

## Don Geiger's

### Recommended Bevel Angles for Various Tools:

**Ellsworth/Irish grind** on deep-fluted bowl gouges: 60° (I prefer a gouge with a parabolic flute- Robust and Crown gouges are well-suited for this grind). Jig sharpened.

**Micro-Bevel Side-Ground Gouge:** two bevels a 70° and 50° (I prefer a gouge with a parabolic flute- Robust and Crown gouges are well suited for this grind). Jig-sharpened. Don't sharpen any tool, with a bevel angle >70°, held in a jig!!!

**Interior Final Finishing bowl gouge:** up to 80°- 85°, with a relief grind at about 60 ° (traditional grind; hand-sharpened!)  
NOTE: DO NOT place the handle in the Wolverine V-notch to sharpen! This is a VERY unsafe practice!

**Detail Spindle Gouge with a Convex Bevel:** Because of the convex bevel, it is difficult to measure the angle accurately, but it is about 35° - 40°. Hand-sharpened. (see a How-to sharpening video on my website: [www.geigersolutions.com](http://www.geigersolutions.com)).

**Spindle Roughing Gouge:** 45°. NOTE: DO NOT place the handle in the Wolverine V-notch to sharpen! This is a VERY unsafe practice! Instead, set the 3" x 5" Wolverine platform to the necessary angle and use it to support the tool. Hand-sharpened.

**Spindle Gouge:** 30° - 40°. Jig-sharpened.

**Standard Scraper** (all shapes): 70°. Hand-sharpened. Must have a burr to work.

**Hollowing bits:** 70° Hand or jig sharpened.

**Negative Rake Scraper:** 50°- 65° (included angle- measured bevel to bevel) converging slightly above center. Requires a burr produced by grinding the bottom bevel so a burr is produced on the top of the edge. Hand-sharpened. Must have a burr to work.

**Diamond Parting tool:** 50°, included angle, converging at the widest point. Requires a burr. Hand-sharpened.

**Skew:** 40° included angle, measured bevel to bevel, converging in the center and 70° (short point to long point). Many turners prefer a slightly radiused edge. Hand-sharpened.

I recommend grinding *very infrequently*. A good practice is to dress with a 600-grit diamond hone until hollow grinds on the bevels flatten, then go to the grinder. Following any contact with a grinding wheel, hone both bevels, the long point and the short point. Be very careful not to cut yourself while honing!

Other turners you encounter may have bevel angles they prefer that differ from the above. You should consider their recommendations and what applications they use them for. If what they suggest suits your needs: try it.

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