

# The Michelangelo Hand

Kelsey Foster



# The Michelangelo Hand

- ◉ Invented by Otto Bock
- ◉ The only prosthetic hand with a thumb that electronically moves into position.

- Prosthetic hands have come a long way and work on the Michelangelo hand has been underway for over a decade.
- The problem with most prosthetics is that they are more cosmetic than functional.

- The hand has multiple grips to allow users to master everyday tasks such as.
- Opening toothpaste
- Gripping a key
- Holding a credit card
- Using a clothes iron
- Chopping vegetables
- Gripping a steering wheel

- The fingers are made up of hard and soft materials and model bones, joints, muscles, and tendons.
- The new oval wrist adapter also appears much more natural and permits pronation and supination of the wrist joint (out; up)

- The hand is equipped with two drive units
- The main drive is for gripping movements and power
- The thumb drive allows the thumb to be moved electronically

- Only 11 hands are currently in use today
- 10 to wounded veterans
- Only one civilian currently has one
- The cost of one of these hands costs around \$100,000, however this cost is usually covered by insurance or workers comp.

# References

- [www.armdynamics.com/pages/michelangelo](http://www.armdynamics.com/pages/michelangelo)
- [www.hanger.com/prosthetics/services/technology/pages/michelangelohand.aspx](http://www.hanger.com/prosthetics/services/technology/pages/michelangelohand.aspx)