

Wagner Texturing Tool™

CRAFT SUPPLIES USA
THE WOODTURNERS CATALOG

Essentials for Successful Texturing

The number of textures that can be created with the Wagner Texturing Tool™ is limited only by your imagination. Techniques used to create diamond, swirl and other unique textures along with other helpful ideas are described below.

Getting Started

The key to producing consistent eye-catching textures is practice. As with all tools, there is a learning curve in becoming proficient. Begin by practicing on scrap material such as soft maple or similar material. If you don't like the results, simply turn away the textured area and try it again. With a little practice, you'll soon get the hang of it.

Proper Lathe Speed

To determine an ideal lathe speed for texturing, multiply the diameter of the work by 200 RPM. eg. if the work is 2" in diameter, the recommended lathe speed would be about 400 RPM. This is only an approximate. Experiment with various speeds to find out what works best for you.

Which woods work best?

Walnut, Cherry, Poplar, Maple (soft), and other woods similar in hardness work well. With sufficient pressure, woods such as Cocobolo, Kingwood and similar materials can also be used. For optimum results, sand the surface to be textured through 400 grit before texturing.

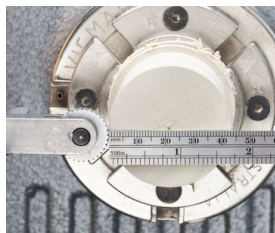
Creating a Diamond Pattern



The diamond texture is the result of the wheel pattern being pressed into the wood. The quality of the texture is largely determined by the amount of pressure applied by the tool combined with the woods ability to take a texture. Soft, fine grain woods produce better detail than hard, coarse woods.

Set Up

Position the tool rest so that center of the texturing wheel lines up with the center of the workpiece. The texturing wheel should be positioned 1/2" or so



beyond the tool rest. For creating a diamond texture, we recommended using the texturing tool in the horizontal position.

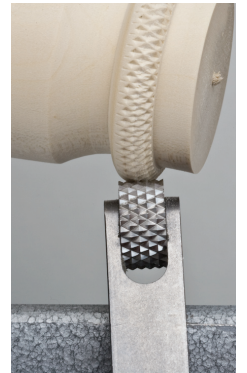
Proper Grip

For a secure grip when texturing, we recommend placing your thumb on the tool shaft and your index finger against the underside of the tool rest.



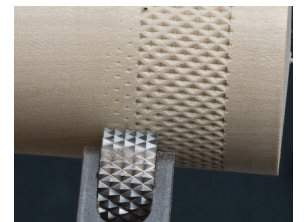
Proper Approach

Creating a diamond texture is done with the tool shaft at 90 degrees to the surface. If approached at an incorrect angle, the tool may "run" across the surface of the work ruining the pattern. Begin texturing at the edge of the area to be textured and work your way to opposite edge. Lean your upper body into the lathe as needed to apply pressure to the wheel.



Tracking

After creating the initial texture in the wood, continue the texture by approaching the work with the wheel overlapping the existing pattern. This allows the teeth on the texturing wheel to align with the existing texture before applying pressure to create the desired texture. Angle the tool slightly and approach the work lightly allowing the wheel to engage the existing pattern so that it begins "tracking". When you feel the wheel fully engaged, square the tool to the work and apply pressure to texture the work. Repeat as needed.



Consistency

Because the texture appearance changes along with the circumference of the workpiece, achieving a consistent, continuous texture is best done by limiting texturing to a relatively small area. For this reason, we suggest that you do not attempt to texture an area that varies more

than 1/4" in diameter. At times, the texturing tool may produce a "woven" pattern (A). If this is not acceptable, turn away the texture then re-texture. The slight change in diameter should be sufficient to result in a diamond pattern (B) on the next attempt.



Cleaning the Texture

Using a firm tooth or denture brush, carefully scrub the textured area then blow off with an air hose to remove any debris.

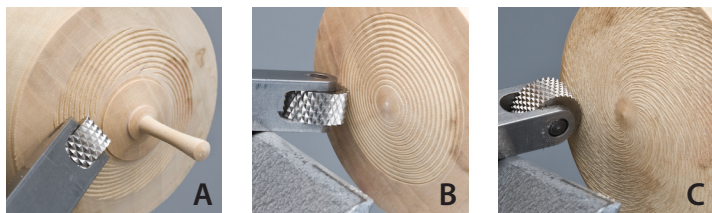
Finishing

Never sand the textured area as it will "wash out" the pattern. Apply a spray finish or dip the work piece in oil and spin off excess oil on the lathe. Do not attempt to apply finish by hand with the lathe spinning as it will damage the textured area or load it with debris. If you choose to spin off excess oil, it's helpful to place a cup or small container over the textured area to catch the excess finish.

Maintenance

Apply a drop or two of light oil regularly to the wheel to help it keep cool while operating and extend the life of the wheel and pin assembly.

Additional Patterns and Effects



Spiraling

Various types of spiral patterns can be created by making a controlled pass across the work piece with the tool tipped on edge as shown. The angle of the tool and speed of the pass determine how fine or coarse the spiral pattern is. A Spiral pattern (A) is produced by tipping the texturing tool on its edge, about 45°, and drawing it across the work. The Circular pattern (B) is produced by laying the texturing tool flat on its side while the Thatched Roof (C) texture is produced by lowering the tool handle so that 2 or more rows of teeth contact the surface while passing over the work. Practice on scrap material until you're comfortable with this technique.

Coloring

Using a soft point artists marker, you can lightly contact the pattern with the lathe running to highlight the pattern. This technique was made popular by Bonnie Klein to add spectacular color and contrast to her spinning tops.



Creating Break Lines

When texturing a large surface or creating multiple patterns or colors, use a point tool or tip of a skew chisel to cut a small groove in the work as a border for the pattern or to create a visual break as shown.




Leveraging

When texturing hard woods, you may want to leverage the tool to provide extra pressure to the wheel. This is done by raising the tool handle and positioning the end of the tool in a trailing position



with the wheel contacting the work at about a 7-8 o'clock position on the work. This leveraging action creates far more pressure than the standard method of holding the texturing tool. Note- be careful not to create too much pressure as it may force the work out of the chuck.

 See our video demonstration of the Wagner Texturing Tool™ online at woodturnerscatalog.com

For questions or support, please call 1-800-551-8876.