



Texturing Tools for Wood Turning

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There are many ways to add texture to turnings. Here I focus on tools that are used while the work piece is spinning. I specifically describe those that are available commercially although some of these can be made in your shop.

I am providing links to YouTube videos that I have found particularly useful. I hope you will as well. With perhaps the exception of the Wagner tool it is not always apparent what pattern you will obtain. The only answer is to practice, practice, practice.

Happy turning.

ROBERT SORBY TEXTURING / SPIRALING TOOLS

Comes in two sizes. Works on any surface. Better on hard close grained wood. Works by cutting / scraping. Cutters can be sharpened and additional styles of cutters are available.

Price: Micro \$70
Large \$200

Mike Peace - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJ5xgEHSuJU>

Robert Sorby - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTKLkJorTYE>

Nick Agar - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qElbEQyTnrQ>

Sam Angelo – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YTkra9TG1Lg>

Nick Cook - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mv7yO2zHN98>

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WAGNER TEXTURING TOOL

Works on flat or convex surfaces. Does not work on coves or concave surfaces. Comes in three sizes. Wheels not available separately so a separate tool must be purchased for each texture. This tool primarily works by compressing the wood as opposed to cutting.

Price: \$40

Mike Peace - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ynJU_Zu9904

Joe Wagner - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PXFTPWupA30>

Craft Supplies - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2kppNRio-AM>

Sam Angelo - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uDN0mSoOjzs>

HENRY TAYLOR DECORATING ELF

The tool was originally designed by William Hudson. The tool works by holding a freely rotating cutter against the spinning work piece. The basic set comes with a ball cutter. Two additional cutters are available separately.

Price: \$64 – basic tool with ball cutter
\$73 - with the two additional cutters

The Mike Peace video below describes how to make a version of this tool using commonly available Dremel burrs

Cap'n Eddie Castelin offers a ¼" id bushing and ¼" ball magnet that can be used to make a similar tool that can also be used for sanding.

Cap'n Eddie's Website: <http://eddiecastelin.com>

Mike Peace - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KDgVQyhd8I>

Nick Agar - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ma99nhaALUA>

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CHATTER TOOLS

KC Pistol Grip Chatter Tool

Price: \$50

RMWoodCo Chatter Tool

Price: \$45

Wood Craft - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZCVt28wN00>

Robert Sorby Chattertool - RS215KT

Price: \$67

Robert Sorby - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uTl3vjyXmcQ>

Home Made Chatter Tools

Mike Waldt – Butter Knife - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Mw37Hb_QHM

Brendan Stemp – Various - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qWpqmBvprA>

Mike Peace – Various - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8bAE09ETrP8&feature=em-uploademail>

MERLIN 2 - KING ARTHUR TOOLS

The Merlin2 is a power tool primarily meant for carving. With the appropriate cutter it can be used for texturing. The video below shows an example of this.

Price: \$225

Nick Agar - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gg3yMD3BTgs>

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