

MUSHROOM TOOL - By Roger Warren - Finding.

This tool was devised by me in order to satisfy the need for beginners to produce a simple item comparatively quickly. It teaches the turner to use his left hand as it can be used in either hand, preferably the left.

This is an ideal tool for the beginner giving him/her experience at undercutting and the use of three basic tools i.e. Mushrooming tool (scraper), Spindle gouge and Parting tool.

However, there is a **SAFETY WARNING** which must be borne in mind - the tool is to be used in the scraping mode and must at no time be lifted off the rest, otherwise it could cause serious problems.

Making the Mushroom

Make your mushroom between centres or holding one end only by preferred method.

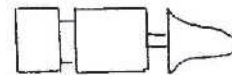
1. Shape your cap end with spindle gouge.



2. Using a parting tool, cut in just below cap to slightly above thickness of stem.



3. Still using parting tool, mark position of base.



4. With spindle gouge, remove excess wood underneath cap to form rough stem. Now we have virtually the basic shape.

5. Using Mushroom Tool, start to undercut the cap keeping in mind the safety warning.



6. Shape the undercut by pushing forward and cutting back gradually going deeper and deeper, keeping tool flat on rest, to finish as required. Using the back edge of the tool to form the stem and cap ring will result in nice flowing lines to your design. **NOTE** If front of tool is blunt the cap ring can be made very realistic by pushing the front of the tool on the ring causing it to tear fibres and giving it a rough fibrous effect. Sand and finish as required.