

July 2008

From the very beginning we are told to rub the bevel. We know that if we do not, a nasty catch is likely. Every time a tool meets the wood, rub the bevel comes into our heads. To keep the bevel rubbing, the tool handle has to be moved to match the contour of the surface we are cutting. The extent of this motion is often underestimated. For a 25-inch long tool, and a 1-inch long cut (say on the inside surface of a small bowl), the handle must move about 11 inches. I assumed the tool is 2 inches over the tool rest and does not slide on the tool rest. The numbers are not important, only the fact that the handle moves a long distance. So, when you start the cut and think rub the bevel, the next thing to think about is: move the handle.

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. We have so many things to do this time of year, so it is hard to find time to work in the shop. Our next two meetings are the ones I look forward to the most. Ron is hosting the July meeting where he will demonstrate hollow-form turning of a large vessel and in August we have a picnic at Pat's. We appreciate their offer to have everyone over. The July meeting is a good time to exchange wood. Bring any wood that is surplus to you. Have an enjoyable and safe 4th of July.

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