Carbide Wizard - Super Skew Chisel Kit

Kit Features:

- Angled shaft provides a consistent holding position
- Replaceable Carbide Tip: #LCWIZSX
- Star Screw secures blade without stripping screw head
- Comfort Handle provides easy grip at multiple positions

The Super Skew is designed to solve a recurring issue with carbide chisels - almost all carbide chisels are scrapers. While the blade maintains a sharp edge, the method of holding the blade causes the edge to drag across the surface which can promote tool chatter, chipping, and shattering of delicate materials.

The super skew helps reduce this problem by combining a gentle 2” radius edge with an angled blade. This comes closer to the slicing action of an oval skew, which is better for lowering the stress on the material and the tool. The Super Skew can be used on both plastic and wood.

Inserting and changing the cutter:

Use the Included Star wrench to loosen the screw. Insert the screw through the hole in the carbide cutter and screw down into shaft tip NOTE: only tighten until cutter is secure, do not over-tighten. If the blade starts to dull, you can loosen the screw and rotate the blade to a fresh edge up to 4 times. Once all sides had been used you can switch out a new carbide tip.

Using the Super Skew:

The Super Skew blade is not ordinarily used facing up with a level handle like other Carbide tools. The Super Skew is meant to really shine with the blade and handle used at different angles. The position of the handle will change the styles and aggressiveness of the cut. Lowering the butt of the handle will result in light cuts, raising it will create deeper cuts.

Always cut in the direction the top of the cutter is angled towards. The tool can sit on the tool rest on either of the angled sides to make passes in each direction. The deeper the cut, the more stress is placed on the material. Avoid coming into the blank from the very end of the blank towards the center. This is because the end is moving in a different direction than the side facing you and needs to be approached differently. Practicing on scrap pieces will help in learning how to use the tool most effectively.

The Super Skew can be presented to the material along the radius edge or at the corner. Keep in mind that a deep cut at the corner is a more aggressive and care should be taken to avoid dig-ins similar to precautions for a HSS skew. The corner is very effective in rapid material removal but can also be used lightly to do small, smooth cuts on highly brittle material because the smaller surface area will help reduce resistance. Increasing lathe speed and slower movement of the tool will also help limit catches and chips.
Roughing a Blank:

When roughing a blank, the shaft will sit on the tool rest on one of the angled sides and the blade should face towards the direction of the cut. The handle should be pointing out from the lathe, close to 90°. Make light passes to take down the corners, always move towards the cutting direction. Deeper passes can be used as the material becomes round. To rapidly reduce size, lower the handle so material contact is at the corner of the cutter and push cutter towards the center of rotation. Switch your leading hand to an overhanded hold to maintain steadiness and pull along the cut.

Planing Cut:

Used to smooth irregularities and as a finishing cut. The shaft sits on the tool rest on one of the angled sides. The blade should face towards the direction of the cut and slightly outward from the material. Angle the handle away from the direction of the cut. As you make your pass, you should see the material coming off in thin ribbons or threads. Any chatter or squealing means that the depth of the cut is too deep, make lighter, slower passes and raise the handle so contact is along the curved edge of the cutter.

Lines and Grooves:

Once you are comfortable with the basic cuts, you can try some additional techniques. Pivoting the handle to point out from the lathe and using the corner will create V Cuts at different angles. Resting the tool on the side of the shaft so the blade is 90° to the floor will allow you to cut thin lines.

Diagram C - V Groove

Two angled cuts from two directions to make groove

Diagram D - Thin Lines

Thin line can be created by reducing edge as small as possible.