

Round Point Tool – HCT138/139

The point tool is used to form beads safely in both spindle and faceplate work.

It works well in all woods but results are better in close-grained hardwoods and it is especially useful in plastics and resins such as artificial ivory and Corian.

Forming a Bead

Set the tool rest just below centre height. Place the point tool on the rest at 90 degrees to the work with one bevel uppermost and parallel to the lathe bed. Push the tool forward to form the v-cut on one side of the bead then repeat on the other side.

Starting in the right-hand v-cut with the tool in the same position, begin to swing the handle to the right whilst dropping it gradually and twisting in an anti-clockwise direction until you arrive at the top of the bead.

Move to the left-hand v-cut and repeat with the opposite swing and twist. This will form a perfectly shaped bead and you will find that there is no tendency for the tool to dig-in, making it exceptionally useful in faceplate work.

Dressing Endgrain

Set the tool rest below centre height, place the tool on it with one bevel up and canted slightly towards the work surface to be cleaned up. Advance the tool towards the centre using the whole edge on flat surfaces and the middle of the edge on convex surfaces. This will produce a finish that requires little, if any, further work.

Used in a similar fashion to that above, the point tool can be used along the tool rest to clean up cylindrical spindles.

Sharpening

The tool is sharpened using a bench grinder and, as with all grinding operations, eye protection should be used with preference being given to a full-face visor.

Place each bevel in turn on the grindstone with the tool pointing straight up in the middle of the grinding wheel then swing the handle about 10 degrees to the right and left. Use only a light touch and do not quench high-speed steel.