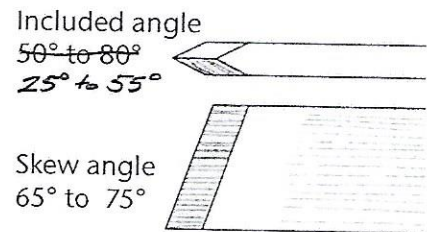
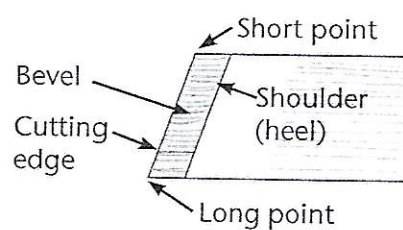
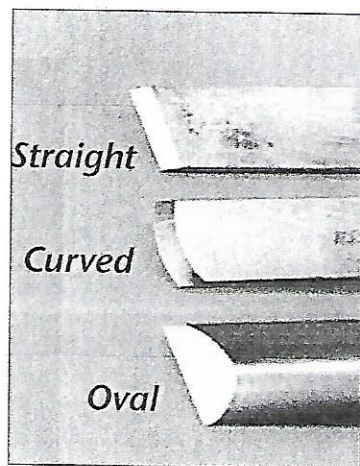


Skews - The Double Edged Sword

June 3, 2023

Highest and Best Use - Skews quickly produce smooth, clean surfaces - no sanding required - on straight grained wood turned between centers. They produce crisp details - V-cuts, beads - and clean up torn wood fibers.

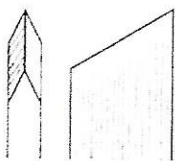
Nomenclature - Blade with a 'heel' (short point) and a 'toe' (long point) and Handle



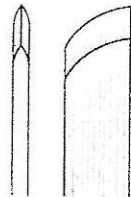
Skew chisels range in width from 1/4" (6mm) to 1" (25mm), with 3/4" (20mm) a good starter size. Skews can make precise cuts and leave clean surfaces on spindles. Skews are various:

- The blade may be rectangular in section, or oval.
- Some turners prefer a curved cutting edge.
- The bevel may be ground flat, concave, or convex.

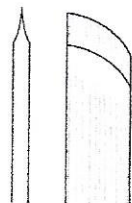
Flat bevel



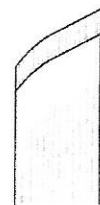
Convex bevel



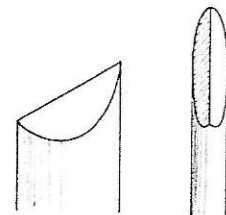
Concave bevel



Curved edge



Oval blade



Variations:

Blade Shape - Rectangular to Oval, often with rounded edges

Angle of cutting edge - 90 degrees to 45 degrees, 75 degrees common for HSS

Width - 1/4 inch to 2 inches, 1 inch common

Thickness - 1/4 inch to 3/8 inch, 1/4 inch common

Length of Blade - 4 to 8 inches, 6 inches common

Length of Handle - 6 to 16 inches, 14 inches common

Blade edge shapes - straight, rounded, arced

Blade Sharpened Edge Angles - 25 degrees to 55 degrees, 35 degrees common for HSS

Sharpening - Platform grind both sides and then hone with 600 grit stone