

Comparing Shearing and Scraping Style Beading Tools

Presentation of the tool to the wood

1. Scraping (Sorby) style beading tool
 - a. First scoring cut
 - i. Tool rest at centerline height
 - ii. Tool horizontal
 - b. Second pass cut
 - i. Tool rest set 3/8" above centerline
 - ii. Tool at downward angle cutting on centerline
 - c. Final cut
 - i. Tool rest 3/4" above centerline
 - ii. Tool sharply angled downward cutting on centerline as a negative rake scraper
2. Shearing (Ashley Isles, D-Way) Style beading tool
 - a. First scoring cut
 - i. Tool rest below centerline
 - ii. Tool angled up to centerline
 - b. Second pass cut
 - i. Tool rest stays in original position
 - ii. Tool in original position, but manipulate tool to get cut
 - c. Final cut
 - i. Tool rest left in original position
 - ii. Tool in original position, but wiggle it to help cutting action
3. Safety aspects
 - a. Scraping style tools
 - i. Tool pointing downward
 1. Less opportunity to grab or catch
 2. Less opportunity to be thrown from grasp
 3. Tip will get hot from friction
 4. May experience more torn grain during beading process
 - b. Shearing style tools
 - i. Tool pointing upward
 1. Greater opportunity to grab or catch
 2. Tool will be thrown from grasp if it catches or grabs
 3. Tool runs cooler because of shearing action
 4. May experience less torn grain during beading process
4. Sharpening
 - a. Scraping style
 - i. Use 600 grit diamond hone

- ii. Hone top surface of tool
 - iii. Very rarely will you ever sharpen inside curve of tool (maybe 5%)
 - b. Shearing style tools
 - i. Use 600 grit diamond hone
 - ii. Hone end of the beading tool
 - iii. Very rarely will you ever sharpen the flute of the tool (maybe 2 ½%)
- 5. Reasons for choosing one style of tool over the other
 - a. Experience or skill level of turner
 - b. Species of wood being turned
 - c. Type of tool rest being used
 - d. Financial concerns
 - e. Availability of product
 - f. Past experience of turner

Both styles of tools work well. There are certainly differences in how you present the tool to the wood, and how the tools are held by the turner.

Tools used for this exercise;

1. Bowl gouge with Ellsworth grind
2. Detail gouge
3. Negative rake bowl scraper
4. Parting tool
5. Beading tool 1/8" and 3/16"
6. Appropriate size chuck
7. Screw center
8. Index plate and pointer
9. Pencil rest
10. Pyrography unit with skew tip pen