

Turning a Cheese Plane

Supplies Needed

- 3/8" Drill Bit
- Blank
- Chuck or Screw Chuck
- Scrap Wood
- Glue (Thick CA or Epoxy)
- Sandpaper/Finish
- Drill or Drill Press
- Revolving Center
- Eye and Ear Protection

Cutting and Drilling the Blank

1. Select a piece of hardwood 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 6" long.
2. Make a center mark on the end of the blank and drill a 3/8" diameter hole about 1 1/4" deep.

Make a Drive Spigot

1. Mount a scrap piece of hardwood 2" dia. x 2 1/2" long to a faceplate or chuck.
2. Turn a 3/4" long tenon that will fit snugly into the drilled hole of the handle blank. Leave a shoulder on the tenon for the blank to seat against. (See Figure 1)

Turn the Handle Blank

1. Push the drilled handle blank onto the tenon. The fit should be snug. Center the other end of the handle blank onto a revolving center. (See Figure 1)
2. Rough turn the blank to round using a roughing gouge or spindle gouge.
3. Using a skew chisel laying flat on its side, square the drilled end of the handle using the long point of the tool.
4. Measure the length and inside diameter of the ferrule. Turn a tenon on the handle to fit the ferrule. Stop the lathe and remove the handle blank. **Test the fit of the ferrule on the tenon.** It should fit snugly.
5. Turn the handle to your desired shape leaving 1/4" of waste on the tailstock end.
6. Sand and finish the blank.
7. Trim off the 1/4" waste piece on the lathe or on a bandsaw. Sand and finish the end.

Cheese Plane Assembly

1. Align the cutter with the grain of the turned handle for the best appearance.
2. Glue the plane and ferrule in place with gap filling super glue or epoxy.

Figure 1

