

THE CHIP FLYER



From the President's Notebook

We have made it through March where we saw an escalation of Covid-19 related cases and deaths in our Province and around the World. These are truly tragic times and quite different from anything we have experienced in our lifetimes. We have all been asked to stay at home, keep your distance from others and wash our hands to try and curtail the spread of this disease. Don't go out driving or visiting friends or family members unless they actually live with you. If you must go out, to get groceries or see a doctor, limit the times you do so to a bare minimum. If you can get things delivered such as medications and groceries, do so. To limit exposure to this virus is the key point to flattening the curve and seeing an end to this pandemic. We all need to do our part and advising our family, friends and neighbours to stay home will help. I wish everyone to stay safe and healthy.



Keith Robinson

Guild meetings and activities continue to be cancelled. As we all practice social distancing and self isolation I asked folks to stay in touch and asked if you would send me your turning activities and I will have them posted in our Chip Flyer. I have heard from a couple of people and will list what they have been doing recently. Please send photos of your latest turning, pictures of your shops, new additions of tools, or questions about how to do something. Let us know that you are healthy and what you are doing to maintain your sanity during these troubling times. Humour is welcome, so jokes are always good.

Fred Vaughn: I made an ash platter with a decorative epoxy ring and a walnut bowl with epoxy around the rim. I'm also building a new wing onto my woodworking shop – it's almost complete. It is dedicated to turning.



Coming up

Your Executive is looking at ways we can continue to provide demos in this pandemic time. - stay tuned

The other thing is a planned donation of PPE (disposable coveralls, nitrile gloves and N95 masks) from my now closed business to the Cambridge Memorial Hospital.

Neal Hardie advised that if Joe Love would like more canes, he'll make some if Joe sends the measurements. Neal has the wood at no cost. Neal's email is: "nealhardie@wightman.ca"

Scott Milliard sent out Woodturning 101 notes to the members who had signed up for our classes and has advised he is open to answer any questions from newbies.

Roy White has spent time writing up a lesson plan to create a celtic knot pen. It is very well written and provides a good clear step by step for creating the blank. Once we get back to meeting, he is interested in providing a demonstration to members.

John Buccioni said he would take more orders for the Elipse Face Shield if anyone was interested. Contact John direct at "xchucker@gmail.com".

The AAW has cancelled the AAW Symposium in Louisville, Kentucky due to Covid-19. I have advised the original 10 members who signed up for the Symposium and will be returning their monies.

The Saskatchewan Symposium scheduled for July/2020 has not yet been cancelled, but there is a strong possibility. They will advise their decision as they review their options.

Jenkins Home Shows have all been postponed till further notice. They didn't wish to say cancelled, but rather hope to postpone them till the Fall/Winter. I will let you know how that works out.

GHWG Spring Show & Sale is also cancelled. We will try again next spring. The Fall Show & Sale is still scheduled and a go, unless this Covid-19 issue and restrictions continue into the Fall.

Jim Echter, the Skew master, is planning an online video demonstration on the Skew. If you query him on Face Book, you will see the notice.

Norm Kemp has been his usual busy self making wig stands and I now have his latest batch in my garage awaiting delivery to the Canadian Cancer Society. The Society is closed due all the isolation restrictions, but they will still be needing wig stands when they open up again. So, please do not stop making these items and store them for when we return to a normal life. Your efforts will not be in vain.

Joe Love is still looking for anyone interested in making canes for the Canadian Veterans. He has wood blanks and can be reached at: jlove6@bell.net

Tony Osman and Brent Beacroft have made it back to Canada after their vacation trips became vacation nightmares. Both are doing very well and managed to dodge Covid-19 while abroad in Spain and Portugal. Welcome back.



In my last letter I mentioned that the Guild had processed some Silver Maple which the Guild will be selling to members for a nominal fee. These pieces are all wet.

The price list is as follows:

8"-10" - \$10

11"-13" - \$15

14"-16" - \$20

16"-18" - \$25

Slabs 24"x4" & 24"x 6" - \$50-\$70 each.

We will have pepper mill blanks as well, but they are presently in the kiln. I will let you know when they are ready.

If you are interested in some of this wood please give me a call or message and I will advise you how to pick it up. You can contact me via email at pres@ghwg.ca or phone at 289-238-8855.

One last thing, if you or someone in the Guild is in need of help, please advise me and I will try to obtain or provide whatever assistance is available. In the same light, please help your fellow members if you hear they are having difficulties. We will overcome this Covid-19 Virus through community involvement and cooperation.

I will try to keep members informed as the weeks progress. Stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely,
Keith Robinson
President GHWG

Membership Fees

New Member \$75.00

New Family Membership \$110.00

Family renewal \$95.00

Member renewal \$60.00

Reinstatement (late renewal) \$75.00

The Covid-19 Pandemic

What do the numbers really mean?

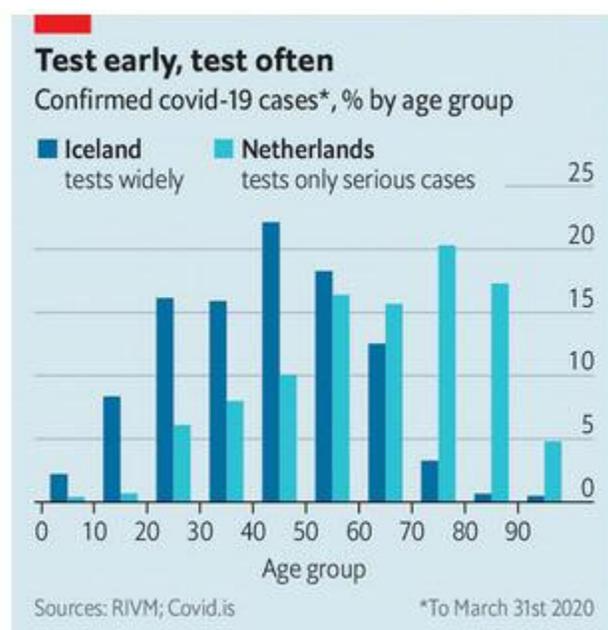
By Maurice Solar

With this pandemic, we are stuck at home and you can only turn so many bowls, plates and boxes. So, if you're like me, you spend a lot of time in front of the TV or on your PC, tablet or smart phone being bombarded by numbers related to Covid-19. But virtually all of these numbers are sensationalised, such as with the numbers of diagnostics in New York City or the number of deaths per day in Italy or Spain. They are headline grabbers, meant so that you pay attention.

But what do these numbers really mean?

Last week, I was speaking with my sister who lives in Quebec and she was quite proud of the fact that the number of deaths in Quebec due to Covid-19 were half those in Ontario. I pointed out that the number of coronavirus cases diagnosed in Quebec were twice those in Ontario. Being both interested in what the numbers really mean, we asked ourselves: How can it be that Quebec has twice as many cases but half the deaths?

Part of the answer is that Quebec only has 8.5 million inhabitants while Ontario has 14.5 million. It turns out that, last week, the number of Covid deaths per 100,000 of population week was exactly the same at 0.9 for both provinces; that the infection rate in Quebec was more than three times that in Ontario; and that the death rate from those diagnosed with the disease was 1.1% in Quebec and 3.7% in Ontario. I concluded that the number of deaths attributed to Covid-19 was correct but that Quebec and Ontario test different groups of people at different rates. No wonder the Canadian federal government has been reluctant to publish the results of their modelling for the whole country as it appears that each province samples different groups.



I could not find the data to prove that is indeed the case for Ontario and Quebec. But *The Economist* (a weekly British newspaper with a very wide international readership) published a relevant graph (on the left) in its edition for April 4th to 10th: the dark blue lines are for Iceland which tests for the virus widely across all segments of its population; the light blue bars are for Holland which tests only serious cases. One reason for that is that the population of Iceland is only 365,000 while that of Holland is 17.3 million. So it is easy for Iceland to test virtually everybody but impossible for Holland to do so.

This graph also put paid to the notion that only old folks (like most of us) are susceptible to the coronavirus: note that in Iceland, some 15 to 20% of the people in the 20 to 60 age groups are infected while less than 5% of those in the 70 to 90 age groups are. Unfortunately the latter are the age groups where most of the deaths occur, and that's why Holland focuses tests there, thus skewing the data.



Anyway, this disease is spreading fast and wide, and I decided to create a little table comparing Canadian provinces to each other and the Canadian average, as well as to the United States. The table below was updated at 10:30 am on Thursday April 9th. I will try to update it again for the next Chip Flyer.

2020 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

April 9, 2020 10:30 am

Location	Ontario	Quebec	BC	Alberta	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	TOTAL CANADA	USA (3)	USA/CANADA
Population (1)	14,446,515	8,433,301	5,020,302	4,345,737	1,360,396	1,168,423	37,314,292	331,002,651	8.9
RAW DATA (2)									
Number of cases	5,276	10,031	1,336	1,423	221	271	19,291	435,780	22.6
Number of deaths	174	175	48	29	3	3	435	14,865	34.2
Death rate, % of cases	3.30%	1.74%	3.59%	2.04%	1.36%	1.11%	2.25%	3.41%	1.5
PER 100,000									
Number of cases	36.5	118.9	26.6	32.7	16.2	23.2	51.7	131.7	2.5
Number of deaths	1.20	2.08	0.96	0.67	0.22	0.26	1.17	4.49	3.9
Death rate/CDN Average	1.03	1.78	0.82	0.57	0.19	0.22	1.00	3.85	3.9

References: 1- <https://worldpopulationreview.com/canadian-provinces/>

2- <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/tracking-every-case-of-covid-19-in-canada-1.4852102#ontario>

3- <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/us/>

Here the raw data are quoted first and they are then recalculated per 100,000 of population. I've also hidden from the table all the provinces with less than 1 million people, specifically the Maritimes, a criterion which also eliminates the three Canadian territories. We are now talking about statistics rather than just raw numbers. So what do the statistics show? I'll limit my comments to Ontario and Quebec, and Canada versus USA:

1. The infection rate in Quebec, at 119 per 100,000 of population is 3.3 times that in Ontario, but that may be simply because Quebec samples more or samples different groups.
2. More significantly, the death rate in Quebec, at 1.8 per 100,000 of population, is 1.7 times higher than in Ontario. That is significant since the consensus is that all deaths due to Covid-19 are properly recorded.
3. The USA has 8.9 times the population of Canada but 22.6 times the number of cases and 34.2 times more deaths.
4. Per 100,000 of population, these numbers translate to 2.5 times more cases than in Canada and 3.9 times more deaths.

That should get a lot of rightwing politicians and think-tanks in the USA to revisit their position on "socialised" medicine...

Anyway, these are not the only statistics that should be derived from the raw numbers. Other things should be looked at, for example the distribution of cases per age groups in function of the demography of each country, the death rate per age group, sex, economic status, race, and, believe it or not, religion. Why religion? Some sects are more "devout" than others and insist on mass gatherings while others have suspended all public ceremonies. Why race? Reports are coming out from the USA indicating that blacks are more affected by Covid-19; but is that because of susceptibility to certain diseases or economic condition?

Unfortunately I do not think we will ever get a full, complete and accurate picture. But increased testing and good statistical analysis might give us a reasonable idea. However, by yesterday, Ontario had tested only 85,000 people; that is only 0.6% of the population!



Woodturning Basics for Beginners

Created exclusively
for Craftsy by Ed Pretty

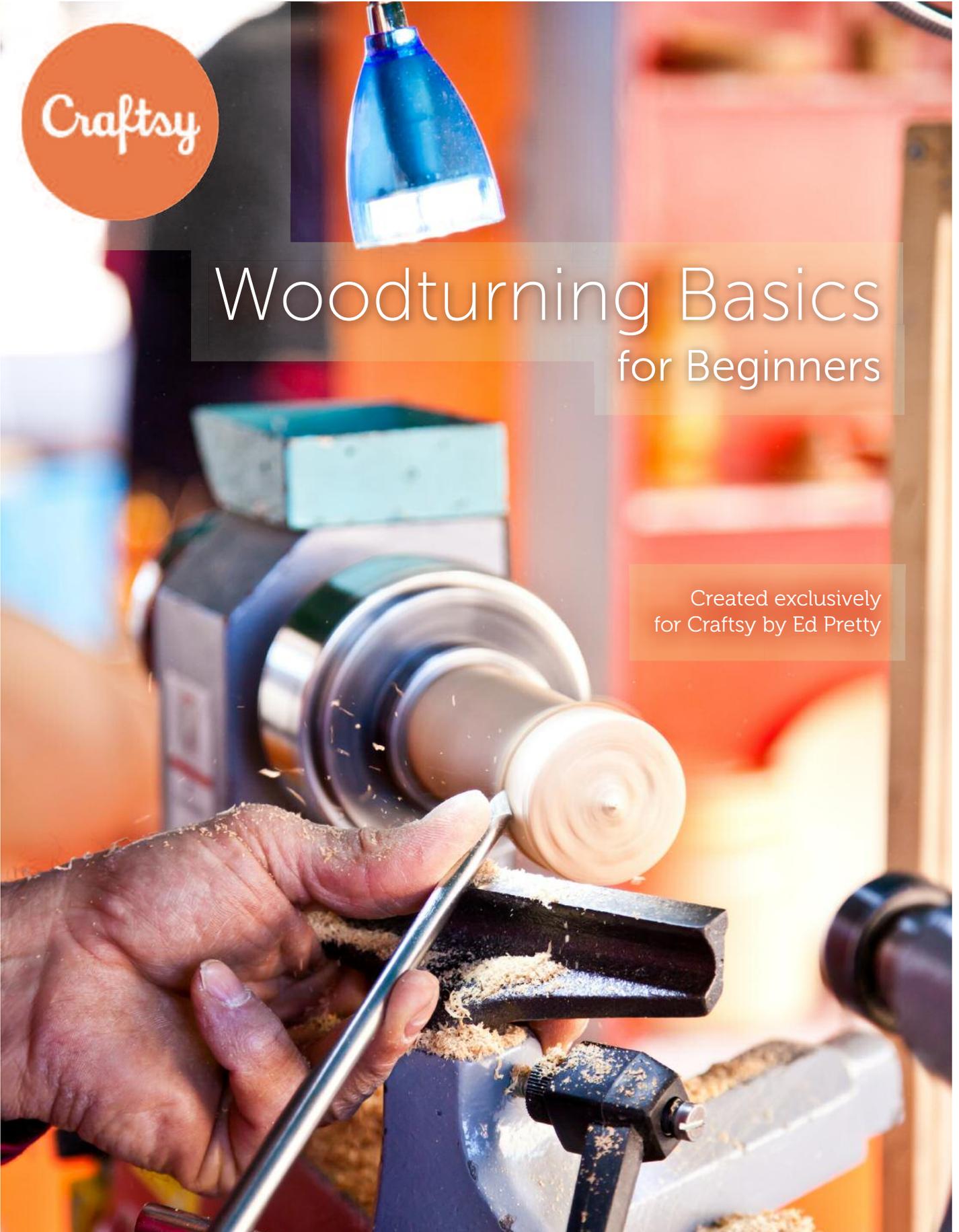


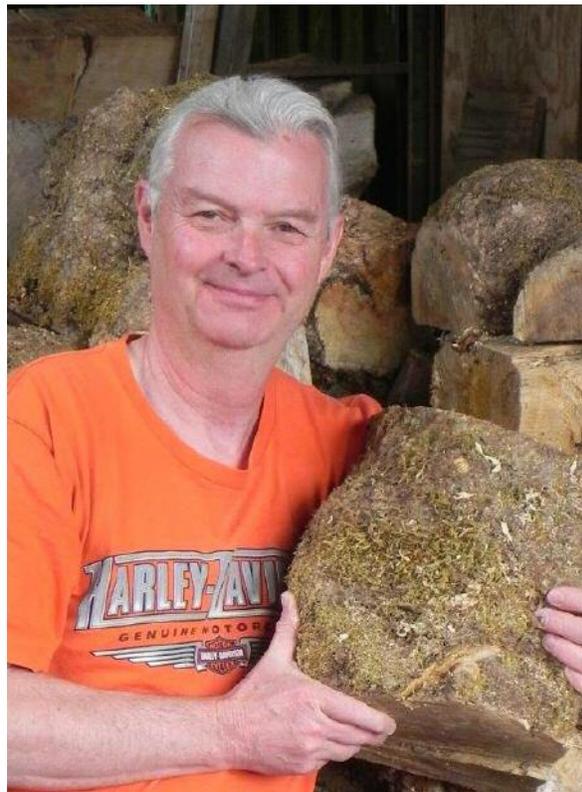


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MEET THE EXPERTS



ED PRETTY

Since 2006, Ed Pretty has followed his avocation of woodturner full-time in his own shop in Langley, British Columbia. Ed learned to turn at the age of 9 from his father, a skilled turner. He helped form the first woodturning guild in his region in 1988. He joined a second guild in 2007, and he's also a member of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). He considers himself a maker of art with work presently in two galleries and pieces in collections as far afield as England, Texas and the Thai royal court. He also teaches woodturning at Lee Valley Tools in Port Coquitlam, BC.



THE ABCs OF WOODTURNING

The Basics

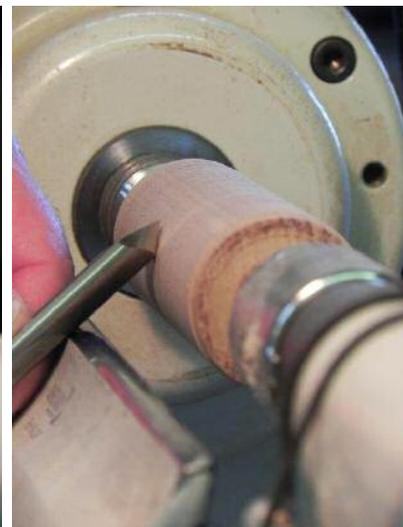
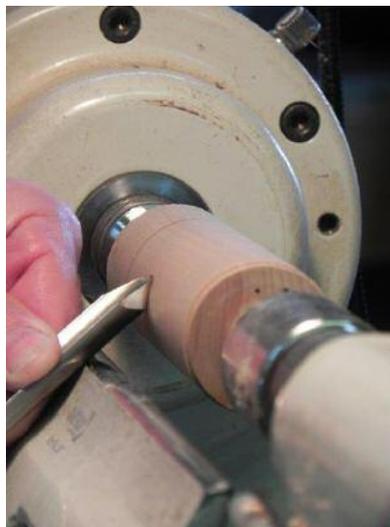


ABC. What topic doesn't have its "ABCs"? Following the A, B and C of woodturning basics will give you the ability to control any tool to get the direction and depth of cut that you want to produce the form that you want. Tool control is everything in woodturning.

A is for Anchor

Your objective is to hold the tool so that it is stable without having a death grip that will tire you and actually prevent the fluid movement that you need.

Anchor the tool by placing it on the tool rest and securing it with your body by keeping your elbows against your body, the tool handle (such as a long-handled bowl gouge) on your hip, and your feet about shoulder-width apart. There are times (i.e. the start of a cut when hollowing a bowl) where you aren't able to keep your arms close to your body. In that case, hold the end of the handle to increase your leverage on the tool.

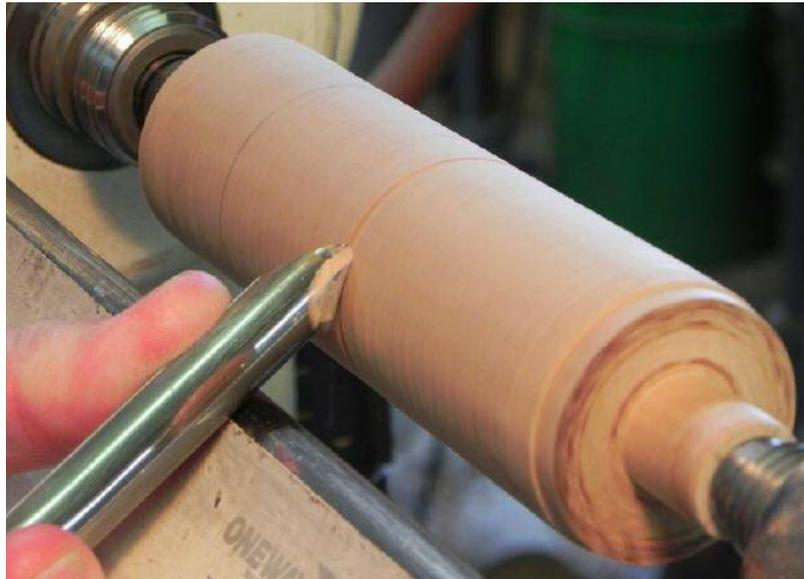




B is for Bevel

Keeping the whole bevel rather than just the cutting edge in contact with the wood is the secret to controlling your cut. Place the heel (opposite the cutting edge) of the bevel against the wood first as in the photo on the left on the previous page. While resting the heel on the wood, bring the tip (cutting edge) up to the wood until you see light dust coming off the edge as in the photo on the right. The bevel is now completely supported on the wood and the tool is stable. In this position you are using the bevel as a guide to "point the way." Test your new skill by slowly tracing the surface of a round piece with the tool "in cut" (dust coming off the cutting edge) but not actually removing wood.

A dull tool will cause you to lift the bevel off the wood to make it cut, which makes the cut unsupported. Use only sharp tools.



C is for Cut

Changing the angle of the bevel to the wood at this point will allow you to start the cut. Do so by rotating your body very slightly or rotating the tool in your hands. Once you move forward in the cut, the bevel will continue along the line described by the bevel. You are now controlling your cut. The hallmark of a controlled cut is a smooth surface rather than a "rutted" surface where the tool moves in and out. This is much like a bulldozer traveling on its tracks controlling the path of the blade on the front.

When cutting a curved shape (almost every shape you cut will be a curve), simply rotate your body in that direction. Do not move your feet (remember: anchor). Instead, shift weight from one to the other by moving only at your ankles, knees and hips. Prior to making the



cut, place yourself in a comfortable position at the end of the cut, then without moving your feet, move the tool to the start of the cut. It stands to reason that the more off-balance you get, the less stable the tool becomes. Better to be less comfortable at the start, becoming more comfortable as the cut progresses.



THE ACID TEST

The skew is the great equalizer. If you follow the ABCs of tool control you too will be able to tame the dreaded beast.

Remember, keeping the bevel in contact with the wood will not let the edge dig in, thus causing that spectacular "catch" for which the skew has become so maligned. The instant you either lift the heel off the wood or present the edge to the wood before the heel, the edge digs in. This forces the tool to twist and dig in even deeper, supercharging the catch. Always present any tool heel first. If starting from the end of a piece, turn a small portion (1" or so) from the opposite direction to make a clean flat at the end as a starting point wide enough for the bevel of the tool.

Practice any cut by turning the wood by hand and holding the tool against the wood as described. Watch the action of the tool and get used to keeping the bevel on the wood in that controlled manner. With experience, the action of heel-then-toe will morph into one fluid motion.



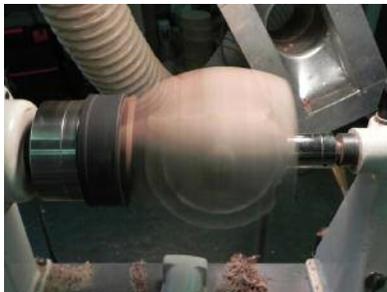
SAFETY AT THE LATHE

Woodturning Safety Tips

The lathe is the only tool in the shop where the machine moves the wood and the cutting tool is held by the operator. The lathe, therefore, has its own unique safety considerations besides all the other risks that are ever-present in any shop. Observing some basic woodturning safety rules will make your time at the lathe far more enjoyable.

For simplicity, most guidelines for woodturning safety fall into three main categories:

- Protection from entanglement
- Protection for the eyes, face and body
- Respiratory protection



Wood rotating on a lathe can catch loose clothing and hair in its grasp in a heartbeat.



A woodturner using all the protective gear and precautions noted in this post.

PROTECTION FROM ENTANGLEMENT

While it is possible to become entangled in other woodworking machinery, the danger is heightened at the lathe. Your hands, body and clothing are closer to the hazard and the diameter and irregularity of the wood itself has a greater tendency to “grab” anything long and



loose. Once clothing, hair or hanging jewelry become entangled in the wood, severe injury occurs in a microsecond.

- Clothing should be close-fitting without being restrictive.
- While close fitting cuffs on sleeves are acceptable, short sleeves eliminate any possibility of having your arm wrapped into the spinning wood.
- Long hair is very easily drawn into the spinning wood so must be tied back into a ponytail or bun.
- Hanging jewelry should be removed completely. Tight-fitting watches and rings are less of an issue but removing them removes the problem.

EYE, FACE AND BODY PROTECTION

Eye protection is always a must but depending on the cut, the lathe can shower the operator with shavings directly in the face with considerable force. Because of that, safety glasses alone are not enough. A face shield not only more than doubles the protection provided by the safety glasses, it eliminates the painful shower of chips in the face.



More importantly, the face shield provides some protection from the work piece itself. The centrifugal force when the wood is spinning at high speed is tremendous, causing loose bark to fly off and cracked wood to separate or break up entirely. People have been severely injured and even killed in these situations. For that reason, a simple splash shield is not enough. Suitable face shields for woodturning should be strong and fit well so that they are not easily dislodged.

Eliminate the problem as much as possible by not turning



questionable wood. Cracks can be quite artistic but not at the expense of serious injury.

You should be fully clothed with decent footwear. Turning in shorts with no shirt is akin to frying bacon in the same getup. Loose-fitting gloves can get caught easily but a close-fitting, fingerless glove on the hand closest to the work when doing heavy roughing will prevent the solid stream of chips from abrading the skin of your hand.

Hearing protection is a must like any other machine tool. Earplugs are often more suitable than muffs because of all the other protective equipment that must be worn.

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

Respiratory protection in the woodshop at large is of extreme importance. At the lathe, much like eye protection, the hazard is supersized. The moving wood tends to create its own "wind," making it very difficult or sometimes impossible to control the dust that comes off the work when turning or sanding.

The most effective measure is to control the dust at the source with a high-volume dust-control system. Should you be fortunate enough to have a good dust-control system, you should still wear a good half-face respirator at all times while turning.

IF YOU HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT, DO IT.

It's fair to say that it's impossible to note every single hazard in every situation. I worked as a firefighter for 36 years and encountered many situations not covered in the textbook. The one piece of advice that an old hand passed on to me early in the game was, "If you have to think about, you better do it." In other words, if your sixth sense caused you to wonder if something might be unsafe – it's unsafe and you need to deal with it. Trust your instincts.

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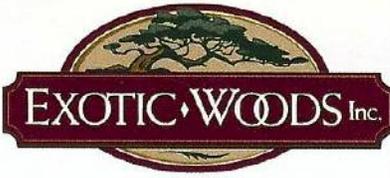
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