

WesTurn News

The official organ of Western Sydney

Issue: 296

April 2026

Western Sydney Woodturners Inc

Twin Gums Retreat, Corner Northcott Road and Diane Drive

PO Box 4008, Lalor Park NSW 2147

I hope you all had a lovely Easter! Thanks to those (Milli, Anna, Viv, Kath, Robyn Eddie, Graham, Andrea, and Barbara D– forgive me if I omitted anyone) who organised and delivered the Easter baskets to the children at Mt Druitt Hospital.

Craft Alive Hawkesbury is not being held this year, but we can have a stall at Toongabbie Public School (see notice board) – you can sell your own wares as well as charity bowls – the catch is that you need to take tables, chairs and if you think you need one, a gazebo. Please think about signing up for this or I will have to let them know we aren't coming. While on the topic of stalls and fundraising: the Bunnings BBQs – we still need more willing and able helpers, particularly to help ease the huge burden of bringing all the things we need, and packing up at the end of the day. Without members committing to help out, I will have to cancel this which would be a significant loss to Club.

We are getting resin sticking to the feed table of the thicknesser. Hence, avoid putting through wood that is resinous – the cutting blades are also getting a build up of resin (damned hard to remove), reducing their cutting ability, and it is also leading to a sticky mess trapping shavings and dust inside the machine. Similarly, if you are putting through a piece that has been glued up, make sure the excess glue has been removed – this too is clogging up the blades and causing sawdust to build up inside the machine. Note - even if you are the convenor for the day, you still need to enter your name into the book when you use this machine.

Thanks to David Washington for chain sawing and bringing a large load of mulberry which is now on shelves outside the container. Thanks also to those that helped unload them.

Another training day (as a hands on workshop) has been held for the trainers which was very successful. This will certainly help us in our goal to have more consistent instruction during training courses. Once new members have completed their training course, they will try out a range of other techniques and adopt them as they see fit – of course! This is natural, and the training team is in no way trying to prevent this. The objective is simply to let them complete the course without conflicting advice.

The lock hardware on the front door has been replaced (same barrel, same key), so please remember to lock the door when packing up – before pulling the heavy metal sash across the door, try *pulling* the door open to double check that it is locked.

Cindy

SAFETY MATTERS

A REMINDER ABOUT WORKSHOP SAFETY

We must all keep in mind the importance of WORKSHOP SAFETY. Please THINK and ACT responsibly at all times. It is up to all of us to fulfill our commitment by wearing at all times;

- Dust masks
- Protective glasses
- Suitable clothing
- Footwear
- Ear protection

It does not hurt to discuss safety with other members if they are not doing the right thing.

ARTICLES FOR NEWSLETTER

Could I please ask those members who attend our demonstrations, maxi-days etc.; if you could take some photographs and a brief description of the event so these can be published in the newsletter I am sure all members would be interested in reading about the events of the day. Thank you…..Editor.

CUT OFF DATE FOR ARTICLES

Please note the cut off date for articles to be included in the Newsletter is the last day of the month. All members are welcome to submit articles for inclusion.

Please send them to the editor;

Email address: augoodtime@hotmail.com

Club Committee

President: Cindy Kersaitis (0408760131)

Vice Presidents: John Kostrzewa and George Manou

Secretary: Andrea McFarland

Treasurer: Andrea McFarland

Club Hours

Mon-Fri: 8:30am – 3pm….$5

Friday Nights: 5pm – 9pm….$5

Please note: these hours are approximate and the Club will not remain open when fewer than three members are present

Saturday Turning

Ladies Day: 2nd Saturday…$5

Contact: Robyn Mahoney

0411 845 776

robynmahoney@hotmail.com

Club Meetings

7pm second Tuesday of each month except January.

All members welcome

Shop items

- ⇒ Ozzie Grit
- ⇒ Friction Polish
- ⇒ Sanding Sealer
- ⇒ Sandpaper
- ⇒ Club Shirts
- ⇒ Dust Jackets
- ⇒ Club Badges
- ⇒ Pen Kits
- ⇒ Pen Blanks – Acrylics
- ⇒ Lazy Susan Bearings
- ⇒ Cheese Knives
- ⇒ Salt Mills
- ⇒ Pepper Mills

Many more items also available



Joke of the Month

The owner of a drug store walks in to find a guy leaning heavily against a wall.

The owner asks the clerk, "What's with that guy over there by the wall?" The clerk says, "Well, he came in here this morning to get something for his cough. I couldn't find the cough syrup, so I gave him an entire bottle of laxatives."

The owner says, "You idiot! You can't treat cough with laxative!"

The Clerk says, "Oh yeah? Look at him, he's afraid to cough."

CLUB CONVENORS

Monday	Bob Young	Thursday	Eddie Catford
Tuesday	Bob Young	Friday	Don Nixon
Wednesday	Greg Sheath	Friday (PM)	John Kostrzewa

OTHER CONTACTS

Public Officer:
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Sandra Ongley

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Rod Brown

Editor:
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Webmaster:
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mkeen21@gmail.com

Training Co-Ordinator:
George Manou

Trainers: Graham Dawes, Rod Brown, Ron Devine, Cindy Kersaitis, Robyn Mahoney, George Manou, Don Nixon, Greg Sheath, Rob Stewart, Andrew Heffernan & Bob Young.

Liaison and Contact Officers
Security— Eddie Catford
Insurance—David Searle
Craft Alive—Andrea McFarland
Linnwood House—Dave Matthews
Koi Society—David Searle
Bunnings BBQ—Andrea McFarland

Shop Manager:
Cindy Kersaitis

Equipment Maintenance Coordinator
Bob Young

Maintenance Officers: Rod Brown, Eddie Catford, Graham Dawes, Ron Devine, Manny Farrugia, Cindy Kersaitis, George Manou & Bob Young.

Welfare Officer:
Viv Tabone
0414557776
mrsparky1@bigpond.com

Membership Secretary:
Viv Tabone

Catering Coordinator
Vacant

Maxi Days
Vacant

Kitchen & Cleaning Supplies
Ian Frith

Ladies Day Coordinator
Robyn Mahoney

First Aid Supplies
Robyn Mahoney



EASTER BUNNY DELIVERED AGAIN

An Easter egg delivery was organised for this morning with four of our lady members arriving at Mt Druitt hospital only to be greeted with the news that patients in the children's ward are currently being treated as infectious. Disappointing, but not entirely in vain as the wrapped eggs in bowls were left with staff to distribute amongst those unable to go home for a few days yet.

My thanks to Eddie, Viv, Graham Dawes, Andrea, Barbara Davis, Robyn, Milli, and Kath Kemp, who assisted me by either undertaking various aspects of preparing the eggs for their delivery, or who arrived only to be turned away without interaction with the young patients. I am sure that the eggs left will be much appreciated by their recipients. Thanks once again.

A Happy Easter holiday to you all,

Anna









Member #	Title	First Name	Surname
2162	Mr.	Peter	Bland
2301	Mr.	Ronald	Devine
2845	Mr.	Lindsay	McEwan
3600A	Mrs.	Lynnette	Young
3882	Mr.	Glenn	Freeman
3901	Mr.	Matthew	Keen
4076	Mr.	Joseph	Zadro

Try Something New?

Jack Mack Woodturning— follow the link below to watch the video

Woodturning - Amazing Results From Crazy Wood





Members Welfare Report

The welfare of members and their families is important to our club. Please let me know if you or someone you know is unwell, or worse still, no longer with us.

Get Well Cards have been sent to the following Members and/Or Partners

Rod Brown and Allan Kirkland

We wish everyone a Speedy Recovery.

No Sympathy card was sent this month

Viv Tabone is the Welfare Officer. If you become aware of the need for get well and sympathy cards, please let her know at her email address:

mrsparky1@bigpond.com

or

Text her on: **0414 557 776**

If anyone has been missed, be assured that the good wishes and sympathies of our club are with you and your family.

Stay Safe ... Viv….Welfare Officer

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Opening Hours
ALL WELCOME!!
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Sat8am-11.30am
Closed
Public Holidays &
Long Weekends

QR Codes

Sharing information - like a YouTube video or the latest Temu bargain - can be frustrating.

Trying to write down long, complex web addresses is almost impossible and sharing phone numbers or emails isn't always convenient.

Here's an alternative - the QR code.

HERE'S A QR CODE FOR THE WESTERN SYDNEY WOODTURNERS WEBPAGE.

FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS TO TEST IT OUT!

What is a QR Code?

Similar to a barcode which hold a string of numbers in a pattern, a QR code holds text, normally a webpage.

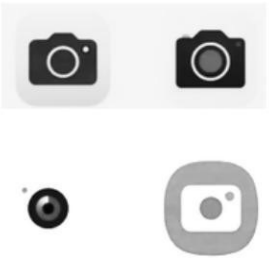
Using the camera on your smartphone, the pattern can be scanned and the link is displayed.

How to Scan a QR Code:

You do not need to install additional software.

Step 1.

Open your smartphone's camera application.



Step 2.

Aim the camera at the QR code.

Don't take a picture!



Step 3.

Click on the yellow text that appears to open the link



Stay Safe!



Don't blindly trust every QR code you come across.

Scammers occasionally print malicious QR codes on physical stickers and place them over legitimate codes on public signage or parking meters.

If a QR code is a physical sticker layered over something else in public, assume it is malicious and do not scan it. If it is printed directly onto the material—such as a product box, a catalogue, or this newsletter and it's a trusted source then it should be safe.

Disclaimer: If your phone is older than 2017, it probably cannot scan QR codes. I have verified the information in this article to the best of my ability. While there are other ways to scan these codes, the method outlined above is the one I use personally, and therefore the one I am most comfortable teaching.

A big THANK YOU to Milli

Lathe Checklist

Finding and fixing the causes of vibration and wobble

by Dennis Belcher

photos by Doug Haas

Vibration, a bane of woodturning, can make a good cut difficult and, in its extreme form, dangerous when the lathe starts walking across the floor. Vibration and wobble can stem from a variety of sources. Sometimes there is a single cause and other times there are multiple sources. Here's what to check.

Stand

Stands must be of solid construction and provide for securely attaching the lathe. The stand needs to be stable on the floor, with no rocking. Make sure all the feet are in full contact with the floor and adjust as needed with adjustable legs (photo 1), levelers, or shims.

If your lathe has to be moved before you can use it, select a spot, adjust the stand and lathe as needed, and mark the floor for each leg. This makes stability predictable and repeatable.

Adding mass to the stand will help the lathe dampen vibration. My primary lathe and stand weigh 600 pounds, plus 500 pounds of metal plate on the stand shelf, for a total 1,100 pounds of mass, photo 2. You can use sandbags, second-hand barbell sets, or steel plate from a junkyard, whatever you can get.

More weight is not an end-all. You can still make a lathe walk across a floor regardless of the weight, by some combination of speed and out-



1 - *Adjust legs, or use shims, to make sure your stand sits solidly on the floor.*



2 - *Additional weight helps a lathe absorb vibration. Use steel plate, barbell sets, or sandbags.*

of-balance workpiece. Use common sense. While the lathe needs to be securely attached to its stand, be careful not to stress the lathe bed while fastening it. Lathe beds can be distorted by tightening to a surface that is twisted. Make the stand solid to the floor before you position the lathe on it. Look for any daylight between the lathe legs and the top of the stand. Use washers or thin metal shims, to fill any gaps before tightening the bolts, **3**



3 – *A washer was inserted between the lathe and the stand to fill the gap, before tightening the mounting bolt.*

Lathe

Lathe vibration can cause key fasteners to loosen. Check to see that all machine screws and Allen bolts are tight, photo **4**.



4 – *Check that all bolts connecting the headstock to the lathe ways are tight.*

Movable headstocks are a frequent source of vibration. Make sure the headstock is firmly fastened to the ways, and that the nut on its locking plate is properly adjusted, photo **5**.

The stability of the headstock can be improved by cleaning the locking plate beneath the ways. The plate's grip can be improved by roughing the contact surfaces with 220-grit emery cloth and then cleaning with mineral spirits; clean the underneath side of the lathe ways with mineral spirits applied with non-woven abrasive. The locking plate and underneath side of the ways should never be waxed.

Heavy lathes flex less than light lathes. You can determine how well your lathe handles vibration with a simple test. Mount a slightly off-balance blank on a chuck or faceplate and slowly bring the speed up. When the vibration becomes noticeable, make a note of the RPMs. Leave the piece mounted, but remove the faceplate or chuck from your lathe and try the same test on a different lathe. Comparing the speed at the point of vibration indicates which lathe is better at absorbing vibration.



5 – *Movable headstocks must be securely locked to the ways. Check the locking plate beneath the ways.*

Inspect the threads on the spindle nose for accumulated grime and/or thread damage, **6**. Remove any residue in the threads with a stiff brush dipped in mineral spirits.



6 - *Clean the headstock threads with a stiff brush and mineral spirits. Use a fine triangular file to repair any damaged threads.*



7 - *Clean the gunk off the spindle shoulder and threads, to make sure your chuck or faceplate seats tightly. Clean the chuck too.*

Damaged threads can be repaired with a small triangular file. Pay particular attention to the spindle shoulder just past the threads, because this surface registers with chucks and faceplates. Any irregularity on the surface of the shoulder will be transmitted to your chuck/faceplate, photo **7**. Clean the shoulder with non-woven abrasive and mineral spirits. Wipe with a clean paper towel to remove any cleaning residue.

Chucks and faceplates

Size your chuck or faceplate to the workpiece – a large workpiece on a small chuck can be the source of wobble and wood movement. Loose Allen bolts on chuck jaws can compromise the grip. Verify that everything is tight.

Confirm that the threads of your chuck are clean of any debris and that the mating surfaces are clean for full contact with the headstock shoulder. Likewise, clean the threads and mating surfaces of the faceplate, and verify that the mounting screws are of appropriate diameter, and tightly installed.

Verify that your chuck/faceplate runs true with a simple test. Mount your chuck and set the lathe to a slow speed. Rest a marker on the toolrest and slowly bring it in contact with the chuck body (**8**). If there are gaps in the marked line on the body, the chuck is not running true. A faceplate can be tested in the same way.

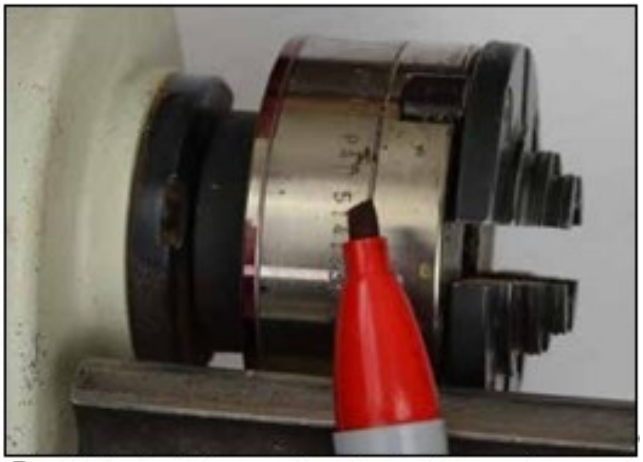
The source of a chuck not running true may be imperfect mating with the spindle shoulder.

This can be remedied by adding a large, flat washer to fill any gaps between the chuck or faceplate and the spindle shoulder (**9**).

Mounting

It is a good practice to retighten chuck jaws after making the first cuts. Particularly with green wood, the jaws may dig in and compromise the hold. With a faceplate, look for any gaps between the wood and the metal and retighten or flatten the workpiece as necessary.

Green, soft, and punky wood present special problems when between centers. The drive spur can begin to drill its way into the wood, causing the blank to drift off center and wobble. It is always a good practice to check periodically



8 With the lathe turning slowly, the marker makes a dashed line on the scroll chuck, indicating it is not running true.



9 A flat spindle washer can fill a gap between chuck or faceplate and headstock, to improve seating and reduce wobble. Section Break (Continuous)

that the workpiece is securely held at both ends. Wobble may also be caused by a loose banjo or tailstock. Check that both are locked down.

Speed

Speed is a critical factor in vibration and wobble. Always start slow and gradually increase the speed until you experience vibration. Then slow the speed down until the vibration stops and you can begin to true up the workpiece. As you remove wood and the vibrations diminish, gradually increase the speed, find the point of vibration, back off speed again, remove wood again, and repeat until the workpiece comes into balance.

Imbalance

Examine the blank for voids and protrusions that would make it out of balance. There may be a choice between changing the mounting points to a more balanced center line, or focusing on grain balancing while leaving the blank out of balance. If you choose grain balancing, causing an out-of-balance condition, you can remove the blank from the lathe and remove excess wood from the heavy side.

Wood movement

Green wood can move in a short period of time. What was a perfectly balanced workpiece can become dramatically unbalanced in the time it takes to eat dinner. The best course is to complete the project without interruption, and do not allow the green wood to stay on the lathe any longer than necessary. Wrapping a green blank with plastic when you have to step away will retard wood movement.

As walls become thinner, the workpiece may begin to wobble each time you take a cut. Wood wobble and vibration can become pronounced just before you cut through a wall, so check the wall thickness, paying particular attention to the wall thickness at the bottom.

Final Thought

Always remember that not every piece of wood should be turned. The wisest decision is to not turn a blank that exceeds the capabilities of the lathe ... or of the turner.

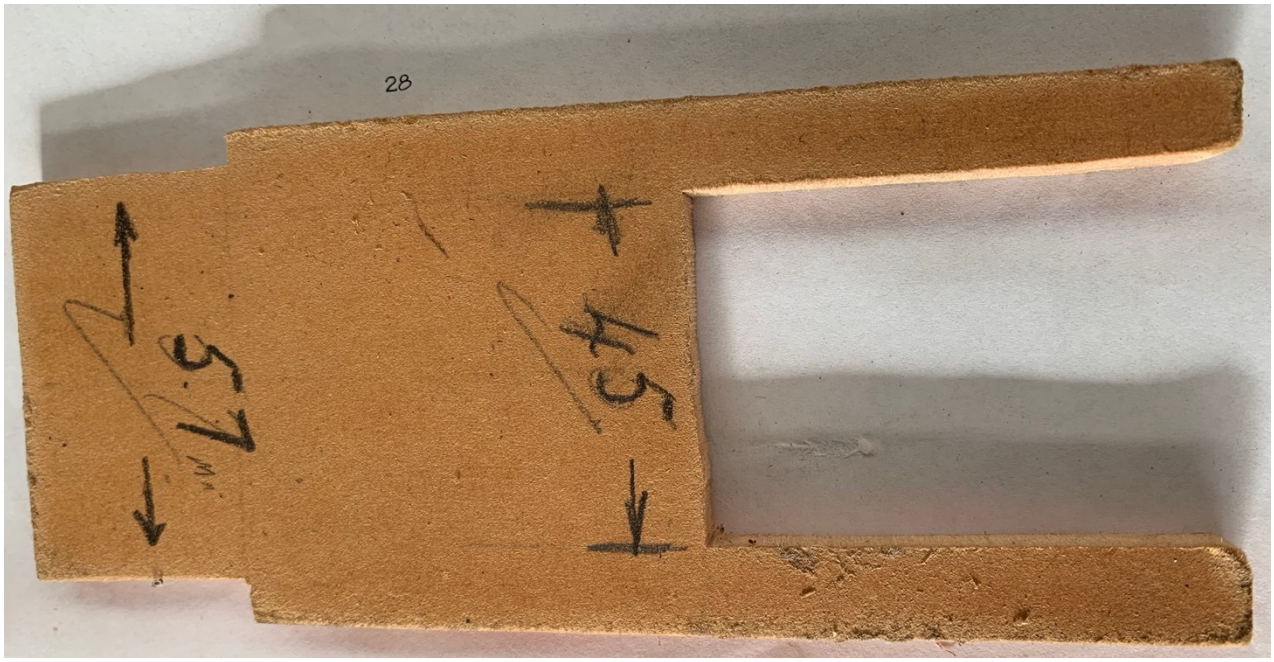
Dennis Belcher is a member of the Wilmington Area Woodturners Association and a frequent demonstrator. See his work at ennisbelcher.com.







CHUCK TEMPLATES



This is a simple example of a chuck template suitable for a super nova chuck. The left side is made 57 mm so it will fit inside a recess and the right side of 45 mm so it will fit over a spigot these dimensions will allow maximin grip in either position.

Caution, it must be remembered that a different template is necessary for different chuck manufacturers as the thickness or width of the jaws differ, consequently these measurements will need to be adjusted to suite that chuck. The above is a quick cheap piece of MDF I suggest If you have a lot of work for chucks then you make these out of better material, plastic, aluminium, ply etc, Eddie C

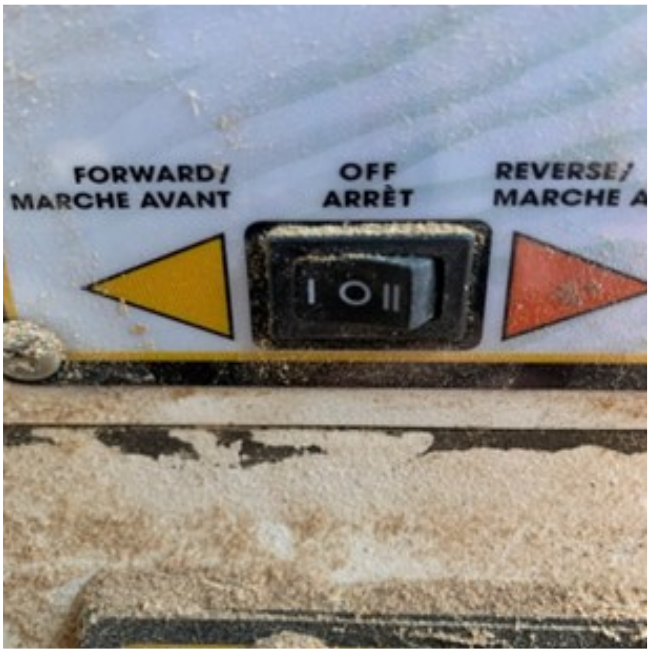
SAFETY HINT AND TIP.

Your body is **precious.** It needs **you** to look after it.



THINK AND ACT SAFELY.

Operating the lathe in reverse





It is of utmost importance if operating the lathe in reverse when mounted in a chuck the “TAIL STOCK” **MUST** be in position against the end of the work piece. This is necessary due to the lathe slowing faster than the centrifugal force speed, allowing the chuck and work piece to unwind from the head stock spindle and become air born and enviable an accident involving operator, machine and workpiece damage. Don’t be a victim it always hurts. Eddie C.

HARE&FORBES MACHINERYHOUSE

HUGE WOOD WORKING RANGE

Wall Mounted Wood Dust Extraction Accessory Kit - DCK-100W

- 2 x 100mm 90° elbows
- 2 x 100mm "Y" connectors
- 3 x 100mm wall mount blast gates
- 1 x Floor sweeping attachment
- 10 x Wall mounting brackets
- 16 x Hose clamps



$132 (W3445)

Wall Mounted Wood Dust Extraction Kit - DCK-200W

- 8 x 915mm lengths of Ø100mm clear tubing
- 3 x 100mm wall mount blast gates
- 3 x 100mm 45° elbows
- 2 x 100mm 90° elbows
- 2 x 100mm "Y" connectors
- 16 x 100mm Joiners



$330 (W3447)



DUST EXTRACTION KITS SHOWN ON DISPLAY

Two Stage Air Filtration Unit - AF-400

- 409cfm air flow capacity
- 1 micron, two stage filters
- 3 x fan speeds with remote
- 110W / 0.15hp 240V



$319 (W325)

Industrial Dust & Cyclone Separator Collector - CD-20

- 2 stage 1020cfm
- LPHV System
- 1 micron filter
- 100L steel drum
- Triple Ø100mm inlets
- 2hp 240V motor



$2,035 (W319)

Dust Collector - DC-7

- 2300 cfm - LPHV system
- 5 Micron fine filter bag
- Portable on wheels
- 2.25kW/3hp, 240V motor

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$649 (W329)



DUST COLLECTOR ACCESSORIES

Dust Hose Y Adaptor - DCA-100Y

- 100mm Y Fitting
- Constructed out of rugged PVC



$14.30 (W337)

Dust Hose Stepped Reducer - DCA-100R

- Reducer from Ø100 to Ø35mm
- 4 fittings that interlock
- Larger end connects to Ø100mm (4") flexible ducting



$19.80 (W3345)

Dust Fitting Coupler - DCAM-100

- Ø100mm (4")
- Made from tough PVC
- Magnets embedded into each fitting



$19.80 (W3356)

Dust Fitting Coupler - DCAM-100C

- Ø100mm Internal, suitable to be direct coupled with 100mm dust fittings / machine dust extraction ports



$22.00 (W3353)



Shown easy to connect magnetic dust coupling



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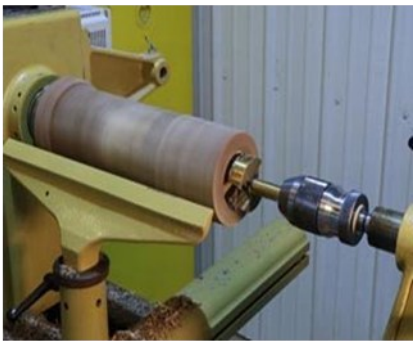
Specifications & Prices are subject to change without notification. All prices include GST and valid until 30-04-26

THE BACK PAGE

Item 70 Making a Wooden Scoop April 2026

While there are numerous ways to turn a scoop, try the following steps. Attach a faceplate to a blank 10cm x 10cm x 28cm using screws. Mount the blank on the lathe using the tailstock for additional support. Use a roughing gouge to round the blank into a cylinder. Bore out a hole approximately 4” (10cm) deep using a Forstner bit.





Increase the opening to the desired size. Finish turning the exterior using a bowl gouge until the desired wall thickness. During this process, a cone-shaped live-centre in the tailstock helps provide additional support. Create a tenon on the end of the scoop and then use a parting-tool to separate the scoop from the waste block. Remount the scoop on the lathe using a scroll chuck and sand the interior and exterior, again using a live cone-shaped centre for additional support. After sanding the handle, add decorative grooves.





Remove the top portion of the scoop using either a bandsaw or a disc sander. If using a band saw, it is recommended to use a clamp or jig to hold the round stock so it cannot roll while cutting. A disc sander can also be used for creating rounded corners and removing the excess tenon on the handle. The finished scoop ready for use.





With thanks to Sun Catcher Studio. Note. As in all professions there are many and varied opinions and ways of doing things. This is true of wood turning. These articles are the results of my reading article publications. Eddie C