

TAUNTONS COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO TURNING (COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED GUIDE) pdf

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Making a Waterstone Holder p. They may even scoff at those who use them. It is certainly true that with practice you can learn to do a good job of honing freehand, and you may even grow to prefer this approach. Even so, there is a lot to be said for using a honing guide. The good thing about a guide is that it allows beginners to get precise results consistently. Even some experienced woodworkers find the level of precision they get with a good honing guide is a big advantage, especially when it comes to honing accurate secondary bevels. There is no one guide that will do everything well. Each has its advantages and disadvantages, and some are especially good for a particular kind of tool. You might also consider making some of your own honing guides. Honing Guides for Planes, Blades, and Chisels There are many styles of honing jigs on the market for these tools, but not all of them can be used to sharpen skew chisels. If this is a consideration, check carefully before buying. It is useful for plane blades and most chisels. Because blades are clamped on their edges, it is easier to keep the edge square to the tool as you sharpen it. Chisels are clamped in the narrow space between the two sides of the guide. Narrow plane blades also can be clamped in the chisel groove. Plane blades are held in the top part of the jig. The bevel angle is set by adjusting the amount of blade that projects from the front of the guide: A shorter projection creates a steeper bevel angle, while a long projection makes a lower bevel angle. Metric dimensions embossed on the body of the tool give approximate projections to produce various angles. There does seem to be some variation in how these jigs are made, however, and some will open wide enough to take a 3-in. This honing guide has a relatively narrow roller that rides on the surface of the stone. Keep the roller clean to avoid a buildup of grit. Some woodworkers prefer a wide roller, but the narrow roller has an advantage in some circumstances. A narrow roller might contribute to some wear on the surface of the stone, but fingertip pressure should be focused on the cutting edge of the blade and not on the roller. In reality, the edge of the blade contributes more to wear, and waterstones need to be flattened regularly anyway. So any disadvantage to the narrow roller is not serious. This type of jig will not accommodate skewed blades. An Eclipse jig clamps blades from the side, making it easier to hone a square edge. Blades are held in place by a large swivel-foot screw. The screw must be tightened firmly so the blade will not pivot as it is being honed. Veritas also sells a companion device used to set bevel angles. Bevel angles also can be set by measuring the projection of the cutting edge from the front of the honing guide, as they can with any honing guide. You will have to determine the length for a particular A large swivel-foot screw holds blades securely in the Veritas honing guide. A companion device from Veritas sets blades in the honing guide to one of several specific angles. A unique aspect of this honing guide is a spring-loaded cam that raises the jig to alter the bevel angle up to 2 degrees for honing a secondary bevel without having to reset the blade in the guide. The Veritas guide has a wide brass roller that rolls on the surface of the stone. It should be cleaned after use and lubricated occasionally. Firm clamping pressure is required to keep the blade secure in the jig, but with care this jig will do a nice job. Bevel angles can be set with the projection method. An alignment pin on the Veritas grinding jig helps keep blades square but also can be used with skew blades. The chisel registers with the flat side under the guide rods. Side clamping helps to keep the edge of the chisel square. Bevel angles can be set by measuring the projection of the blade from guide rollers. Keep the rollers and threaded rod clean and lubricated. A moveable alignment pin can be used to register plane blades and chisels at 90 degrees, and can be used for holding skew blades as well. The tool is simply clamped in the jig with the blade projecting the correct distance to grind a specific angle. This distance can be determined by adjusting the blade until the bevel lies on the face of the stone. This type of jig is designed to slide across the bench-grinder tool rest and works best with an aftermarket tool rest. Jigs for Grinding Planes and Chisels Using a jig to sharpen plane blades and chisels on a grinder increases accuracy. Some of them also can be used to hone a finished edge

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with a stone. The straight-blade jig clamps the blade with the bevel side registered on the fixed surface of the jig. The jig itself slides on a support bar positioned above the rotating stone. Setting up the tool for use is straightforward: Position the blade in the jig so the bevel contacts the face of the stone. Slide the blade across the face of the stone with moderate pressure. Jigs for Both Grinding and Honing Jigs allowing you to grind and hone without adjusting the position of the blade are convenient. There are a couple of them on the market. The maker of the grinding jig A Tormek grinding wheel turns very slowly through a water bath, making it almost impossible to overheat a tool. Tormek offers a variety of accessories that can be used to sharpen everything from pocketknives to plane blades and chisels. You will have to experiment to determine how far to set your tool rest from the grinding wheel and to tinker with the proper blade projection since no information comes with the jig. Once you have the adjustments dialed in, make a note of the correct distances for future reference. Set up correctly, the jig will let you grind the blade at 25 degrees and go directly to honing at the same angle, or a higher angle for a secondary bevel, without removing the blade from the jig. Lines on the jig help you to square up your blade, but it is not as positive as the Veritas jig. If the roller attachment were designed differently to snap on and off quickly, this jig would be much more useful. The FastTrak system comes with a very nice aftermarket tool rest. Veritas makes an articulated grinder tool rest. Both of these are excellent accessories, as is the Wolverine platform rest available with the Wolverine grinding system. The rest should be slightly above the center line of the grinding wheel. The rest in the photo below is made from scraps of plywood and hardwood dowel and will do the job nicely when used with a commercial or shopmade jig for holding a plane blade or chisel. This jig can be used for both honing and grinding, making it more convenient than a single-purpose jig. A brass roller attaches to the bottom of the jig to make the conversion from grinding to honing. An adjustable alignment block guarantees the blade will sit in the jig squarely. Slotted blades are held firmly with a large washer clamped to the T-slot in the extruded aluminum body. Chisels and blades without slots are held with a clamp, one side aligned against the stop block. If you set this jig up to grind a degree bevel, you can also proceed directly with honing your blade without removing it from the jig by attaching a brass roller to the underside of the jig. The roller is designed to produce a honing angle of 30 degrees. The FastTrak system also comes with an adjustable aluminum stop block that can be used to accurately set the projection of the blade in the jig. Dedicated Jigs Other types of sharpening jigs are more specialized, intended for one type of tool. Here are some examples. The knife is installed bevel up and clamped firmly in the jig. The jig is then turned over, with the knife bevel on the abrasive surface, and the jig is adjusted for the correct bevel angle. Knives are honed by moving them back and forth across the abrasive. Adjustments can be made for secondary bevels, if desired, by resetting the height adjustment. Veritas makes a similar device. These jigs are good for touching up knives in the workshop, but you should still send knives out for a professional regrind every now and again. Oar Jig for Carving Tools This clever jig shown in the top photo at right is designed for honing carving tools, and is especially effective for gouges. It also will handle carving chisels and Vee tools. The rounded shape of the jig allows the tool to be rotated smoothly as you move it on the stone, a very useful feature for honing an edge on a rounded tool. It works best on medium- to large-size tools. There may be some difficulty in holding very small tools in this jig without grinding the tip of the clamp screw so it fits the inside of the tool. General Jig for Drill Bits This style of grinding jig see the bottom photo at right has been around for years. You can adjust it for various tip angles. One side of the drill bit is ground at a time; the drill is then turned degrees in the jig, and the other edge is ground. This jig will not grind the more complex bradpoint or split-point drills. With some ingenuity, you can create useful jigs and fixtures from scrap wood, including jigs for blades that are otherwise difficult to hold. Here are a few of my favorites. This very simple jig will hold one or two stones. It can be clamped in your bench vise or to a bench with a bar clamp. It is made from a scrap of plywood, 11 in.

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2: Taunton's Complete Illustrated Guide to Turning by Richard Raffan

Taunton's Complete Illustrated Guide to Turning features step-by-step descriptions for an abundance of wood turning techniques, including both spindle and faceplate methods. Over color photos accompany detailed, hands-on instructions for turning wood, including how to use lathes, turning tools and materials, chucks, as well as sharpening tools.

This section deals with items that make turning safer, easier, and more enjoyable—saving you time, money, and material. For instance, you can purchase prepared blanks, but you have more control over grain alignment and more fun when cutting your own, so you need at least one saw. You also need measuring tools to lay out your blanks and to measure your work as it progresses. Sharp tools are essential, so you must have a grinder, a wheel dresser to go with it, and possibly a grinding jig to get you started. This section considers other tools like cordless drills, which are not essential but can make life a lot easier, and chainsaws, which enable you to cast a predatory eye well beyond your local timber dealer. You also need safety equipment. Wood spinning on the lathe does explode from time to time, so you need to guard against this inevitability and against the fine dust that is part of woodturning. **Y Safety and Dust Extraction** There are two major safety concerns for a woodturner: Fortunately there is equipment available to protect you from both. Dust is a major fire and health hazard in any woodshop. For woodturners, some sort of dust extraction at the lathe is essential; you need a dust collector. When buying a dust collector, bigger is generally better. However, I recommend, as a minimum, a system that is capable of moving about cu. Many single-stage dust collectors are capable of this and are quite affordable. To maximize dust collection at its source, connect the dust collector to a collection hood at the lathe see photos on p. Very fine, suspended dust particles can be collected using a ceiling-hung ambient-air cleaner with microfilters. However, where the climate allows, a breeze through open doors probably does an even better job. Aside from dust and chips, blanks will occasionally fly off the lathe or explode **21 SECTION 3** The pleated filters within the cylindrical mesh top of this dust collector filter out dust down to 5 microns before recycling the air back into the workspace. A face shield or a pair of safety glasses left offer basic eye protection, and filter masks center protect your lungs. However, a respirator helmet right is best because it provides face protection as well as filtered air. Such carelessness is regularly noted in woodturning magazines, so take care. Nearly every turner I know is a scar-bearing statistic. Most professional studio turners spend their time at the lathe wearing an impact-resistant respirator helmet that filters the air they breathe. Such a helmet provides a positive airflow across your face, preventing misting of the shield or eyeglasses. Before buying this sort of face protection, ensure that the visor can be easily tipped up for conversations and job inspections. Otherwise, removing the whole helmet soon becomes tedious. Replacement eye technology is not yet up and running. Tools for Sharpening Woodturning, like any woodworking, is much easier with sharp tools. And blunt tools are hazardous in that they encourage dangerous tool handling. Tool edges are shaped and sharpened using a grinder. You can grind at higher speeds using a dry wheel or more slowly and safely using a watercooled system. Typical high-speed dry grinders run at about rpm, are universally available, and are inexpensive. However a better, although more expensive, option is a grinder that runs at around rpm, a speed at which you are less likely to burn your tool edges. There are some wonderful industrial grinders with wheels in excess of 10 in. Most turners now grind on an 8-in. If you are a novice turner, you might want to consider one of the numerous! A good wheel dresser front left is essential, and diamond honing sticks and an oilstone front right are also useful in the sharpening process. Such a jig is a great aid when learning how to grind. Set up your grinder with a grit wheel for coarse grinding and shaping and a grit wheel from which you can take the edge straight to work on the lathe. Most turning tools are now made of high-speed steel HSS, which is best ground using a white, friable aluminum oxide wheel or ceramic wheel available from specialist woodturning stores. The standard gray wheels supplied with most grinders will do the job, but not as efficiently. Wide diamond wheel dressers are far superior to all others. You can obtain a superior edge using a water-cooled wheel. That way you can quickly rough grind on a high-speed dry wheel

before moving to the water-cooled wheel to complete the job. A water wheel is incredibly useful for flattening the tops of scrapers and thread chasers, as well as sharpening kitchen knives. Although turning tools are generally used straight off the grinder, diamond honing sticks and oilstones can be used to hone an edge to ultimate sharpness, to remove burrs, and to polish tool flutes and tops before grinding. Worse yet, you have no say in precisely how the wood is cut. A bandsaw is by far the most useful saw for most woodturners. It will allow you to cut cylindrical bowl blanks from sawn boards and to prepare little chunks for small projects. Even a good-quality hobby bandsaw can be used to break down small logs. For indoor use, an electric saw is preferable because it produces no fumes and is relatively quiet. I have also found a portable circular saw to be useful for crosscutting boards when preparing platter blanks from boards that are too wide to crosscut on my bandsaw. These days, though, I use my electric chainsaw for that. I also keep a bowsaw in the car for crosscutting small branches. Various portable saws enable you to break down timber into manageable sizes.

Tools for Measuring A bandsaw rear is essential for cutting face-work blanks. A table saw front does a quicker, more accurate job of preparing center-work squares. For turning spindles, you can survive with a ruler, pencil, and standard spring calipers. For face-work, your collection of measuring tools should include clockwise from top left double-ended calipers, straight-arm calipers, dividers, depth drill, ruler, and square. For small end-grain projects like boxes, the same kit will work, but with the addition of internal spring calipers and a depth drill. A face-work measuring kit should include dividers for marking out blanks and for measuring diameters as work proceeds. Double-ended calipers enable you to measure wall thickness on bowls. Straight-arm calipers let you measure the base on wide shallow jobs as well as the wall on a deep narrow form. A depth drill sets the depth to which you will hollow. Depth can be further checked using a rule and square. A drill press works well for drilling holes in blanks in preparation for mounting, although a cordless drill is handier. Conventional handheld drills are also used for power sanding, but an angle drill is easier to handle and far superior for this purpose. Cordless drills lack the power required for power sanding. Abrasives for finishing are available in sheets and rolls. The best are backed with lightweight cloth that is flexible and easy to tear into usable portions. Most face work is now power sanded using drills outfitted with foam pads on which are mounted abrasive discs. The discs can be purchased, but they are easy to punch out using a wad punch—an ideal activity for those days when you need to relieve your stress level. Nonelectric rotary sanders are also excellent finishing tools and virtually eliminate sanding marks. These ingenious little devices simply consist of a freewheeling disc attached to a handle. Pressing the abrasive-faced disk to a spinning job causes the disk to spin, sanding the piece. You can use a drill press to drill holes for attaching face-work blanks to a screw faceplate. A cordless drill is more convenient but less accurate. Most face work is power sanded using drills outfitted with foambacked abrasive discs. The discs are available commercially but can also be created using a wad punch far left. Nonelectric rotary sanders right front can produce scratch-free surfaces. The very best wood comes from the heartwood of living trees chopped down in their prime. Trees that die slowly through disease or the rot of old age never yield timber of equal quality or workability. Sapwood, which is usually paler than the heartwood and more subject to insect attack, was traditionally discarded. However, because quality timber is becoming an increasingly scarce resource, all parts of a tree are often used these days, especially by studio woodturners. But the moment a tree has been felled, it begins to dry out. As the water leaves the cells, the wood shrivels and shrinks until it reaches equilibrium with its environment, at which point it is considered seasoned. If seasoned wood is then moved to a dryer environment W 28 it will shrink further. Most people are familiar with doors or drawers that tighten in humid months, then become loose in the dry months. The seasoning of timber can happen naturally over time called air drying or it can be hastened by using a kiln called kiln drying. The traditional rule of thumb for air drying is 1 year per inch 25mm plus 1 year. However, some timbers dry much more quickly, while others take considerably longer. The longer you air dry wood, the better it is to work: You might find some. For jobs like boxes, bowls, and vases that will be hollowed, you can speed the air drying process by rough turning—a process whereby you roughly shape your bowl, box, or vase oversize to

SECTION 4 This slabbed elm log is being naturally air dried. The

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wooden stickers separating the slabs allow air circulation. The rule of thumb is to turn the job to about 15 percent of the size of the finished project. For example, the walls on a in. Kilns will dry wood in a few weeks, but the wood is more expensive than air-dried wood and not as nice to work. Despite this, kiln-dried wood will mostly be used for jobs where there is no hollowing, like baluster spindles or knobs.

3: Taunton's Complete Illustrated Guide to Sharpening (Paperback or Softback) | eBay

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