

Free outfitting advice for the beginning bowl turner (from previous Turning Bee discussions):

1. Get the best, largest, heaviest, best name variable speed lathe you can afford.
 - a. Starting with a lowball lathe could turn you off wood turning
 - b. If you start low you'll just have to sell that lathe to get a more expensive one later.
2. Purchase just a few turning tools (gouges, parting tools, etc.) as you need them but make them the best you can afford.
 - a. Most tools are like fishing lures (they catch the fisherman not the fish).
 - b. Be aware of the difference between bowl tools and spindle tools.
 - c. Talk to others and use the forum for advice.
3. Get the best chuck you can afford (even if it's a \$100 Wood River or \$145 Nova G3).
 - a. A chuck (even a cheap one) opens the door to many options.
4. Consider a sharpening system like Wolverine.
 - a. Gouges are too expensive to grind away learning how to sharpen by hand before giving up and purchasing the Wolverine.
5. Get a slow speed (8 inch -- 1800 RPM) grinder with good wheels.
 - a. 3600 RPM 6" grinders are for lawnmower blades
6. If none of this advice fits your situation you can still turn with even the least tools, so get started.