

# Kelton Multi-Axis Scraper Reviews

By [Ian Outshoorn](#) on November 12th, 2011



I have tried a new type of tool (well for me anyway). A long time ago I tried to use a scraper as I'd seen this used in the books. Wasn't terribly successful. It left torn grain and every now and then I'd have the catch from hell, tearing the piece from the lathe. Decided that the scraper was not the tool for me. I learnt to use the bowl gouge instead with greater success. Cutting the timber felt more natural and left me a decent surface before sanding (usually at 120 grit on a good day).

More recently I heard about the benefits of shear scraping. The big difference is the way the scraper is presented to the work, at a shear angle, typically between 45° and 50°. The way this is measured is not the angle of the scraper to the bowl, if looked down on from above. The trick is to look at the end of the tool handle and with the scraper sitting flat on the tool rest rotate the tool anti-clockwise through 45 to 50 degrees so that the cutting edge is at about 8 o'clock and the top edge about 2 o'clock. This is often varied as the shape of the piece dictates. You can do this with a conventional scraper by tilting it on the tool rest. However the risk of a catch is ever present if you allow the scraper to touch the wall at the wrong angle.

Recently I acquired the McNaughton Multi-Axis Scraper. At first glance the thing is built like the proverbial brick S\*\*thouse. The main shaft has two flats on it, this allows you rest the scraper with the head at a fixed angle. The scraper head rotates around the shaft to vary the shear angle. Now the really neat thing is that you can also vary the Rake angle. This means that you can set the tool to suit almost any wall shape. I turned a bowl from Puriri. Once I achieved the best surface that I could on the outside, I switched to the scraper. I was able to create these whispery, goosedown like shavings that smoothened out all the small ridges left by the gouge. I found that I could start sanding at 320 grit. The finished form has a clean flowing line. I then treated the inside the same. Created a smooth flowing inside line almost to the rim. As I'd used a undercut rim, I found that the scraper could not quite get all the way up there. However, as with the outside, I could start sanding at 320 grit.

It doesn't come with a handle, but I fitted the 16mm shaft to my ER25 Collet handle (also from McNaughton). The heaviness of the tool minimises the vibrations and makes it easy to hold your line when pulling the scraper. I am happy with the tool. The McNaughton Multi Axis Scraper is now available from [Carba-Tec NZ](#).

[www.turnedbyian.com](http://www.turnedbyian.com)

**Barbara Gill, USA**

<http://www.velvitoil.com/>

*"As far as I know there is not another scraper on the market that is as versatile as the Kelton Multi-Axis. Novice turner or experienced, all will fall in love with this scraper."*

**Jeff Willaford, USA**

*"This scraper makes all my other scrapers look like toys."*

**Wilford Bickel, USA**

*"Looks like you have hit a home run on the Multi-Axis Scraper!"*

*First - I chose to work with an exotic 12"x12"x3" piece of wood called Maro that I purchased at GAW Symposium last fall. I had let it sit on the floor of the shop drying for right at a year and the moisture content was between 7% and 12% depending on location tested. I chose this wood for the scraper test as I had never turned it before so I had no previous knowledge on any of the tools as to how they would perform on this wood. After starting I found out this wood was very hard and given to tearing out chunks of fiber.*

*I worked the bowl section with Thompson "U" gouges, McNaughton Shear Scraper and the new McNaughton Multi-Axis Scraper. I used the hollowing and removal of stock to get a feel for each of the tools, especially the scrapers and their set up for the best cuts. By the time I had the stock removed I felt that I had a good feel for both scrapers and how to set up the Multi-Axis for cutting the Maro.*

*My final test was on the bottom of the bowl when I reversed it and vacuum chucked the piece. This wood dulled all tools quickly so I sharpened both the shear scraper and the Multi-Axis on the grinder using free hand techniques. Both scrapers had a good burr when sharpened. Upon starting to finish the bottom I would make 2 cuts across the bottom alternating between the scrapers stopping after each use and checking the cut for smoothness and tear out. It soon became very apparent that the Multi-Axis scraper was out performing the standard shear scraper so to do the final cuts to get the finish on the bottom I quit using the shear scraper and used only the Multi-Axis. I had the Multi-Axis set up with the cutter moved down about 30 degrees and the head turned where the cutter would be set to scrape across the bottom - basically in line with the tool rest. The tool was held below center (both scrapers used below center in this test). The Multi-Axis gave a good smooth surface without any tear out that was ready for sanding and finishing."*

**Carole Valentine, USA**

[www.carolevalentine.com](http://www.carolevalentine.com)

*"I've never been a huge scraper fan (and I have tried many), but this one is a winner! The ability to adjust the cutter head for any combination of rake and shear allows me to configure it perfectly for the particular work at hand. The stabilizing flats and the sheer mass of this tool make using it a breeze. For those with more confidence and the desire to change the cutter angle "on the fly", the half round portion of the shank can be used. This tool has relegated all of my other scrapers to the "unused" drawer!"*