

## MAKE YOUR OWN WALL-MOUNTED TOOL RACK

I live in an over-55 active-adult community, and we have a really nice community woodshop, complete with four full size lathes and about 50 turning tools -- many of which seldom get used. But if they are stored away, they would never get used, so we try to keep them out in the open where woodturners can quickly see every tool available.



We used to have a big, wheeled cart that held all the tools, but its base was 48 inches by 36 inches, and it took up way too much floor space. As you can see, more space is wasted than is used. It was not an efficient design, by any standard.

So we decided to try and utilize wall space instead. We had a corner that was largely unused, so we decided to make the new tool rack there.

We are much happier with the new arrangement. Below is the new design.

If you count the turning tools on these two sheets of plywood, there are 29. What you can barely see is the "extension" we added on to the right wing to contain the rest of our turning tools.

Below is the "extension." As you can see, each tool has its own number, and the "slot" for it has the same number, so even old turners can remember where to put the tool when they're finished with it.



We like the simplicity of the tool rack, and the positive way it holds each tool.

The top 2" x 4" piece has 1 1/2" holes bored through it every 3" or so. The bottom 2" x 4" piece has the same size holes bored half way through, so the butt of each tool is held positively. They don't fall over on each

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other, and it would take a magnitude 9 earthquake to shake one out of its bottom retainer. To store the tool, insert the cutting end through the hole in the top board, and then seat the butt of the tool in its respective bottom hole.

To make your own wall-mounted tool rack, which would probably be smaller than our "extension" rack, just gather together all your cutting tools and sort them into descending order of length, so you can figure out the angle to use when mounting the top 2" x 4" keeper board. Everything else is pretty much self explanatory from the pictures.

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5/31/2017