

Tool Rack From Dairy Crates

There are all manner of Tips that describe various ways to hold turning tools safely and conveniently at the lathe. Many of these involve attachment directly to the lathe or resting on the ways. I have more than one lathe and often remove the tailstock for safety or access, so these did not work for me. My solution was to screw a dairy crate to a small dolly (I got one from Harbor Freight for less than \$10) and stack on two more crates for height. I added a pine tool board with cleats that fit into the top crate to prevent the board from sliding. To create recesses for the tools, I drilled a row of 1½"- diameter holes in a maple board, and then cut the board in half lengthwise. I attached these to either side of the pine board and connected them with wood strips to keep smaller items from rolling off the rack. Obviously, the dimensions are not critical. Now I can roll the rack from lathe to lathe and position it in a convenient location. As a bonus, the storage space in the crates is easily accessible and can be used to store cutoffs, spring clamps, or other turning supplies. —Andrew Kuby, Illinois



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