



# a natural state

**Artist: Peter Werner**

Video 6: Broom Types

Werner: OK. Next, I'm going to talk to you about the different types and styles of brooms that I make, all the way from the small, non-hand...wooden-handled brooms to the metal brooms to the different kinds of pieces of wood that I find in different places.

This is called a fanned turkey wing. And it is fanned because, when I put the pieces in, I keep curving it around so that it has a large sweeping area. And this would be considered to be the front of the broom, where all of the pieces of string that are wound around all are close together and they all look parallel to each other. And then the opposite side of the broom is spiraled, where I actually put a new section of broom straw in and spiral up to the next place, the next place, the next place.

I'd like to talk to you about some of the other brooms that I make. And one of them is a metal-handled broom. And I have three blacksmiths that I work with. This one happens to be from Doyle Harper. And this is a very nice pattern of a leaf that he puts on that very end of his smithing process. So he gives me the handles and then I weave the broom on it.

And then this is another type of spiraling pattern that my second blacksmith friend, Barry Myers, makes, where this comes out as one piece. And then you can see from the smithing process that he welds four pieces on here, and then there are four pieces spiraling around to the very top, where they come together. And then he finishes them in a loop so that the broom can hang on a hearth. And so this is called a hearth broom.

This is a yet-to-be-made broom, but I think that this is one of the most fantastic handles I could've ever found. The problem with it is that it's very time-consuming because it's got all this bark on it and I'm having to dremel it down. And you can see from the depth here that it's at least an eighth of an inch thick, so I have to gradually scrape all the bark off. But what is uncovered underneath is this striated wood grain, and that, again, is a piece of oak. Very heavy...very dense...but it's going to make a beautiful broom when I eventually get done with it.

My wife is a contributing person to my hobby here because she...when we're looking for handles, will pick pieces of driftwood out and then burn my initials and the year that this broom was made in. And so they become part of, of the broom.

