Turning Tools

"I will not live forever. But if I am fortunate enough to be granted a moment to reflect upon my life at my time of passing I hope I can look back and know that what I've learned will not die with me, but will live on in the minds of those I've taught."

Dennis W. Montville

October 5, 2002

DWM

Turning Tools

Making turning tool handles is a good exercise in segmented spindle turning, with a few interesting special features that make them challenging and fun. Let's explore the problems and solutions to some of the tricky details in these slides. The methods used for the handles can come in handy in many other situations.

DM

Turning Tools

Making Long Tool Handles

The tool handle has to be strong. It has to hold the tool body and I've designed it to also hold the Allen wrench that is used to change the tool bit insert. The main body is held into the handle with a long threaded rod that passes through the handle and holds the lock nut at the far end. Getting everything on center and getting the long hole in drilled are the main challenges, and the solution starts when you make the "core" of the handle. Here's what you do first…..

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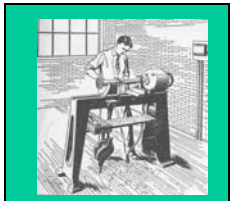

Turning Tools

Setting up to cut a groove

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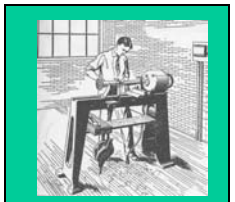

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Groove cut in two halves to form core of handle

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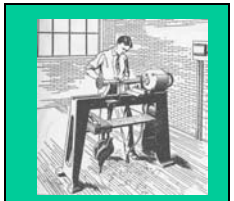

Turning Tools

Three sets, one with veneer inserts

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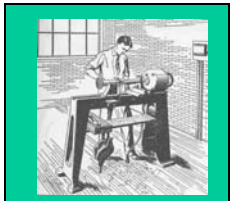

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Oak core with veneer pieces for accent

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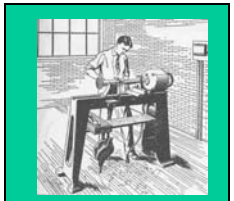

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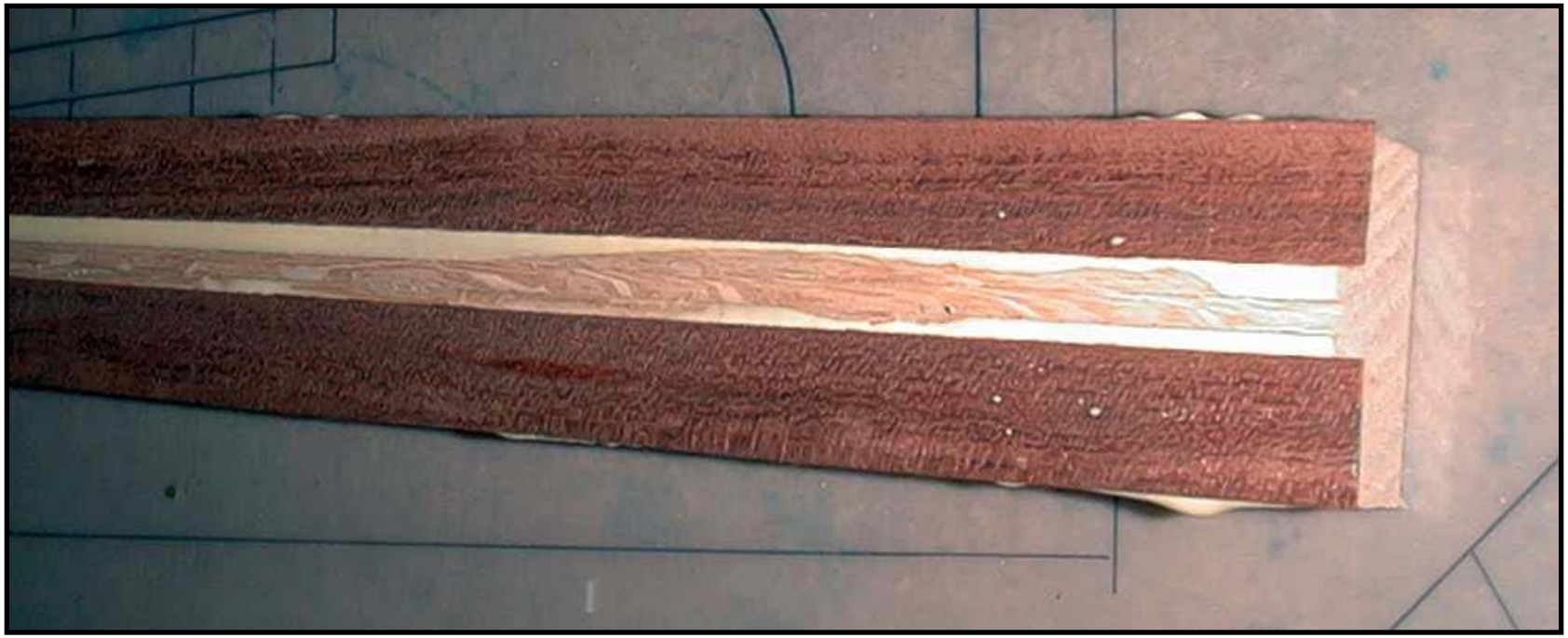

Veneer being placed aside groove

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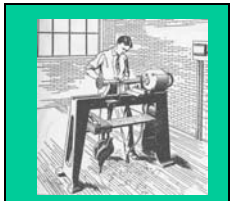
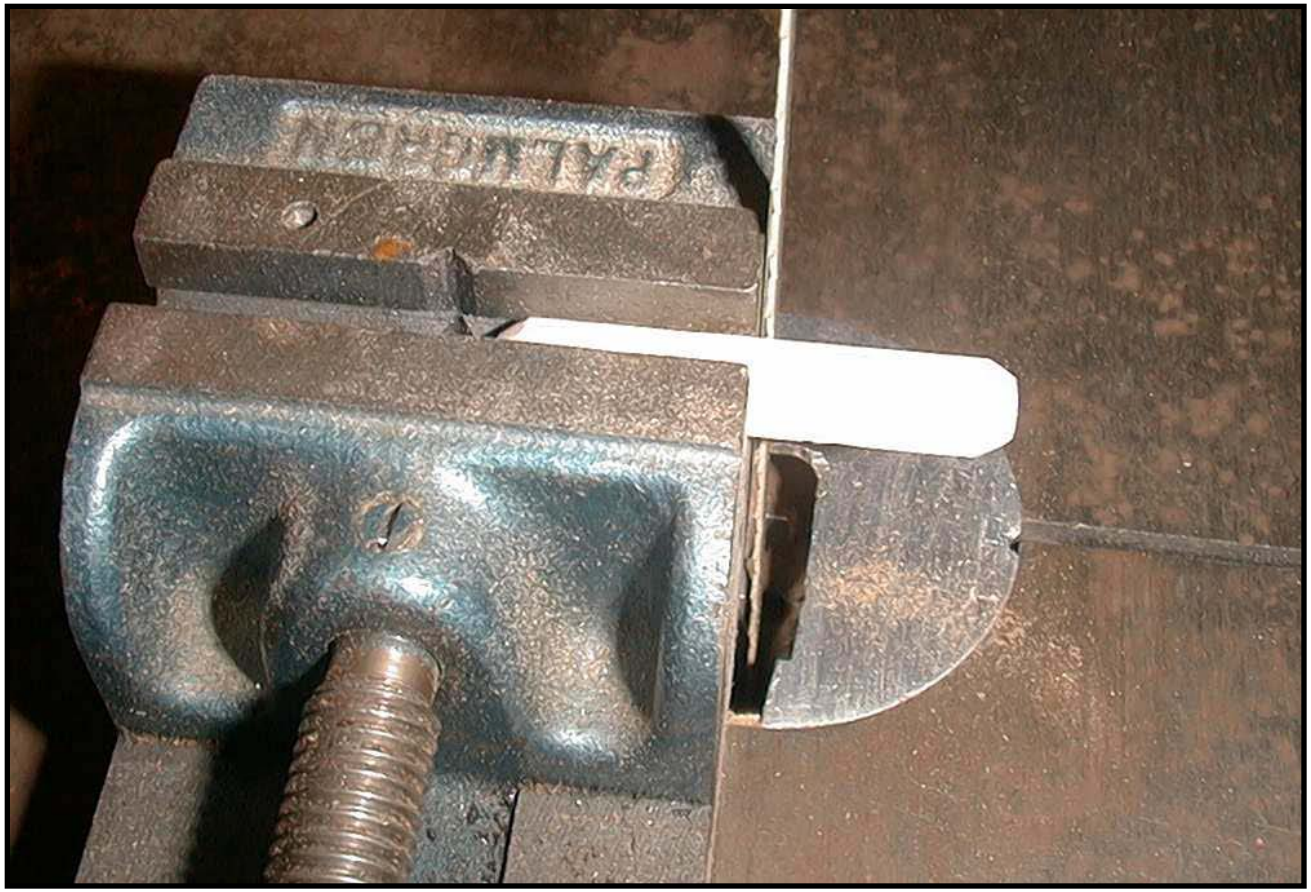


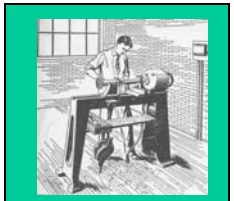
Turning Tools

Keep groove aligned while gluing

Turning Tools



Cutting 3/8” dowels on bandsaw



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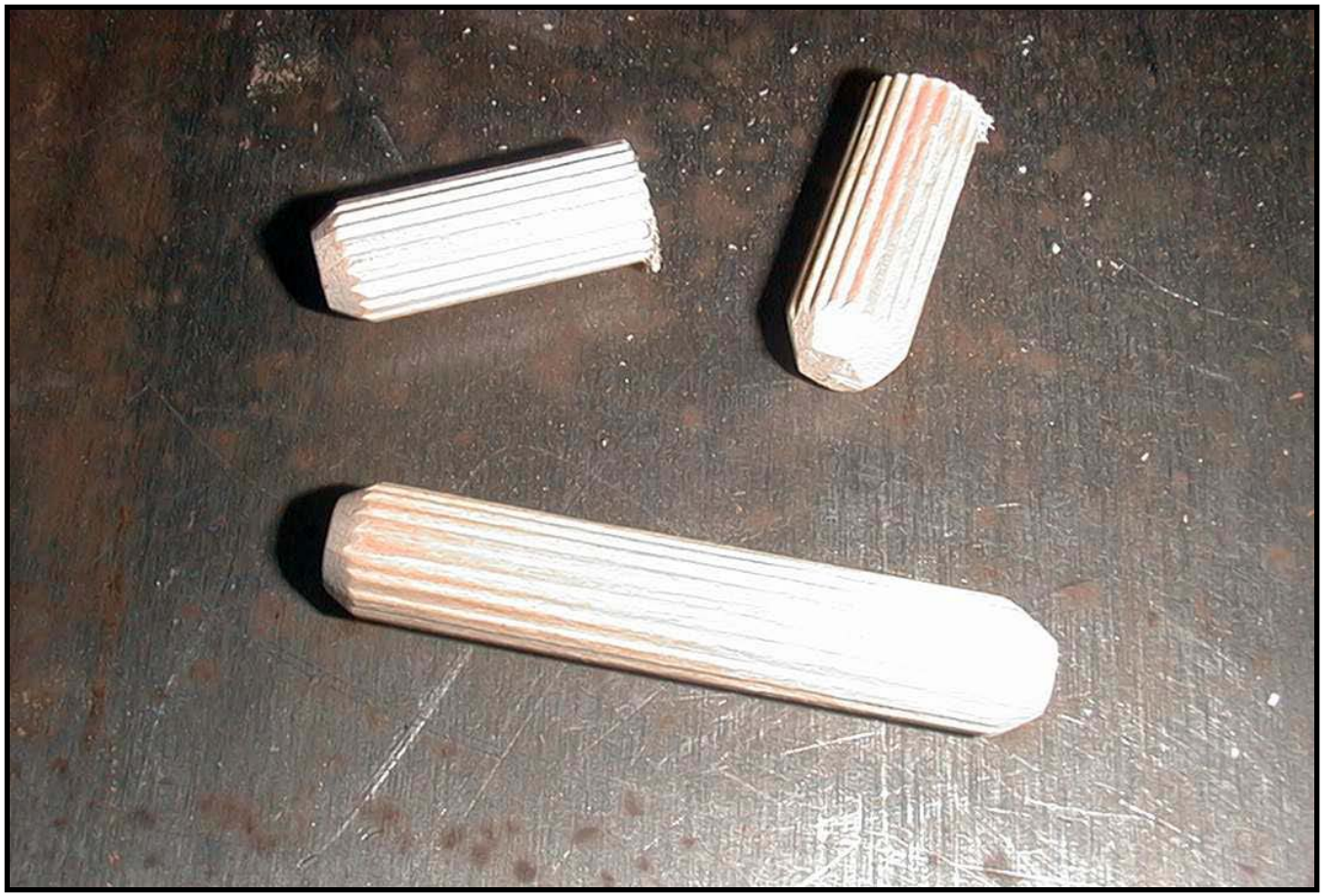

Full length and cut dowels

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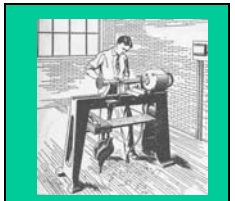

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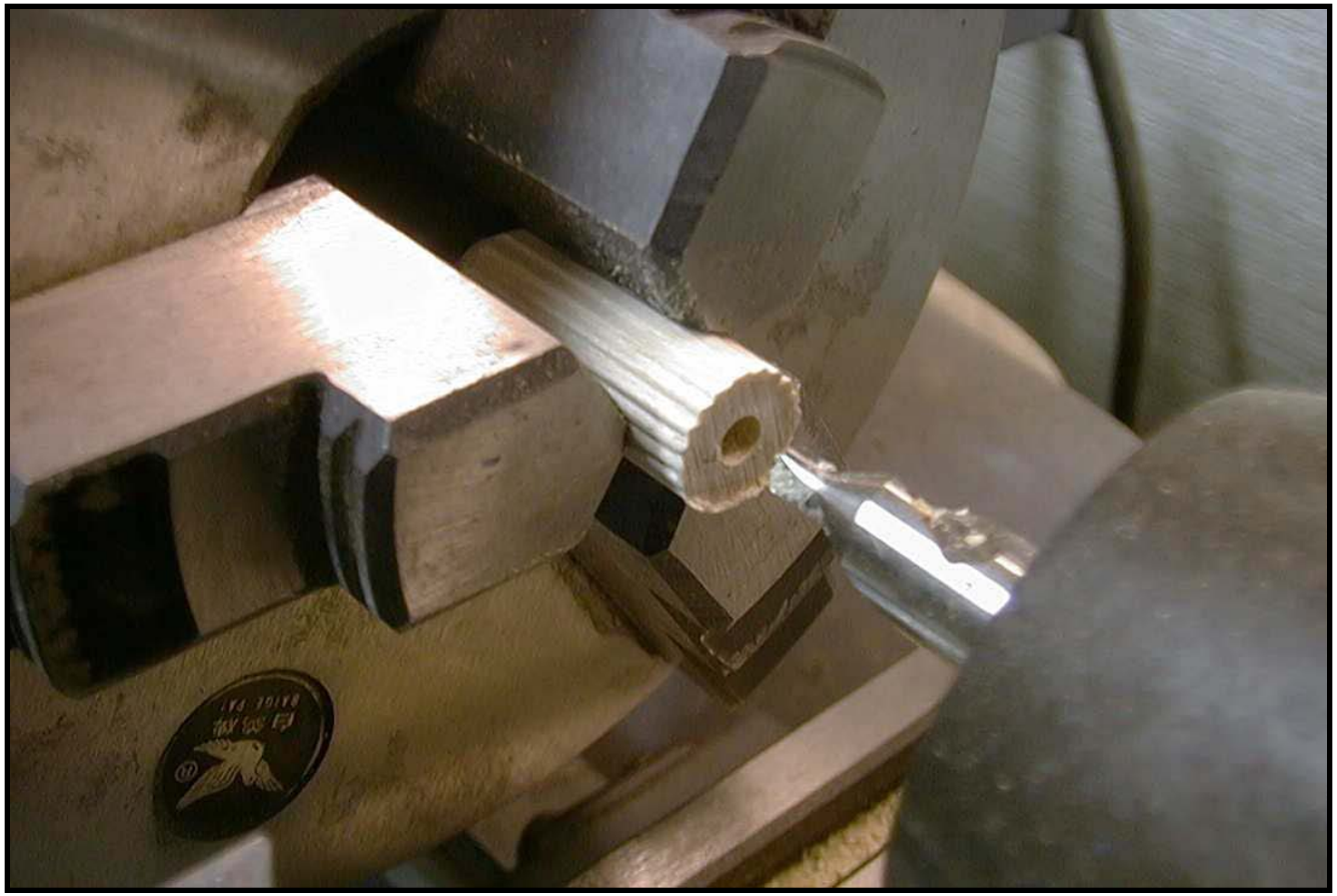

Drilling a centered pilot hole on lathe

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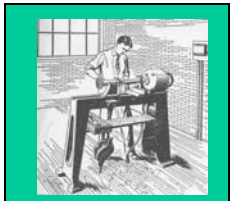

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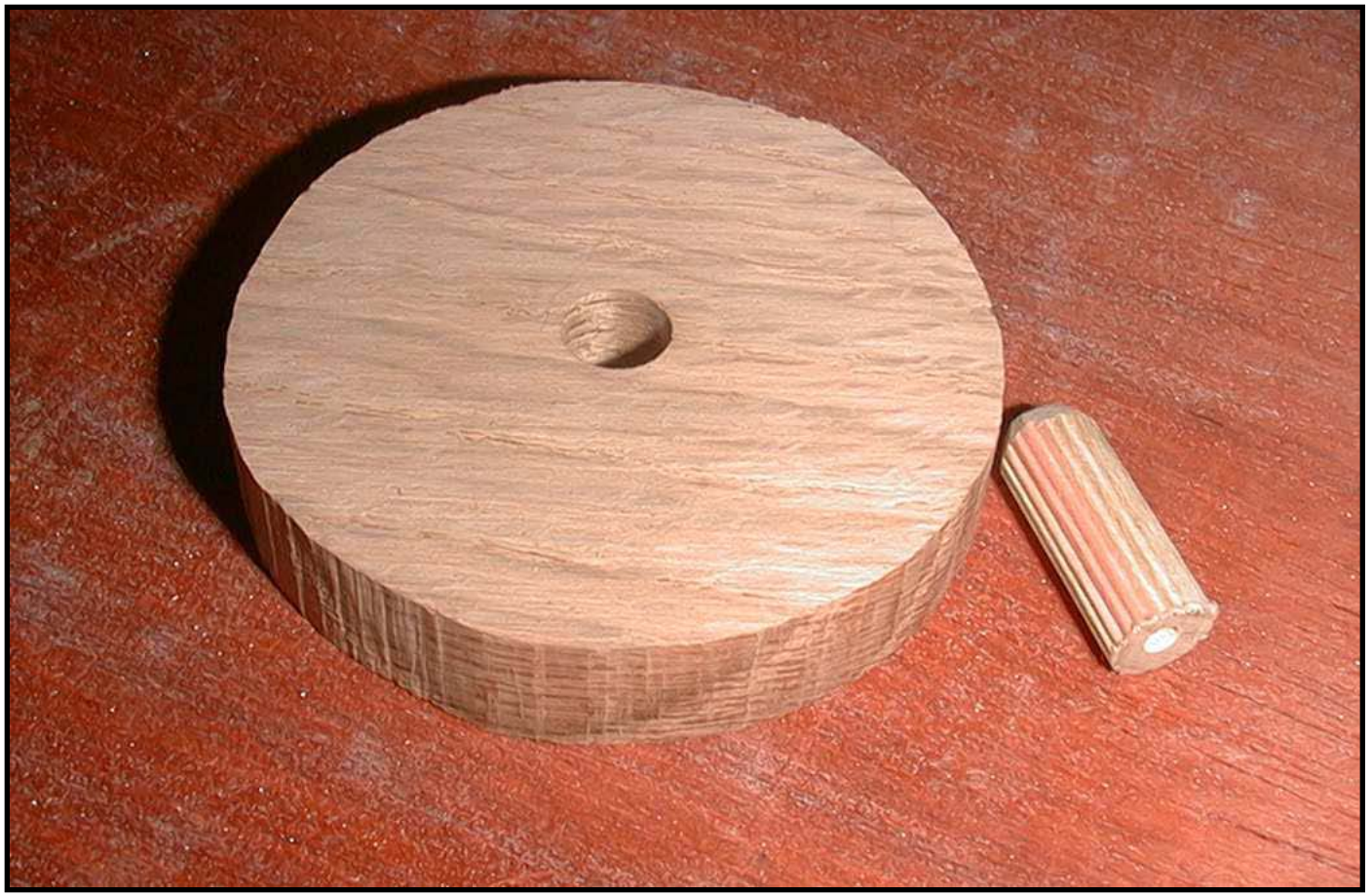

End cap and dowel ready for assembly

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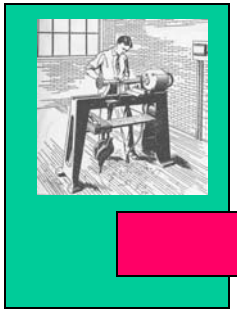

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Dowel pushed into end cap

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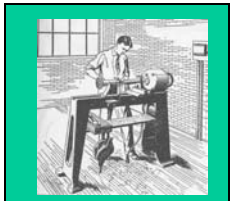

Turning Tools

End cap in place over hole in handle

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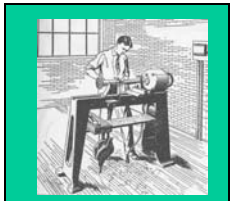

Turning Tools

On the following pages I've arranged a presentation of some of the tools that I've recently completed. These will provide some idea of the range of possible handles that can be supplied with a turning tool.

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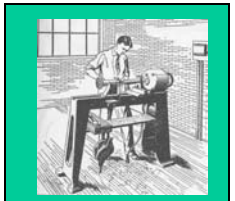
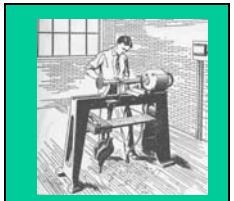


Turning Tools

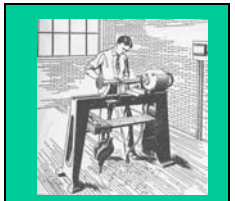
A finished tool with an oak core handle. It has Wenge, satinwood and cherry woods with some veneers added for accents.

DM



Turning Tools

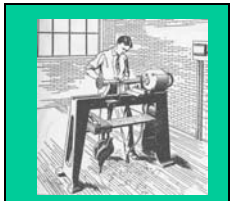
Front and rear details



Turning Tools

Epoxy fill of knot with metallic flake

DWM



Turning Tools

Oak core with Benge and Osage Orange. Also includes Oak and Cherry ends and veneers.

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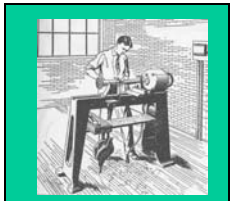

Turning Tools

Two views showing front and rear caps. Note pyrography and Allen wrench storage on rear cap.

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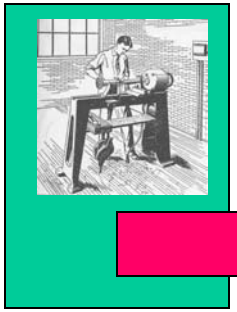

Turning Tools

A tool with a smaller overall diameter and a somewhat different design.

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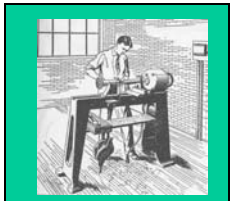

Turning Tools

Closeups showing design details

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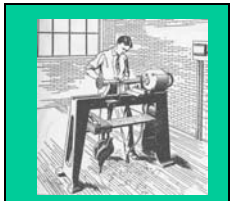

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A tool with a more flamboyant design

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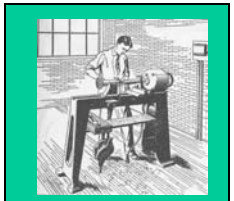

Turning Tools

The rear cap with carving and iridescent coloring

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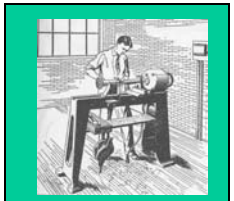

Turning Tools

A large diameter tool handle made of one piece of spaulted wood with Flamewood front cap