

Do It Yourself

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Rustic Porch Swing: Preparing the Timber

From "[Woodworking](#)"

episode DIW-204 -- [More Projects](#) »

Want to accentuate your home's exterior with a natural porch swing? Bruce Johnson uses timber from his property to build a rustic porch swing that fits the wood, stone and neutral colors of his home. Johnson says this intermediate-level project can be completed for about \$100 -- half of which will be spent on a power tenon cutter.

Note: [Project plans may be viewed with](#) 

1. To get started, look for natural features (size, shape) that are fairly uniform and will allow wood pieces to blend together nicely yet still retain a rustic charm. For the spindles, look for a narrowing of wood to about 1" in diameter (**figure A**).
2. After selecting, begin to take careful measurements and determine the length of all spindles, posts, stretchers and rails. Cut the spindles and rails down to size, leaving a little extra length.
3. Using a band saw, trim all branches away from the surface of all saplings (**figure B**), including those on posts and rails.



Clean up your lawn and recycle that wood into this rustic yet handsome porch swing.



Figure A



Figure B

Sponsored Resource

> [Click here](#) to order your tools and materials for this project from **Woodcraft!**

RESOURCES:

Making Country Rustic Wood Projects

Model: 0806972580

Author: Patrick Speilman

Rustic Accents for Your Home: 45 Projects from Vines, Twigs and Branches

Model: 1580171354

Author: Laura Donnelly Bethmann

Rustic Furniture Workshop

Model: 1579902200

Author: Dan Mack

Country Woodworker: How to Make Rustic Furniture

Model: 0811815897

Author: Jack Hill

Making Rustic Furniture

Model: 1887374124

Author: Daniel Mack

The Art of Rustic Furniture

Model: 1579902642

Author: Daniel Mack

Making Twig Furniture. . .

Model: 0881791857

Author: Abby Ruoff

Rustic Style

Model: 0810944324

Author: Ralph Kylloe (Photographer)

Making Bent Willow Furniture (The Rustic Home Series)

Model: 158017048X

Author: Brenda and Brian Cameron

Building for the Lawn and Garden: A Step-by-Step Guide to Making Benches. . .Swings. . .

Model: 0762101644

Author: John Kelsey

Making Twig Garden Furniture

Model: 088179144X

Author: Abby Ruoff

The Rustic Furniture Companion: Traditions, Techniques and Inspirations

Model: 0937274976

Author: Daniel Mack

Shop Tested Outdoor Furniture You Can Make: From the Editors of Wood Magazine

Model: 069620746X

Author: The Editors of *Wood Magazine*

3/4" Power Tenon Cutter

Model: 05J4102

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Website: www.leevalley.com

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