

## **Recommended Bevel and Leg angles for different applications**

There are many gouge bevel angles, flute shapes and wing shapes possible and to some extent it also comes down to personal preference. The recommendations in this document can be used as a starting point.

### 1. Bowl gouges

- Bevel angle: Starting on the side of a bowl, a smaller angle can be used, i.e. 45 to 50 degrees. The pressure on the side of the bowl is less and it is not necessary to lean so far over the bed of the lathe when making a push cut. The pull cut does become more difficult with a sharper angle. Deeper in the bowl it is necessary to move to a 55 to 60 degrees in order to keep bevel control on the bottom of the bowl. If you have only one bowl gouge, 55 degrees is recommended. With the luxury of two bowl gouges, 50 and 60 degrees is recommended.

- Leg angle which determines the wing shapes: A smaller angle will grind more metal away on the top of the gouge at the flute where a larger angle will grind more away at the bottom of the gouge.

### **Recommendation:**

U shaped Hamlet bowl gouge:

For a general purpose grind use a leg angle of 36 and a bevel angle 55 degrees like the picture on the right. The grind can be changed to a leg angle of 41 and a bevel angle of 60 degrees for better access to the bottom of a bowl.



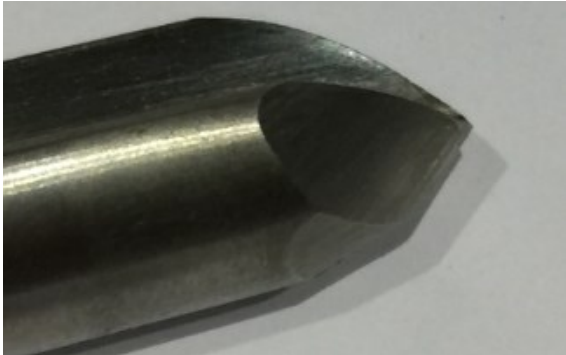
Masterflute Hamlet, Simon Hope Crown or Vicmarc bowl gouges:

Again for a general purpose grind use a leg angle of 36 and a bevel angle 55 degrees like the picture on the left which is the factory grind of the Hamlet double ended gouges.

This can be adapted to a leg angle of 41 and a bevel angle of 60 degrees which is the factory grind of the Simon Hope/Crown Kryo gouge

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### **Recommendation:**



Masterflute Hamlet, Simon Hope Crown or Vicmarc bowl gouges:

For a more aggressive cut, a leg angle of 31 and a bevel angle of 45 degrees can be used which is the factory grind of the Hamlet M42 gouge as seen on the left.

Masterflute Hamlet, Simon Hope Crown or Vicmarc bowl gouges:

My favourite grind is a leg angle of 31 and a bevel of 50 degrees as seen on the right.



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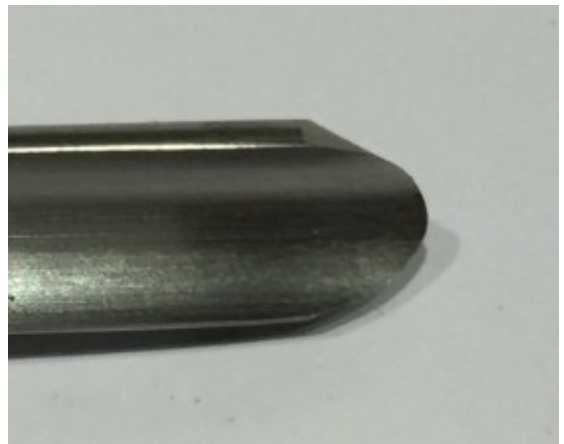
### 2. Spindle gouges

- Bevel angle: A 45 degree angle is recommended for most work and a 35 degree where it is required to cut sharp coves. The 35 degree is however more difficult to master so if you start out, use 45 degrees.

- Leg angle which determines the wing shapes: This is less critical than for the bowl gouge as the flute is much shallower than the bowl gouge. Recommended is 31 or 36 degrees.

#### **Recommendation:**

For a standard grind use a leg angle of 36 degrees and a bevel angle of 45 degrees. This grind can be seen on the right and is the factory grind of the Hamlet M42 Stay Sharp spindle gouge.



For a bevel angle of 35 degrees, use a leg angle of 31 degrees. This grind can be seen on the right and is the factory grind of the Simon Hope/Crown Kryo gouge

