



## Frequently Asked Questions LATHE DUPLICATOR OPTIONS

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Safe practises should always be employed to ensure the Health and Safety of yourself, employees and customers (if applicable) Refer to product manuals, exploded drawings and our website if further assistance is required, or contact us on [service@teknatool.com](mailto:service@teknatool.com)

Date Amended:

**Question: Do you sell a lathe duplicator for the Nova 3000? If not can you recommend one that works well with your lathe, which I own and love.  
Michael, USA.**

**Answer:**

Teknatool does not manufacture a duplicating attachment for the Nova 3000 or it's other lathes at the present time. The US market has a couple of options that we can recommend:

- **Vega Machines**

Suitable for Nova 3000

The best duplicator on the market is the Vega duplicator. Vega will sell it set up to fit the Nova 3000. You can reach Vega at 800-222-8342.

- **Penn State Distributors**

Suitable for mini lathes with a split bed (ie Mercury) You would need to make some adaptations yourself to fit it to the Mercury. The restriction is they only duplicate a shape up to 10" long.

Of course, there are other duplication machines on the market - but Teknatool have not seen or evaluated them all, so we can't recommend them - but you might want to check them out for yourself or ask at your local club or newsgroup on the Internet.

### **IMPORTANT!**

*It's important that you realise Duplicators do have their limitations - many turners think that duplicators will automatically duplicate a piece of work easily (which is I suppose a reasonable assumption!) The reality can be somewhat different, however, and it is important that you do consider the following points:*

1. It's ability to give a good finish off the lathe - usually they don't perform that well. You will need to be prepared to put a bit of finishing work into the piece.
2. They are restricted in the shapes and curves they can follow - it's usually best to design the turning around the duplicator - not the other way round.
3. It's ability to handle very small diameter turning - basically the cutter is usually just a form of scraping tool which places a lot of lateral pressure across the turning diameter. A small turning will flex quite a bit under this sort of cutting pressure. You will need to compensate by supporting the turning (sometimes finger pressure is enough).
4. To obtain best results you will probably need to vary the cutter speed - here the variable speed Mercury and 3000 lathes will be invaluable.

Good lathe duplicator manufacturers/retailers should be happy to point out the limitations and tell you how to get the best from your unit, so don't be afraid to ask.

Best of Luck in your search!

