

# Recommended Tool Grinds for the Tormek Wet Sharpening System

As a proud owner of a Tormek Sharpening System, we know you appreciate the value of a razor-sharp cutting edge on your woodworking tools. With the Turning Tool Setter (TTS-100) jig, you can now set up and hone any turning tool in 60 seconds or less using the Tormek system. This makes sharpening your tools on the Tormek system as fast or faster than a traditional high-speed bench grinder while producing superior results and increasing the life of your valuable tools.

Since 1982, Craft Supplies USA has taught woodturning classes where students learn the proper way to sharpen tools so they are easy to control, produce a superior finish and are useful in a wide variety of applications. This information sheet is intended to help Tormek owners produce the same tool grinds we use and demonstrate at Craft Supplies USA. By following these guidelines, you will be able to produce these recommended grinds on your turning tools with accuracy and repeatability.

*Note: Recommended settings on this reference sheet are different than those found in your Tormek handbook.*

## Tips to make your Tormek System easier to use

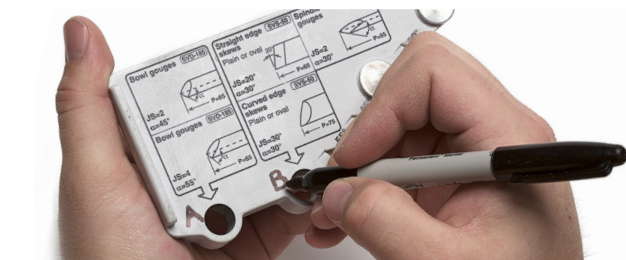
### Make the Universal Gouge Jig (SVD-185) easier to read

This jig is used for sharpening all types of woodturning gouges and requires the Turning Tool Setter (TTS-100) in order to produce the gouge grinds shown. As reference marks on the jig can be difficult to read, you may find it helpful to color these markings using a permanent marker. To do this, gently touch the tops of the numbers and indicator arrow with the marker tip. Also, be sure to mark the numbers on the adjustable support arm bracket. The ink makes these reference marks much easier to read.



### Mark the Turning Tool Setter (TTS-100) for easy reference

Using a fine point permanent marker, mark the support bar hole positions on the Turning Tool Setter with an A and B. This eliminates possible confusion when setting up to hone your tools. When you label your turning tools with the jig settings used, be sure to include the A/B position used on the Turning Tool Setter.



### Make a Reference Table

Make a tool/settings reference table and attach a copy of it to the wall. Refer to this table as needed to maintain consistency when marking your tools. Mark your tools on the blade to reduce likelihood of them wearing off. Mark the following information on the tool.

- JS** Jig Setting (number on jig that aligns with arrow)
- P** Protrusion
- @** Bevel Angle
- A/B** Position of Turning Tool Setter
- S** Position of adjustable support arm bracket. Use '0' when in the standard position (support arm bracket positioned against the underside of the jig)

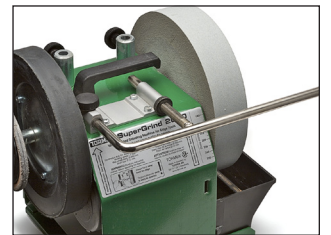


## Getting Started

If you see that a significant amount of grinding may be necessary to reshape the tool, do as much shaping as possible using a bench grinder. This will save you considerable time along with wear and tear on your Tormek grinding wheel.

### Proper Set Up

To create the grinds shown, we recommend mounting the Universal Support Arm on your Tormek in the horizontal position. This provides a comfortable working angle and positions the wheel rotating away from you.



### Universal Gouge Jig- Slide Adjustment

The Tormek manual makes little mention of the ability to vary the position of the support bracket located on the "leg" of the gouge jig. This adjustment is crucial in certain setups as it helps maintain the correct bevel angle throughout the grind including the sides of the tool. This adjustment is referred to as the "S" setting (position of adjustable support arm bracket) as listed on the Reference Table. The "0" position is when the support arm



bracket is positioned firmly against the jig body. By loosening the adjustment collar below the bracket, you can position the support arm bracket along the indexed "leg" using the position numbers.



## Recommended Tool Grinds

### Bowl Gouge Profiles

Three types of bowl gouge profiles are shown below. The Standard and Irish profiles are those used in Craft Supplies USA woodturning classes. The “E” type profile with its long “swept back” cutting edge is used by some of today’s professional turners. This type of grind should only be used by professional level woodturners as it is somewhat aggressive and is capable of removing large amounts of wood.

### Standard Bowl Gouge

Our most popular bowl gouge grind, this grind is recommended for woodturners of all skill levels. It is used for most types of bowl turning and is easiest to control. Do not roll the tool/jig past 45 degrees when sharpening as this will draw the bevel further back on the tool resulting in an “Irish” grind.



Settings used:

JS2	P65	@45	A	S0
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### Irish Bowl Gouge

This grind uses the same settings used on the standard bowl gouge. The slightly “swept-back” profile is created by rolling the tool/jig further from side to side during sharpening. The further the tool is rolled to the side, the further back on the gouge the cutting edge will be. Do not grind the cutting edge further back than shown in the photo.



Settings used:

JS2	P65	@45	A	S0
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### “E” Bowl Gouge

This grind requires the sliding support bracket be adjusted so that the number 1 is just visible on the leg of the jig. When sharpening, be sure support bracket is in the proper position otherwise an incorrect bevel angle will be produced on the sides of the gouge. In most cases, the “pulling” action of the wheel will keep the jig and bracket in their respective positions.



Settings used:

JS2	P65	@45	A	S1
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### Spindle Gouge Profiles

Unlike traditional European style spindle gouges having long bevels and “lady finger” profiles like those found in the Tormek manual, our recommendations below offer woodturners versatile profiles that are user friendly and produce a superior finish.

### Standard Spindle Gouge

Our most popular spindle gouge grind, this grind is recommended for woodturners of all skill levels. It can be used for most types of spindle turning.



Settings used:

JS2.5	P55	@45	A	S1
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### Fingernail Spindle Gouge

This grind is recommended for woodturners of all skill levels. The elongated profile and longer bevel allow you to reach into “tight spots” on spindles, boxes and detail work. This grind is not recommended as a primary spindle gouge grind as its application can be somewhat limited.



Settings used:

JS2	P55	@30	A	S2
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### Skew Chisel

As a rule of thumb, we recommend that the bevel length be equal to or up to 1 1/2 times the thickness of the blade. Using the settings listed will give you a versatile grind that is easier to control and has broad application. For a radius grind as shown, simply sweep the tool handle side to side when grinding to form the radius edge. Remember, the cutting edge should be centered on the blade.



(Radius edge shown)

Settings used:

P55	@45	B
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Note- to increase the length of the bevel, simply use P65 as your setting. Note: Do not use P75 setting as per the Tormek manual as the bevel angle will be too long and very difficult to control.

  
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THE WOODTURNERS CATALOG

For questions, call our Technical Support Team at  
1-800-551-8876

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