

Stuart Shanker's Adjustable Carving Stand

Making an Inexpensive Adjustable Carving Stand

These are directions and a materials list for making a carving stand that can fit into your tool post on your lathe and adjusts in any direction. It requires that you obtain materials that will fit your lathe in order for it to adjust maximally. Mine fits a Powermatic 3520B lathe and my 1 ¼ x 8 chuck threads. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me by e-mail at sshanker4@hotmail.com.

Materials List:

1. A 2x4 of hard or soft wood that is at least 7 ¼ inches long (as it will be cut in two).
2. One 1" x 12" long piece of cold rolled steel rod. Or a piece of steel rod to fit your tool post.
3. One ¾" x 8" bolt threaded on the end with a ¾ x 10 thread
4. One ¾" x 10 thread nut
5. One 3/8" x 3 1/2" bolt threaded on the end
6. One nut to fit the 3/8" bolt
7. Two washers to fit the 3/8" bolt
8. One piece of rubberized shelf liner or a rubber jar opener/ rubber gasket at least 3" x 3" cut round or square to fit in between the 2 x 4 blocks
9. One Oneway Multi Tip Revolving Center Chuck Adapter to fit the threads of your chuck. This screws onto the ¾" threaded bolt. OR cut off a piece of threaded rod to fit your chuck and attach it to the bolt by threading it on or weld it on or silver solder it on or JB weld it on. OR use a piece of threaded rod to fit your chuck (then you don't need # 3, 4 above).

Directions:

1. Cut the 7 ¼ inch long 2 x 4 into two 3 ½ x 3 ½ blocks. Hard wood works best but pine or fir will also do the job.
2. On the 1 ½ inch thick side of the block measure in 1 ¼ inches and drill a 1 inch hole all the way through the side grain of the block. This will hold the 12 inch piece of 1 inch cold rolled steel rod that goes into your tool post. This hole will look offset on the block and that's what you want.
3. On the other block use the same location for the next hole but drill it as a ¾ inch hole all the way through the side grain of the 1 ½ inch side.
4. On the bandsaw or using any saw that will cut through the endgrain of the block, stand the block up so that it is standing on the 1 ½" side with the 1" hole vertical and

farthest from the bandsaw blade. Cut a relief cut into the 1 ½" endgrain side 2" long ending in the drilled hole. Do the same thing to the second block but the relief cut may be longer if you are using the ¾" bolt to hold the chuck.

5. Place the 3 ½" block face down on a flat surface. The previous drilled hole is now horizontal on the flat surface. 1/8" next to the hole on the block's face 1 ¾" from the top and 1 1/2" from the side which was cut into for the relief cut, drill a 3/8" hole perpendicular to the first hole. It will go through the relief cut.

6. Assemble the two blocks by putting the 1" steel rod into the 1" hole and the ¾" bolt into the ¾" hole. Put the rubber gasket or shelf liner between the two blocks after punching a 3/8" hole in the middle of it. Place the 3/8" bolt into the 3/8" holes of the two pieces after putting a washer on the head end of the bolt and secure it with another washer and 3/8" nut. Have the two sections of the blocks which have the relief cuts in them opposing each other. By tightening the 3/8" nut on the bolt, the assembly will stiffen or loosen for movement of the 1" steel rod, the ¾" bolt and the two wooden blocks to get the angle you desire.

7. Attach the ¾" nut to the ¾" bolt all the way down the threads. Screw on the Oneway Chuck Adapter sized for your chuck or see number 9 above.

8. You are now ready to use the carving stand by attaching the steel rod into the tool post of your lathe.

