

Savannah Carbide Turning Tools

Basic Use and Maintenance

Safety First



Disconnect saw from power source before fitting or removing insert.



Always wear proper ear protection when working with machinery.



Use caution when handling sharp objects (saw blades, router bits, drill bits and so on). Use protective gloves whenever possible.



Always wear proper eye protection when working with machinery and tools.



Always wear proper respiratory protection when working near airborne dust particles.

Please read and fully understand any and all safety materials that came with your power tools or machinery before operation. Always follow all safety guidelines set in place by the power tool or machine manufacturer.

Cutter Head Maintenance

Keep The Hex Socket Clean:

The hex socket that holds the cutter head in place should be periodically cleaned out. You should be able to see the bottom of the hex socket before inserting the hex key wrench. This will allow the wrench to fully engage the hex socket and prevent accidental stripping over time. To clean out the socket build up, we recommend using a small wooden or metal pick to loosen the dust. Once the built-up dust is loosened, use compressed air to completely remove from the socket.

Workshop Tip...

We like to use a paper clip or tooth pick to loosen the dust and we also like to keep a can of keyboard cleaner handy to finish blowing out the socket.

Tighten The Socket - Don't Over Tighten:

When tightening the socket, we recommend gripping the shorter end of the hex key wrench and inserting the longer end. This typically provides just the right amount of leverage when securing the hex socket. Over tightening the socket is not needed to hold the cutter firmly in place and could potentially damage the cutter and void any warranty's.

Cutter Threads Need Lubrication:

Whenever its time to replace a cutter we recommend that you lightly grease the threads on the socket screw. Any type of machine grease will work to help keep it lubricated.

Please Note...

Avoid rusted screw threads by lightly greasing your cutter threads each time you rotate the cutter. This is something that should be done if you consistently turn green (wet) wood.

Make High Quality Cuts

Razor Sharp Cutters Make All The Difference:

The basic thought process to help produce consistent, high quality cuts is to use one cutter on your tool for all the roughing out or hogging out of material and use a second cutter dedicated to finishing cuts only. This will substantially prolong the life of your finishing cutter.

Switch The Cutters Out:

When the finishing cutter doesn't cut to your satisfaction any longer, use it for the roughing cutter and replace the finishing cutter with a brand new Savannah Carbide Hollower Cutter. Doing this consistently will maximize your carbide cutter value.

Slow it Down:

Take your time and significantly slow down the rate of movement across the surface of the wood. This will give the cutter more time to make cleaner, smoother cuts. Remember; the slower your travel the tool, the cleaner and smoother the final cut will be. Forcing the tool into your stock will not produce optimal results and may damage the tool which may not be covered by warranty.

SQUARE



Use the square cutter when you need to remove larger amounts of material. Ideal for flat surfaces and works especially well working or turning pens

ROUND



The round cutter is ideal to be used on concave and convex surfaces as shown above. Works exceptionally well on curved goblets, tops and more.

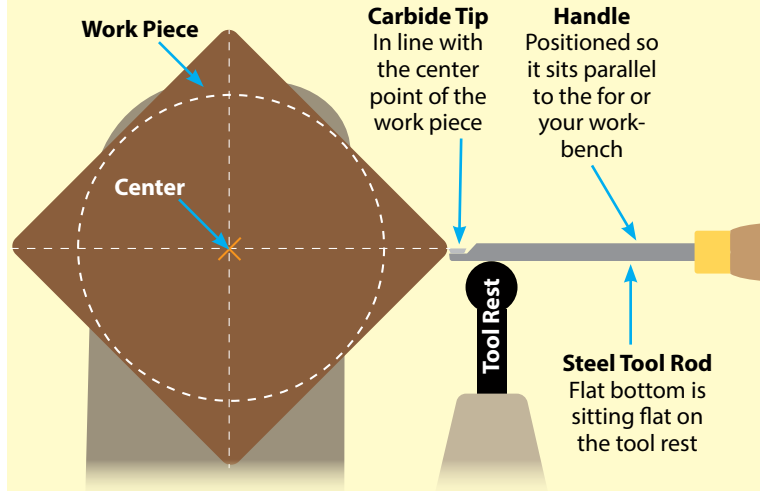
DIAMOND SHAPE



When you need to add some curb appeal to your project, the diamond shaped cutter does the trick. Create fine, clean lines that add just the right amount of accent to your projects

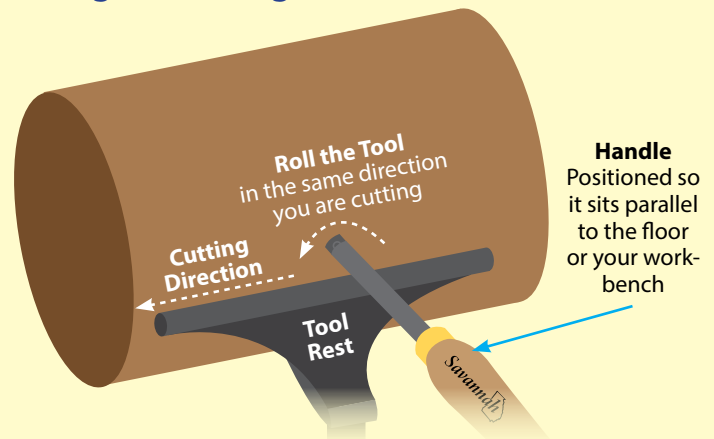
IMPORTANT! Tool Placement

Shaping Your Blank



When shaping your blank the tool rest must be positioned no further than 1/2" away from your workpiece for proper tool support. As your blank takes shape from square or an octagonal shape, it is important that you move your tool rest inward to maintain the 1/2" distance from your work piece. Prior to contacting the wood, place the tool firmly on the tool rest so that it is parallel to your floor or work bench. The flat bottom of the turning tool must be resting on the tool rest. Set the height of the tool rest so the carbide cutter tip is in line with the center of your workpiece. This is vital for the carbide tool to work properly. Do not "force" the tool into the stock, allow the cutter to do the work for you.

Making a Shearing Cut



Once you have your project shaped round, you may use shear cuts to help smooth out the rough cuts. To do this, you will set the tool the same way as described previously in the "Shaping Your Blank" section of these instructions. Once the tool is resting flat and prior to engaging the work piece, roll or rotate the tool to a maximum of 45 degrees. Once you rotate the tool in the direction you are cutting, make the cut. You can do the shear style cut in either direction. Savannah Carbide Turning Tools have a soft corner or radii on the flat bottom to help transition into the shear cut.