Synopsis. After becoming familiar with standard lathe operations one develops the desire to cut complex shapes on a lathe: fancy chess pieces, earing, knickknacks, table legs, specialty adapters, Morse taper, ... A CNC (Computer Numeric Control) lathe is the way to go, but these systems start at about \$2,000 and it takes months to learn how to use these machines efficiently. Computer skills are required. For hobbyists, there is a faster and cheaper way to do so:

As with CNC operations, any shape can be approximated by slicing it. This works also as a manual operation on any lathe and does not require more than 10-20 min for most shapes. How that works is described in this book, which includes a CD with windows programs. **Sophisticated computer skills are not required.** In fact, tables are additionally included which can be used without even touching a PC. Demonstrated is how to cut ball ends, elliptical ends, taper, Morse taper, and parabolic/spherical shapes in the side of a rod.

This volume features again the Sherline lathe. However, slicing operations that simulate a CNC lathe can be run on any lathe independent of the size or any design details of the lathe.

The author is not a professional machinist or engineer. In fact, the author holds a PhD in physics and teaches physical chemistry at a college. The author is a hobby machinist, as you probably are. Therefore, no information provided herein represents professional advice or best practices in machining. All information is provided to help hobbyists and other non-professionals gain a better understanding of using a miniature benchtop / tabletop lathe for hobby type work.

System requirements for the windows software: PCs only, Windows 7, Microsoft Windows XP. We have a demo version on our website. Try it out. If it runs on your computer, then the full program versions will also work.

Note that we don't accept returns of information products.

LatheCity Book series Volume 3 – Poor Man's CNC lathe By Uwe Burghaus

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www.LatheCity.com

sales@lathecity.com