

Rotary Texturing Tool Handout

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Here is how I made an inexpensive rotary texturing tool similar to the Henry Taylor Decorating Elf. The idea for making one of these in this way is not mine, but came from a friend of mind.

Basically it is 5/16" Dremel burr mounted into a handle using three 1/4" bronze Bunting bushings with a rare earth magnet to keep the cutter from falling out.

Here are the components:



Components	Source	Comments	Cost
Handle with a brass plumbing part for a ferrule	Shop made from wood and brass ferrule part on hand	Copper coupling a cheap alternative	0
Bunting Bearings DPEP020404 Dri Plane (C) Plain Bearings, Powdered Metal, 1/8" Bore x 1/4" OD x 1/4" Length (Pack of 3) https://amzn.to/3aHMHxK	Amazon	\$2.75 for a set of three. Probably the best alternative if you can't find reasonably priced ball bearings.	2.94 incl free Prime shipping
Uxcell R144ZZ Deep Groove Ball Bearing 1/8"x1/4"x7/64" Double Shielded ABEC-3 Bearings 5-Pack https://amzn.to/2uvjoxZ	Amazon	Ball bearings are probably better than bronze bushings but cost more. Bearings are used in the set from Highland WW and the Decorating Elf by Henry Taylor	8.59 incl free Prime shipping
Red Brass Pipe Fitting, Nipple, Schedule 40 Seamless, 1/8" NPT Male X 5" Length https://amzn.to/37tnN2J	Amazon	This goes into the handle about 1 1/2" inch. I actually cut my section from a longer nipple.	\$3.37 incl free shipping
Dremel Ball cutter, #114, 5/16-Inch-Diameter, 1/8" shank https://amzn.to/30WmGX4	Amazon	This is the one I like the best	5.47 free shipping with Prime
Dremel 5/16" #124 flame HSS cutter, 1/8" shank https://amzn.to/2GtaXFO	Amazon	I prefer the ball cutter but this works also	\$7.43 free shipping with Prime
Dremel 5/16" #115 cylindrical HSS cutter,	Home Depot or Amazon	Most suitable for texturing on a flat surface. Not as versatile as the ball	\$9.98 for a pair from

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1/8" shank https://amzn.to/36pAA53		cutter	HD
1/4" Rare earth magnet Fridge Magnets for Refrigerator, Science, Crafts - Tiny Round Disc, Sliver, 1/4 Inch (6mm), 50 Pcs (50) https://amzn.to/2TUXT4d	Amazon	I had some 1/4" magnets on hand. You only need one but this package contains 50	8.99 incl free shipping
1/4" dowel	Turn or buy locally	This goes into the nipple first, followed by the magnet and then the two bushings	

The dowel should be flush with the bottom of the pipe and long enough to support the magnet and bushings so they will be about flush with the top of the pipe. Glue the magnet to the top of the dowel with CA or epoxy. Add some epoxy to the dowel and slide into the pipe.

Wrap the two or three bushings with some tape so they fit snugly in the pipe since the pipe ID is a bit larger than 1/4". Put a few drops epoxy on the outside and slide into the top of the pipe.

Alternatives:

Buy a kit from [Highland Woodworking](#) for about \$30 that includes bearings instead of bushings and includes my favorite cutter, the Dremel #124 flame cutter.

Buy a Ron Brown's Best Rotary Texturing Tool with all three cutters from https://www.ptreecusa.com/turn_brand_ron_brown.html

Buy the Henry Taylor Decorating Elf with the ball cutter from [Craft Supply](#).

How to Use:

You can cut at, above or below center for slightly different effect. Hold the tool at an angle with the handle low to cut with leading left edge. Texture at a lathe speed of about 800.

Here is a [video](#) on how to use.