# Wedge Tool – HCT136/137

The wedge tool is used for the formation of coves in spindle and faceplate work safely and without fear of dig-in.

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.

Set the tool rest below centre height and place the tool on it at 90 degrees to the work with the flat up and parallel to the lathe bed. Push the tool into the centre of the cove but do not force it.

Open the cove out and take it to full depth by working first from one side and then the other of the opening formed by the first cut.

Use the right-hand edge of the tool for cutting the right side of the cove and the left edge for the left side.

The tool is simply pushed into the cove down each side and you will find that as it advances the whole edge can be used without danger of dig-in.

Goblets and egg cups can also by hollowed out very safely with the wedge tool.

With inboard turning, the tool works from the centre to the left-hand side of the hollowing using the tip and left-hand edge for cutting.

The tool can be advanced into the work and drawn backwards up the side wall and is extremely safe in the formation of undercut rims.

## 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.

The wedge tool is sharpened by placing the flat against the side of your grindstone with a light touch. If the uniform shape is lost, it may be regained by grinding on the face of the stone in the normal way. Then, regain the flat face using the side of the wheel, again using only a light touch.