

Woodturning Chisel Sets

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Machinery & Power Tools



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(The_Woodwork_Lathe_*_Preparing_a_wooden_blank_for_turning_between_centres_*_Craft_&_Design_Product_Design.jpg)

A woodturning chisel set provides the gouges, chisels and parting tools used to shape timber as it spins on a lathe. Sets typically include spindle gouges, roughing gouges, skews, scrapers and parting tools designed for the speeds and cuts of turning work.

Key Features

- Sets of 6-8 tools in a roll or stand
- Spindle and bowl gouges of different sweeps
- Skew chisels for smooth finish cuts
- Parting tools for separating work
- Carbon or high-speed steel edges

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Rough round square stock to a cylinder
- Shape spindles, bowls and handles
- Finish with shearing and skew cuts
- Part off finished pieces cleanly

Safe Operation

1. Start with the roughing gouge at low speed
2. Rest the tool on the tool rest and pivot against it
3. Cut with the bevel rubbing, not digging
4. Move the tool along the rest evenly
5. Smooth with a skew or scraper before sanding

SAFETY NOTES

- Tie back hair and remove jewellery and gloves
- Wear a face shield - tools can catch and fly
- Keep the tool rest close to the work
- Never cut with the tool held away from the rest
- Check handles are secure before starting

Maintenance & Consumables

- Keep edges sharp on the grinder and hone
- Oil the blades lightly
- Store in the roll or rack, edges protected
- Check the tool rest fits the lathe
- Differentiate bowl and spindle tools clearly

Specification & Buying Notes

A quality 8-piece set with roughing gouge, spindle gouges, skews, scrapers and parting tool covers the curriculum. High-speed steel holds an edge longer for students. Include a bench grinder with a sharpening jig.