



**Photo.12: Honing a Standard Gouge**

A woodworking Chisel Jig is available as an option. It fits into the transverse slot of the tool rest so that when the chisel is butted up against it, the edge of the tool will be ground square. Although I had no difficulty aligning the chisel for sharpening, I think one of these Jigs would probably be a worthwhile addition.

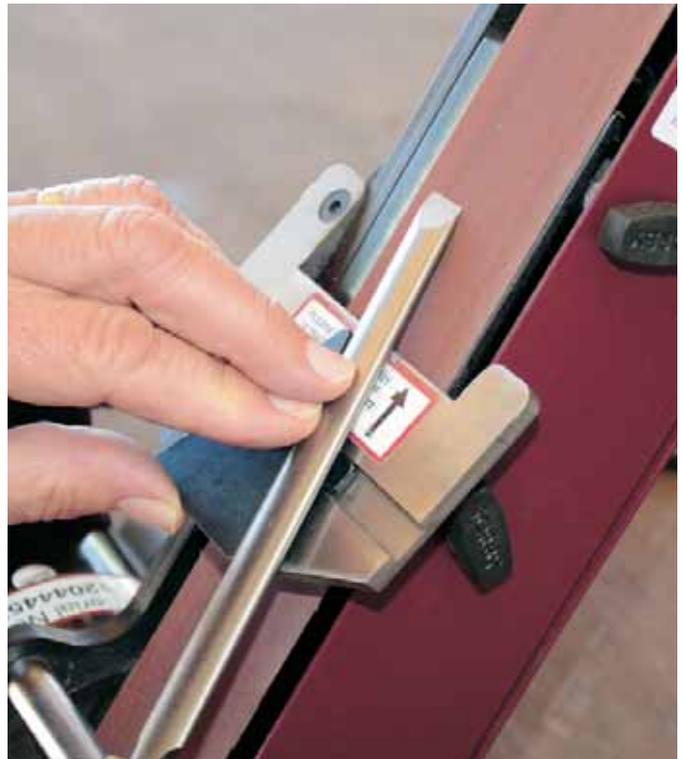
The features of the Pro Edge that became apparent in this initial test were firstly, that only a light touch was necessary to remove metal and secondly, the action produced very few sparks.

(I found after working with the machine for about half an hour, that the metal dust generated by abrasion had been swept down behind the tool rest. Only a little of it seems to be exhausted upwards but I believe the use of a dust mask and eye protection are still warranted.)

A check confirmed that there had been no appreciable heating of the tool. I decided to push a lot harder to see what would happen. There still weren't all that many sparks, but the end of the tool began to disappear fairly quickly and it started to heat. The machine did not, however, show any signs of overload, so it clearly has more than ample power.

I dug through my chisels to find one that was due for a re-grind and replaced the 240 Aluminium Oxide belt with the 60 grit Zirconium.

This time I saw plenty of sparks and realised that I was pressing too



**Photo.14: Using the Honing an Oval Skew Woodturning Chisel**

**Photo.13: Honing an Oval Skew Woodturning Chisel**



hard and inevitably heating the tool. I backed off and used a gentler touch. The amount of metal removed was still appreciable, the process took only slightly longer and I was rewarded with a good looking bevel.

In fact, I was surprised at just how good the finish was since I'd expected the 60grit belt would result in a rough surface (Photo.11). I changed the belt again, back to the 240grit Aluminium Oxide, briefly touched up the bevel and wiped off the wire edge on a honing wheel. Razor sharp!

Next I tried honing a standard gouge (Photo.12).

The Standard Gouge Jig shown in the photo allows the gouge to be held in the correct position and rotated about its axis to achieve the correct bevel.

I then used the Skew Chisel Jig to hone a Robert Sorby oval skew chisel (Photo.13). The oval cross section of this tool means that it must be carefully held to avoid it rolling on the toolrest; the Jig ensures that the bevel is ground or honed at the correct angle — swapping sides for the the opposite bevel.

Finally, I set up the Fingernail Gouge Profiler. First the toolrest is removed. (Unscrewing the single clamping screw is all that is necessary to do this.) Then the cylindrical block of the Jig is slid onto the cantilevered support bar in front of the belt column.