

## Wood Words

**Don't know a burl from a bow, a jig from a collet? Here's a glossary of some woodworking terms guaranteed to help you sound like a pro.**

**Arbor:** A rotating shaft on a woodworking machine to which another rotating part is secured.

**Bow:** A warp in which the ends of a board or wooden member curve in the same direction away from the desired plane, usually along the length.

**Burl:** A swirling, twisted figure in wood grain caused by growths on the outside of the tree or root.

**Cabinet carcass:** The box-like component that is fitted with drawers, shelves, and/or doors in a cabinet.

**Chamfer:** The edge of a board that has been bevelled at an angle.

**Collet:** A device that positions and secures a bit in a router.

**Dado, groove:** Both are channels cut into pieces of lumber or sheet goods. A dado runs across the grain; a groove (also called a plough) runs with the grain.

**Edge grain:** Wood characterized by the growth rings being 45 or more degrees, preferably perpendicular, to the surface of a board.

**Face grain:** The pattern made by growth rings in wood on the greatest surface of a board.

**Feather board:** A safety device, with kerfs cut into one end, that holds wood securely against a table saw fence.

**Forstner bit:** A patented drill bit for sinking holes that do not penetrate all the way through the material. Used for holes requiring a flat bottom.

**Grain direction:** The direction in which the dominating, elongated fibres or cells lie in the structure of wood.

**Heartwood:** The darker mature wood at the centre of a tree.

**Hone:** To polish and refine a cutting edge by rubbing it against a hard, smooth stone or other surface.

**Jig:** A device that holds a work piece or tool so that a woodworking task can be performed efficiently and accurately.

**Kerf:** The slot made by a saw blade as it cuts through material.

**Open time:** The interval between the time an adhesive is applied and the time at which

it can no longer be worked. Also called working time.

**Re-sawing:** Reducing a board's thickness by sawing it into thinner pieces. Length and width remain the same.

**Slotting cutter:** A router bit designed to groove the edges of boards for spline-joint assembly.

**Straight-line ripping:** A process for truing one edge of a board that has no straight edge to work from. A piece of straight-edged lumber is attached along the length of the work piece and run against the saw's rip fence.

**Turning:** The skill of using a lathe; the object made on a lathe.