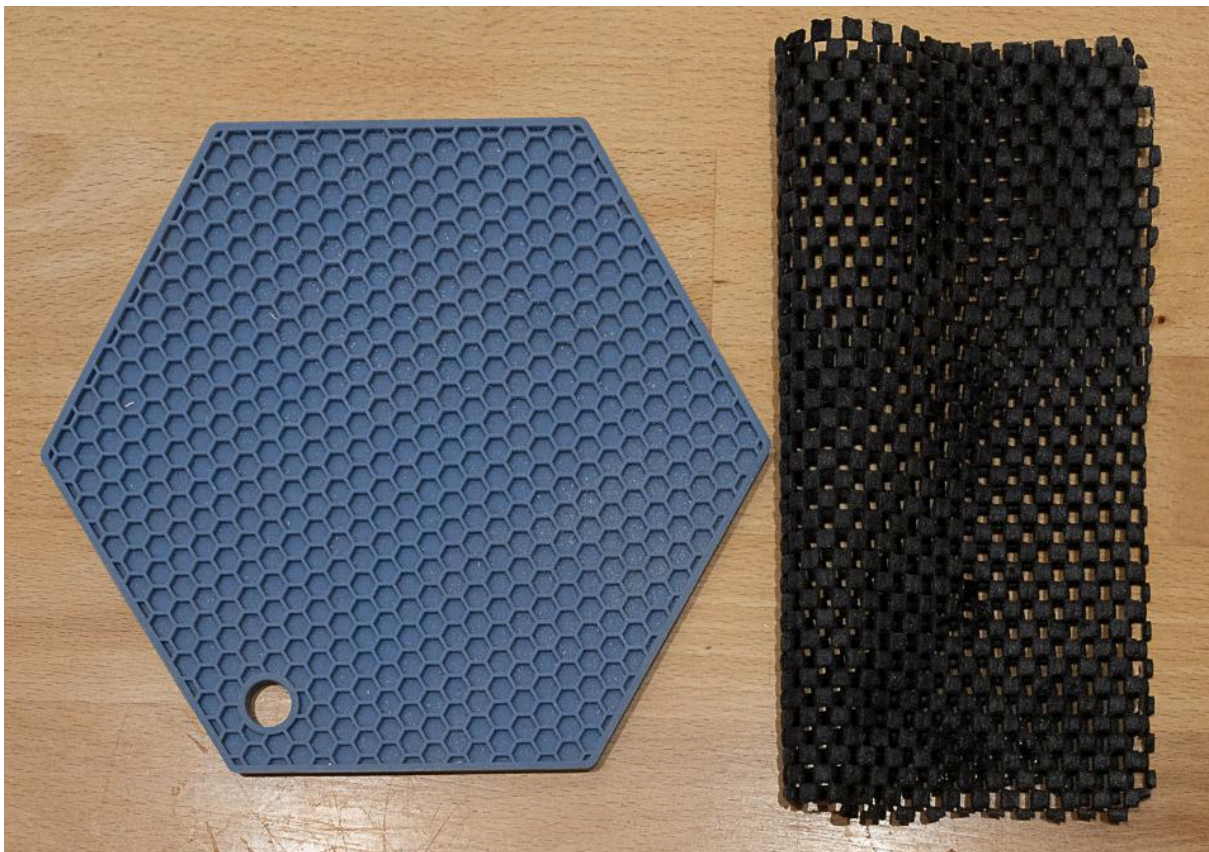
Then sand and finish the inside

Removing a tenon from the base

Although the protruding tenon provides excellent attachment when held to the lathe in a four-jawed chuck, one disadvantage is that it either has to be removed or used as an elevated foot. If the tenon is being used as a foot, consider decorating the bottom surface with lines, grooves or beads.

See: <https://turnawoodbowl.com/wood-bowl-tenon-removal-3-easy-ways/>

One approach to removing the tenon is to use a wooden '[jam chuck](#)' held in place with the 4-jawed metal chuck and a non-stick mat or [silicone trivet or pot holder](#) or stick mat.



The mat should be placed between the wooden jam chuck and the inside of the bowl. Ensure that the bowl is rotating without a wobble. Reposition the bowl slightly if that is necessary.

Remove most of the tenon little bits at a time using the minimum of force necessary to cut. In this situation, it is best to remove the tenon using cuts that are directed

towards the chuck. Avoid applying a radial force that might detach the almost completed spinning bowl.

It is also possible to use a tennis ball to remove the tenon instead of a wooden 'jam chuck'. Use a chuck and wide set of jaws so that it is possible for a portion of half of the ball to be held inside the chuck. The other half of the ball is then pressed to the inner surface. Bring the pointed active centre up on the base to compress the ball using the inside of the bowl. If the bowl is misaligned, tap it until it rotates true. Where a jam chuck (or tennis ball) is being used, the cone on the tailstock centre can be held with a round piece of MDF with a central hole ([a tip from Richard Raffan](#))

Remove the bowl from the lathe and sand or chisel off the centre. If using a bowl gouge for this purpose, hold the flute near to the tip rather than the handle so that you have more control.

[I have created an unlisted Youtube Playlist that goes with the section: [Wood turning a bowl](#)]

Sanding

The two most commonly used abrasives are traditional sand paper and [Mirka Abranet](#) (or Chinese copies available on Temu). Abranet is a fine mesh with small abrasive particles. There are also abrasive pastes, such as [True Grit from Yorkshire](#), that can be used for a fine finishing step after sanding to 240 grit. Fine non-woven nylon web abrasive pads are also useful for finishing (for example, [Indasa 600 grit red pad](#)) and are available online.

Sanding can either be done manually or with power sanders. Power sanding is done with rougher [80 or 120](#) grades, using a 2-inch compressible disc for smaller bowls or 3 inch for large ones.



Unpowered rotary (inertia, or friction) sanders can be used for finer grades (180 and upwards) using the same kind of compressible pad and are turned by the lathe.

([see demo video](#)). Keep the sandpaper or Abranet disc moving over the surface. In a side grained bowl, regions of end grain are present opposite one another. If these areas have a rougher surface after sanding, the lathe can be locked and the rougher areas smoothed out by power or manual sanding.

When manually sanding with traditional sandpaper, fold it over several times into thin strips if you wish to maintain distinct edges (for example, at the point of connection of a bowl foot with the wall)

Turn the lathe speed down, perhaps to half speed, for sanding and make sure the dust extractor is running. Sand the outside with increasingly finer grades depending on surface quality. Finer grades remove the scratches left by coarser grades. Richard Findley (and an [article at the wood turners institute](#)) argues that it is good to quickly remove the dust between grades of abrasive, as the dust also contains abrasive particles. He suggests giving the surface a quick wipe with a soft (shaving) brush or a paper towel. Aim to have the turned finish good enough to start at 180 grit. Beginners might need to use a rougher 40, 80 and 120 grits to remove 'tear out' on the end grain, or ridges and tool marks, although these can be removed by shear scraping. Taking the grades from 80 to 400 will produce a smooth finish. Brief use of grades of 400 and above produces a much smoother, more polished surface.

Richard Raffan suggests that if dust builds up in the end grain treat out areas, [it is helpful to reverse the direction of the lathe](#).

When using sandpaper, it is possible to use a bit of sponge (about the size of a pan scourer) with sandpaper wrapped over it. If using Abranet a piece of Velcro (hook) tape can be attached to a small piece of medium or high density foam to thermally insulate the abrasive sheet from the fingertips.

For a finishing abrasive, it is possible to apply a very [fine grit wax paste](#) to create a finish equivalent to 1000 grit. The paste can then be burnished off with a paper towel, until the paper is clean. A traditional way of putting a burnished finish on the surface is to pick up a handful of shavings from the bowl and press it on to the surface while the lathe is turning.

Sealing with Oil And Wax

A large variety of finishing substances are available including [oils, waxes, polishes and lacquers](#). If you want to find out the contents of finishes, check the Health and Safety Sheets of good suppliers like [Axminster Tools](#). Apply oil or wax using paper towels on a spinning bowl rather than rag, as the paper will tear easily and so be safer to use. Oil should be applied liberally and allowed to soak in to provide water resistance. Do not apply sanding sealer if you intend to use oil.

[Tung Oil](#) (or products containing it) will provide a hard [protective water-resistant surface](#) but will darken the wood.

If you wish to keep the wood as close as possible to the original colour try food safe [Paraffin Oil by Chestnut](#), see the [Health and Safety Sheet](#). (Paraffin oil is referred to as [Mineral Oil](#) in the US). Repeat treatment if using paraffin oil every 3–4 months or when the wood appears dry to prevent cracking. Another product that preserves colour on pale timbers such as Ash is [Treatex Hard Wax Oil Ultra Soft White](#) (see [video demo](#) from Richard Findley). Do not use vegetable or olive oils as these can turn rancid. Wax can be added after the oil to provide a protective layer. If using solid wax, melt it directly on to the bowl while turning. Use a clean piece of paper towel to burnish the bowl.



A small dish turned in Ash without treatment



After treatment with [Food Safe paraffin](#) oil, the wood has become a little darker and more orange in hue

Wet Wood

If the wood is wet, i.e. unseasoned and with a high moisture content, cut the bowl with thick walls and allow it to dry (and warp!). Weigh the bowl. Put it in a brown paper bag filled with the shavings from the bowl and allow to dry with periodic reweighing until the weight is almost constant between measurements.

Alternatively, if you have prepared a smaller rough cut bowl, [microwave periodically](#) and reweigh. The process must be gradual. The rough-turned bowl is microwaved in short bursts (e.g., 2 minutes at 50% power). Between bursts, the piece is removed and allowed to steam off. The aim is not to remove all moisture, since moisture moves (equilibrates) between the wood and the atmosphere. When the wood has finally equilibrated in weight, do the second or finishing turning to true up the outside then the inside.

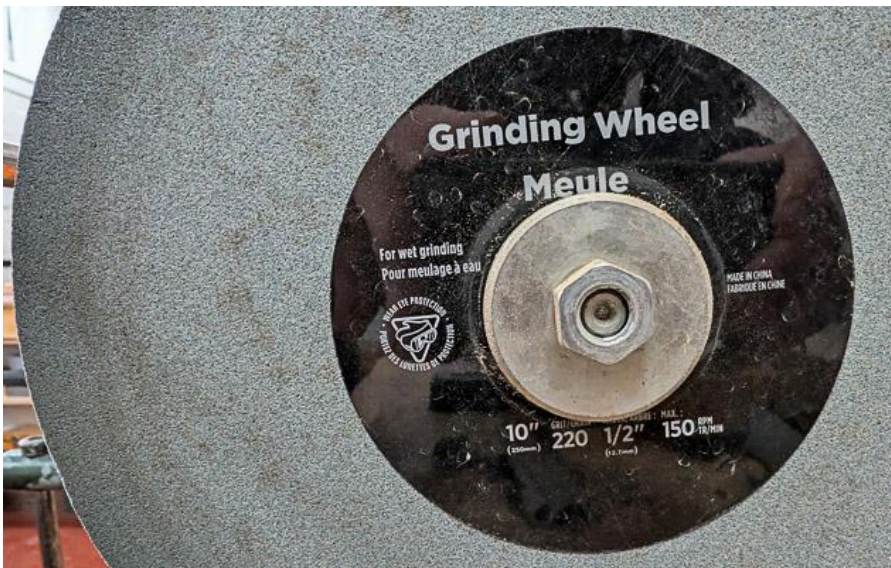
Sharpening Bowl Gouges

There is a large number of possible bowl gouge grinds and no perfect grind. For written advice on the subject, see [Kent Weakley's well illustrated article](#).

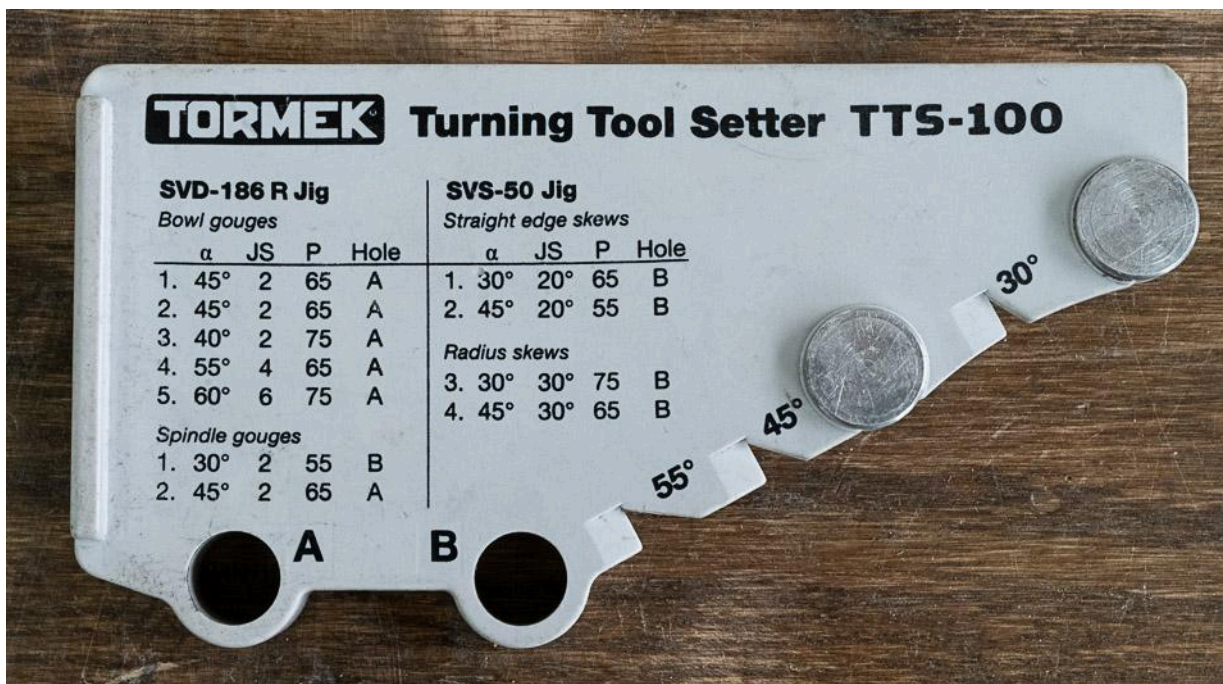
Some experienced turners such as Richard Raffan [use free hand grinding](#) to reshape and sharpen the bevel on a bowl gouge. One obvious thing to do by free hand grinding is to put a heel on the bottom part of the front bevel to allow greater access with a steeply angled 55 degree bevelled bowl gouge. Free hand grinding can also be used to grind longer sweptback wings on a bowl gouge to make an Irish

(or Elsworth grind). Some turning teachers like [Richard Raffan](#) prefer, for some purposes, to have a [longer asymmetric wing](#) on the left-hand side created by free hand grinding.

For beginners who want to grind a repeatable edge on a bowl gouge, it is a good idea to use some kind of sharpening jig on a grinding wheel or on a [belt sander](#) (or see this [shorter video](#)). To prevent overheating, the grinding stones can be placed in a trough of water. The stone should be well enough immersed to carry a film of water up to the grinding location. To check that the tool is set properly in position, cover the bevel with an ink marker from top to bottom and inspect after a brief touch or hand turn on the grinder. Tormek is a Swedish manufacturer of [grinding jigs](#). (See the Tormek instruction [booklet of its sharpening tools](#))

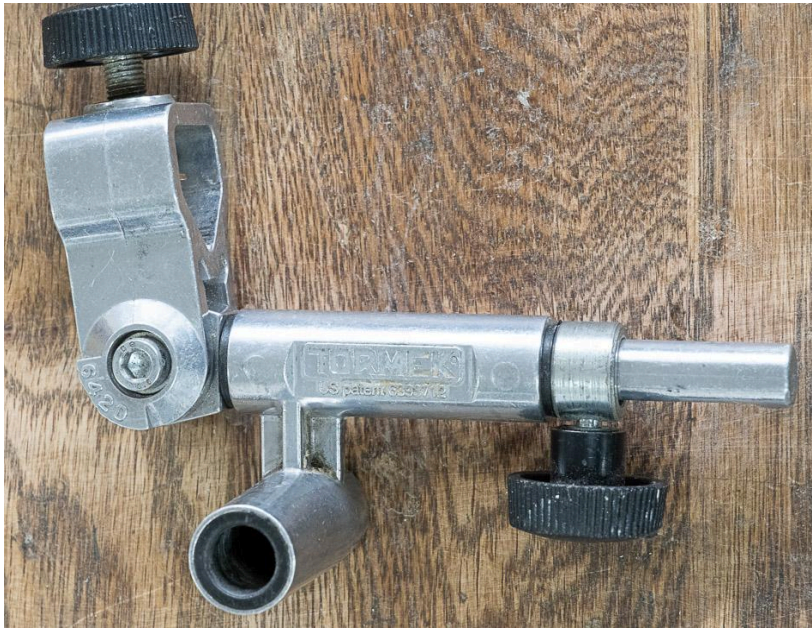


This 220 grit grinding wheel needs to be used with a trough of water that keeps the tool tip cool. This fine grit size is much better for honing rather than reshaping the gouge cutting edge.



[Tormek Tool Setter-TTS 100](#) (video) for use with Tormek jigs. The protrusion length of the gouge in mm (P) is set on the other side of the setter. The JS setting applies to the jig pivot angle. A or B holes determine the distance of the jig hole from the support bar to the stone. Both metal wheels need to sit on the stone.

[Tormek TTS-100 instruction PDF](#) [Selection Chart for the TTS-100](#)



[Tormek SVD 186 Jig](https://youtu.be/e4tvegeMEC4?si=F3j9qCwLPYWkKyOq): Note the JS number on the left-hand part of the jig
For a very clear demonstration of how to use the Tormek SVD 186 Jig, see:
<https://youtu.be/e4tvegeMEC4?si=F3j9qCwLPYWkKyOq>

For the Tormek SVD 186 Jig manual, see:
<https://tormek.com/download/18.681cbd68182e94c066a21e09/1664201772299/InstructionSVD-186%20R%20Gouge%20Jig.pdf>

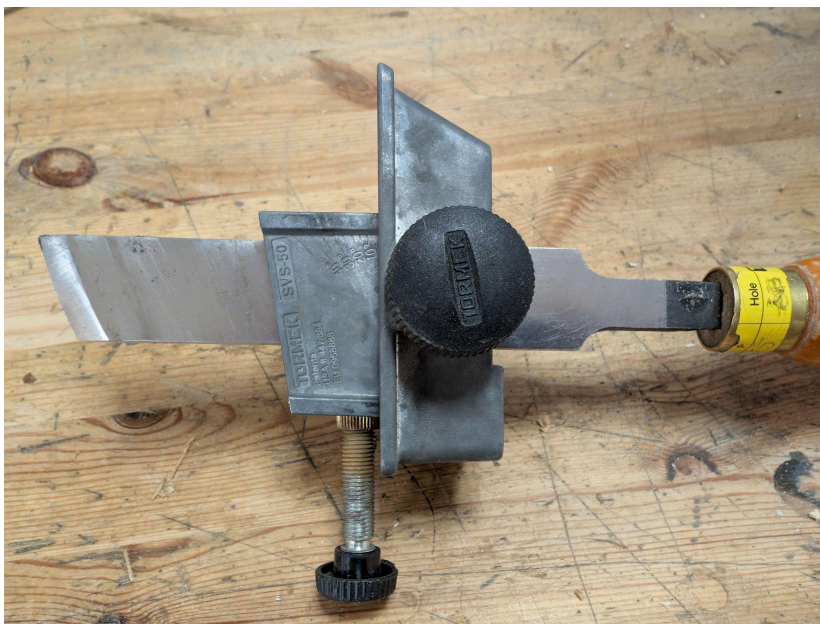
Sharpening Straight Edged Tools

The Tormek SVS-50 jig can be used for tools that are square across the cutting edge, such as a spindle roughing gouge.





This part of the jig is used with the skew chisel. Once the blade is placed in the holder the angle of the blade is rotated so that it runs across the wheel and is parallel to the turning axis



This blade needs to be rotated, so the cutting edge is oriented straight across the stone and parallel to the axis of rotation. If a radiused rather than a straight skew is wanted, the jig is rotated around its pointed edge as shown in page 104 of the manual.

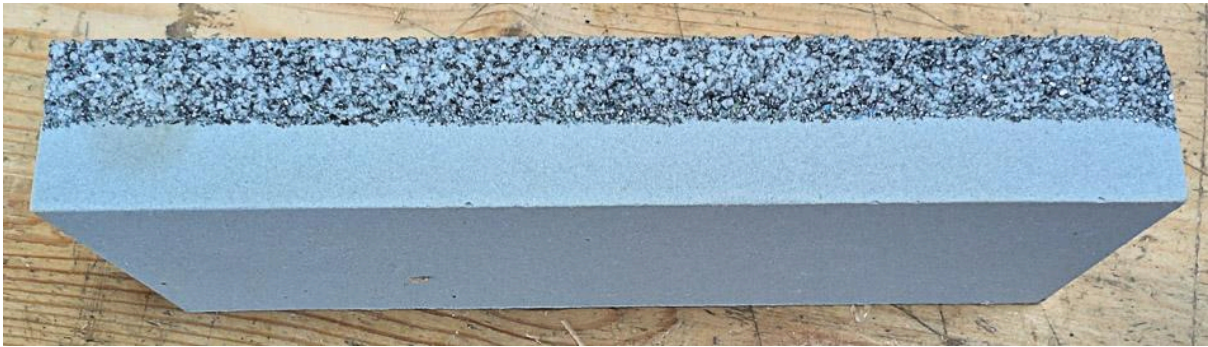
For the Tormek SVS-50 Instruction manual see:

https://tormek.com/download/18.681cbd68182e94c066a21e0c/1664201789344/Instru%20SVS-50_EN.pdf

For an Instructional video see

<https://youtu.be/-K1Ta2-8TKU?si=GzWqT6-YjCRAgLrE>

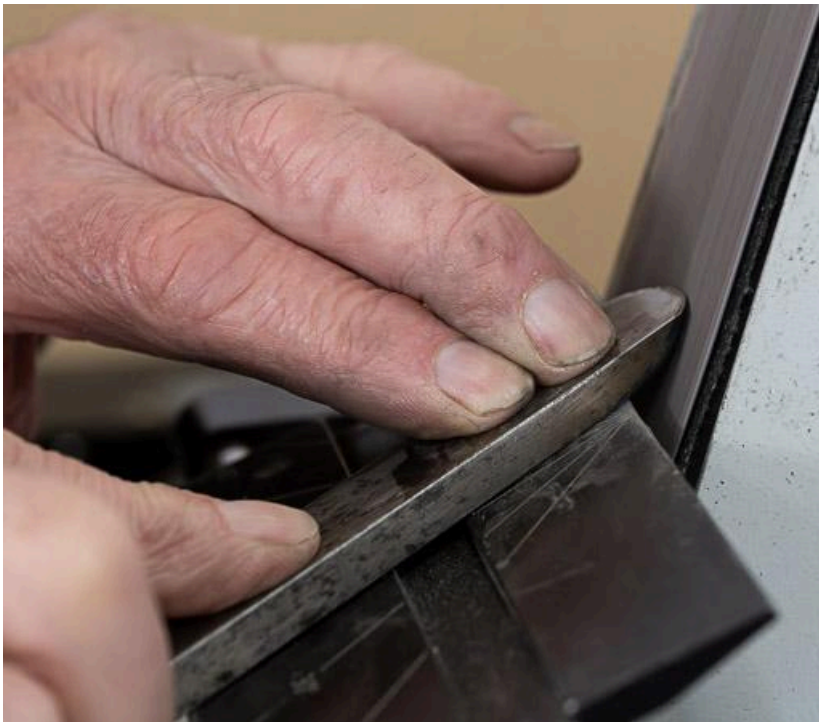
The [Tormek SP-650 stone grader](#)



can be used to create a smoother or rougher surface on a grinding stone. The hands are placed on the tool support bar and pressed down for 20–30 seconds while moving the stone from side to side ([see this video](#) on the Tormek page))

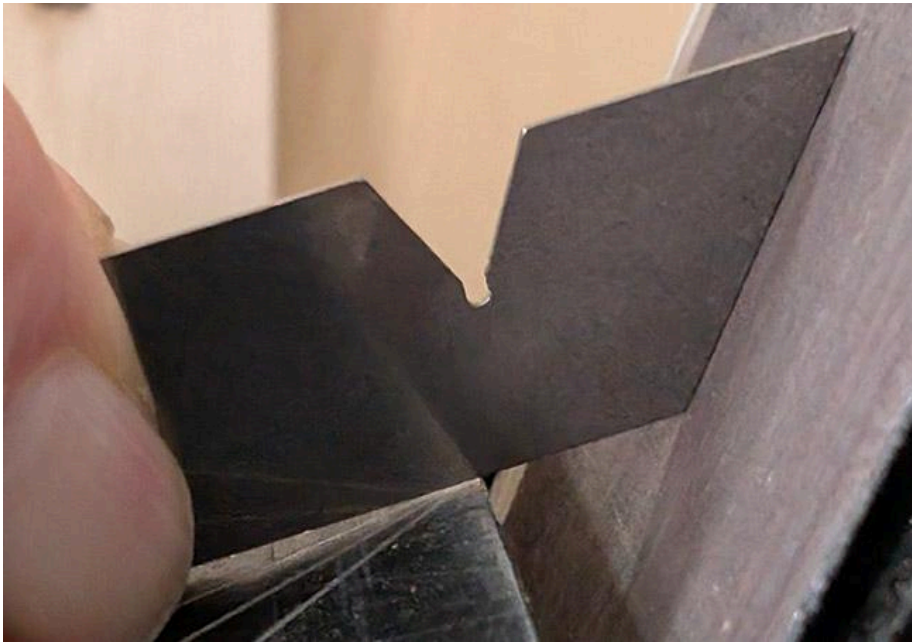


This pen-style diamond knife and tool sharpener can be used on the inside of a bowl gouge flute to remove the bur and so produce a very sharp, fine edge. Alternatively, a strip of [folded cloth-backed sandpaper](#) can be used on the inside of the flute.



A round-edged scraper being sharpened on an Axminster belt sander, The tool is placed flat on the [tiltable table](#) attached to the support bar. The operator is shown

moving back and forward across the belt and rotating the tool around the rotational point below of his left fingers.



The included angle of the tool edge is determined with the notches in a [set of angle gauges](#) like that shown. When the correct gauge is chosen, the angle of the platform is then tilted so that there is no gap with the platform or the sanding belt. In the case above, the platform should be tilted down to close the gap.

Part 5: Learning Materials

These notes are largely based on the very patient teaching I received from Tom Whyte, subsequent personal practice, reading books and web pages, and watching videos.

Web pages

Articles by Kent Weakley at www.turnawoodbowl.com:

How To Make Or Turn Wood Bowl – Illustrated Step By Step

<https://turnawoodbowl.com/make-a-wood-bowl-turning-wood-bowls/>

Riding the Bevel – Bowl Gouge Technique Explained

<https://turnawoodbowl.com/riding-the-bevel-bowl-gouge-technique-explained/>

Safe Wood Lathe Speed (Calculate, Determine, Adjust RPM)

<https://turnawoodbowl.com/safe-wood-lathe-speed-calculation/>

Wood Turners Institute

Try this search: <https://woodworkersinstitute.com/?s=Woodturning+bowls>

How to Sand When Wood Turning, The Woodworkers Institute

<https://woodworkersinstitute.com/how-to-sand-when-woodturning/>

World Wide Wood Turners

Try this search: <https://www.worldwidewoodturners.org/?s=Bowls>

Wood Magazine

How to use a bowl gouge at Wood magazine

<https://www.woodmagazine.com/woodworking-how-to/woodworking-scrolling-carving/how-to-use-a-bowl-gouge>

Wikipedia

Woodturning

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woodturning>

High Speed Steel

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High-speed_steel?wprov=sfla1

Tung Oil

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tung_oil

Wood Finish Options

<https://andrewpearcebowls.com/blogs/hand-turned-wood-bowls/top-food-safe-wood-finish-options-for-your-kitchen-tools>

Hardwax Oil Ultra Soft White

<https://www.treatex.co.uk/hardwax-oil-soft-white>

Tormek

Water Cooled Sharpening for Edge tools (170 Page PDF manual by Tormek)

<https://tormek.com/download/18.830063c18388ecce1c14d64/1666277445202/hb-10-en-v105.pdf>

YouTube Videos

In addition to the lists below, I have created unlisted YouTube video playlists on [Wood turning a bowl](#), [wood turning bowls with carbides](#), and [refining bowls surfaces with scrapers](#).

Tool Sharpening

Glenn Lucas

Sharpening wood turning tools on the Tormek jig

<https://youtu.be/-cEXDssipig?si=pOcJtAd4DLsUsjm7>

Craft Supplies USA

Stop fighting your tools! How to fix a poorly ground gouge

<https://youtu.be/zpj5VbwuFs4?si=8x5Qc2afrxlb8n6u>

Tormek

How to Sharpen Bowl and Spindle Gouges with the Tormek SVD-186 Gouge Jig

<https://youtu.be/e4tvegeMEC4?si=zwtPi1-WVlvSf5XM>

Tomislav Tomasic

Richard Raffan asymmetric grind _ how I sharpen it...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=81FIJq0quOQ>

Richard Raffan

Richard Raffan shapes and sharpens two new gouges, preparing them for use.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jg0i27WuPXQ>

Richard Raffan sharpening scrapers

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5CkrbPr_7s

Dictum Gmbh

Secondary bevel, micro bevel and multi bevel on gouges - by Nick Agar

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVX6kCEUNIU>

Turning Simple Bowls With Carbide Tipped Scrapers

SJ Woodworks

Cutting a bowl with carbide scrapers including cutting external steps and then smoothing

https://youtu.be/ZQELtpCBdVU?si=FCo-BRHecFVgPg_3

Glenn and Lisa

Woodturning. A beginner's guide to turning a bowl using carbide wood turning tools

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JznbH421dCo>

Can I turn a bowl as fast with only one carbide tool?

<https://youtu.be/Vd8PIRVyYJI?si=e41pssY9puOt1Ukg>

EasyWood Tools

Bowl Turning Basics with Stuart Kent

<https://youtu.be/dn8guwLr96A?si=uQUaXAD2fg8iwdkZ>

The Woodturning Store

Turning a Bowl Blank with Hurricane Carbide Tools

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-3WYVtQtfo>

Turning the Inside of a Bowl with Hurricane Carbide Tools

<https://youtu.be/qaReQezLbT0?si=6coOGgBvs9CIM1uA>

Turning a Tenon with Hurricane Carbide Tools

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUYQML_JMpA

Tom Stratton

Dark Birch Bowl & Carbide Tools for Beginners

<https://youtu.be/v6ZfsfOWKMc?si=-whiKk1UJxrWaOIC>

Wood Turning with Tim Yoder

Carbide quick tip

<https://youtu.be/l-SbF0RjBwQ?si=QzRcmJxgXZjui82R>

Turning Simple Bowls with Conventional Bowl Gouges and Scrapers

Richard Findley ([see his website](#))

Bowl turning playlist

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZVlpCJobvAE5KhigLf43Gu38FStNw6FE&si=_efkTwCi5ToDVT_k

Don't let your chuck jaws dictate the design of your bowl

<https://youtu.be/cNDUr4t56ug?si=79ogdoITalwliex8>

Richard Raffan

(an old, highly edited video demo of making a bowl)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPPvtP2bbkg>

Introduction to using bowl gouges

<https://youtu.be/SXLj7KRVxCE?si=ZqDysRHfDqiykgRn>

Using scrapers for turning bowls

<https://youtu.be/OBFsbKsgxZ4?si=xxrLilQUUJSjo0oA>

½" spindle and bowl gouges and why they catch

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsYd_yWVxM8

Using a variety of gouge types when cutting bowls

https://youtu.be/9BH41jx05KI?si=Ehj_BTMSbHiW8STJ

Pull cuts on bowl shaping

https://youtu.be/MkSJ2aTT9e8?si=l2FgrUR0t_YT7fnd

Tail Centre MDF disks

<https://youtu.be/D9gYoaF-shk?si=lj6GCKTDssjBP5jS>

Turning Beads on a bowl

<https://youtu.be/BtN81mlbwKQ?si=rR517k15Dp24OF9i>

Richard Raffan turns a chuck-mounted screw chuck

https://youtu.be/v3CNYdPgNJg?si=NFk_eZ14tHgZH_xz

Mike Waldt

Wood Turning - Beginners Guide #3 - A Bowl

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HID5rf57joA&list=PLKupw_lpbxJIA69fh2y6x6uBVBOqJkX1b&index=5

Wood Turning - Beginners Guide # 5 - The Bowl Gouge

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nlSd7ZXAVoM&list=PLKupw_lpbxJIA69fh2y6x6uBVBOqJkX1b&index=6

Wood Turning - Beginners Guide # 8 - The Negative Rake Scraper

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdXxkr1hEPE&list=PLKupw_lpbxJIA69fh2y6x6uBVBOqJkX1b&index=9

Kent Weakly at Turn a Wood Bowl (Turnawoodbowl.com)

[See his very extensive YouTube [Foundational Playlist](#) and his [Bowl Gouge Playlist](#)]

What you need to know about faceplates

<https://youtu.be/VH318ERBcUk?si=CwVxjZs5IA1rYw2h>

How to use a bowl gouge

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txMcZ4yFOfA>

Riding the bevel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Be7bmDMuNls&t>

[55° Bevel Swept Back Bowl Gouge](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aqRe_C4gj5c

3 Dangerous Tools - Woodturning Bowls Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhsFEhPgZg>

Axminster Tools

Turning Your First Bowl

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hbX6gFLgzI>

Tomislav Tomasic Woodturnig

'Every beginner should see this'

<https://youtu.be/hkMyuLqeDzc?si=Q5Z3NYzZoMEgHymm&t=1266>

An Illustration of making a tiny bowl from a large piece of wood with many cracks + using the spindle gouge on the outside of a bowl

<https://youtu.be/ZeZexob2nUo?si=RIRrwuVG7x2sPEHg>

Turning a bowl with only scrapers

https://youtu.be/D_d0tk1DCz0?si=iNcYfCckWmBBZHig

STOP Getting Catches! Negative Rake vs. Standard Scrapers Explained

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1izfQV6eq4>

Martin Saban-Smith

Beginners Bowl

https://youtu.be/7NfLy5YEV04?si=_Gn-dpqBir9yTWrk

Craft Supplies USA

Bowl Turning Fundamentals

https://youtu.be/6j77T1ow6iM?si=_3iiZHzzfC_R_lu4

Black Label Woodworks

Beginners Woodturning: How to turn your first bowl

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KKEEqS5Kv5k>

Peter Stewart

Bowl Gouge BASICS 101 - Rough Turning A Bowl

<https://youtu.be/ArawyYYLG9k?si=4TMSqupTi8O7Pcgk>

Walter Wager

Using a bowl gouge

<https://youtu.be/tsXvrZz-k1g?si=GalM0aSPP5GXMCMk>

Wortheffort

A great and highly watched video about the four cuts of wood turning

<https://youtu.be/KXzEjCorW00?si=yGwA-dWGYUpjXpX>

Your First Bowl

https://youtu.be/D_P8Fm5-aVs?si=kxhv0ZVzSaX-fk7q