

Product Design Engineering: a unique course at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia.

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Project Case Study:

“Timba” - Musical Instrument for Hand-Therapy

“Timba” is a multi-sensory musical instrument for users who have a fine-motor disability. It employs the therapeutic benefits of music to motivate hand strength and grasp development, in an attractive, compact product that is suited for use in special schools and early learning centers.

The instrument is accessed through its responsive, foam-based exterior, which activates musical tones when squeezed. Timba has been designed to mimic the function of traditional musical instruments - in that it may be used rhythmically, melodically and expressively - to promote self-esteem in an often marginalised group in society.



Diana Rigg: Final year Product Design Engineering project.