

Lathe Parting Tools and Boring Bars

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Consumables & Spares



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Lathe parting tools cut off finished work and cut grooves, while boring bars enlarge and finish internal bores and recesses. Properly ground and supported, they turn internal and parting operations on the metal lathe.

Key Features

- Parting blades 3-6 mm wide
- Internal and external boring bars
- Indexable carbide inserts
- Tool holders for the toolpost
- Bore depths to tool length

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Part off finished turnings
- Cut grooves and undercuts
- Bore and finish internal diameters
- Face internal shoulders

Safe Operation

1. Set the tool at centre height
2. Align the parting blade square
3. Feed slowly with cutting fluid
4. For bores, start with a drilled hole
5. Clear chips frequently

SAFETY NOTES

- Parting tools dig in - feed steadily
- Support long work with the tailstock
- Use guards and eye protection
- Do not overhang the tool holder
- Stop and clear chips safely

Maintenance & Consumables

- Sharpen or index the inserts
- Check the shank for straightness
- Clean the holder of swarf
- Store tools in the tool drawers
- Replace worn inserts

Specification & Buying Notes

A parting tool with a rigid holder and a set of boring bars with inserts covers school lathe internal and parting work. Quality bars are rigid; long thin bars chatter.