

TIPS FOR TURNERS

The following is a compilation of "Tips for Turners" contained in C.O.W. newsletters between 1999 and 2002.

If you have a tip you'd like to share, please give it to the newsletter editor.

RIG for turning

To keep your turning tools in tiptop shape, use RIG, a firearms lubricant. Just rub a little RIG on that turning tool that has not been in use for some time, or one that is just beginning to show discoloration from rust. Use it on your favorite tool to keep it from rusting. It will clean them up nicely. *Marvin Dountz October 1999*

Beall Buffing System

The Beall buffing system is excellent for cleaning the plastic lenses of your woodturning face shields and goggles use the tripoli compound if especially dirty or scratched, and white diamond compound if only a light cleaning is necessary. Makes them almost as good as new. *Jack Hock, November 1999*

Towels for Turners

To keep your oilstone in tiptop shape, place a weight on top of a blue paper shop towel laid on the surface of the stone, after completing the sharpening. The excess oil and dirt will be slowly drawn out of the stone so it is ready to use the next time you need to put an edge on a tool. *Marvin Dountz, December 1999*

Bowl Sanding

When sanding a bowl, wet it down and let it dry at about 180 grit and again at about 280 or 320 grit. This will raise the grain and should help to improve the final finish. *Floyd Anstaett, March 2000*

Tool Sharpening

In a bowl turning video he has out, John Jordan stops right in the middle of things and takes his gouge to the grinder for a quick pass over the grinding wheel. The comment he makes when he comes back is that he didn't sharpen his gouge because it was dull, it just wasn't quite as sharp as it could be. There is some good advice in that comment for all of us. *Floyd Anstaett, March 2000*

CA Accelerator Sprayer

If you have problems with the sprayer furnished with the accelerator used with CA glue, try an eyedropper. It works as well in most cases and sometimes better than the sprayer. *Floyd Anstaett, April 2000*

Wire Burners

To make those thin, jet black, decorative bands in your turnings, use a copper or stainless steel wire. Wrap it around two dowels and hold tightly against the piece as it turns. The friction will "burn" the lines for you. *Ed Robold, April 2000*

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Missing Wormwood Screw

If you misplaced the “wormwood” screw that comes with the Oneway chuck, or just need something longer for heavier pieces of stock I have found that a 1/2 inch diameter hex head lag screw will work just fine in the Oneway chuck. The hexhead goes behind the jaws and then the chuck is tightened onto the unthreaded portion of the screw. Start with a 2-1/2 inch lag screw as some of the body is lost by being inserted further into the chuck than the “wormwood” screw. A 3/8ths, or 7/16ths hole should be about right for the 1/2 inch lag screw to grip well. *Jack Hock, May 2000*

Cleaning CA Glue Bottle Caps

Acetone is a good solvent for cleaning up the caps of your CA glue bottles. Pour acetone into a glass bottle (like a jelly jar) and drop the long dropper tips into the jar and cover. Let them sit for several hours and they will clean out like new. *Ed Robold, May 2000*

Spalted Dust Danger

Dust from spalted wood is the most dangerous wood dust in your shop. Reactions to spalted wood can be severe. Protect yourself and control the dust you breathe. *Ed Robold, October 2000*

Mineral Spirits

After sanding, wipe your turning with a rag dampened with mineral spirits. The mineral spirits will show up any sanding marks, then evaporate without affecting the surface. *Bob Ruehle, February 2002*

Scrap Wood

Don't overlook those small scraps of wood. These can be used for small projects or used as a part of a larger glued up project. *April 2002*

Wood Defects

A turning may incorporate a defect that can enhance the esthetic beauty of the piece. You don't have to have perfect defect free wood to make beautiful turnings. *May 2002*

Crack Repairs

If you occasionally repair cracks and flaws with saw dust and CA glue, keep three or four containers around with dust from different shades of wood in them in order to be able to closely match the area of repair. *Floyd Anstaett, December 2002*