WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A processing apparatus comprising:

a holding table for holding a workpiece;

a spindle adapted to be rotated;

a cutting blade mounted on the spindle, the cutting blade having a cutting edge for cutting the workpiece held on the holding table;

measuring means for measuring an edge projection amount of the cutting edge at a predetermined frequency; and

a data processing portion, wherein

the data processing portion includes:

a lower limit recording portion configured to recording a lower limit of the edge projection amount of the cutting edge as an allowable limit for use of the cutting blade,

a storing portion configured to storing blade information including the edge projection amount measured by the measuring means and a cutting distance traveled by the cutting blade at the time of measurement of the edge projection amount, the edge projection amount and the cutting distance being stored in a one-to-one correspondence manner,

an inclination calculating portion configured

to calculating an inclination such that the edge projection amount decreases with an increase in the cutting distance, from a plurality of pieces of the blade information stored in the storing portion by performing two or more measurements using the measuring means, and

a predicting portion configured to calculating a maximum cutting distance corresponding to the lower limit of the edge projection amount from the inclination calculated by the inclination calculating portion.

2. The processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the inclination calculating portion performs recalculation of the inclination every time the measuring means measures the edge projection amount of the cutting blade.

3. The processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the data processing portion further includes a time calculating portion configured to calculating time required for cutting of the workpiece by a predetermined distance to be traveled by the cutting blade, from cutting conditions and size of the workpiece.

4. The processing apparatus according to claim 1,

further comprising:

displaying means configured to displaying blade exchange information as timing of exchange of the cutting blade, wherein

the blade exchange information includes at least one of the cutting distance until the maximum cutting distance is reached, a time period until the maximum cutting distance is reached, time when the maximum cutting distance is reached, and the number of workpieces that can be cut until the maximum cutting distance is reached.