Fighting the Recycle Bin Lid – One Less Hassle, Version 1.1

By R. G. Sparber

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It takes one hand to hold open the recycle bin's lid, one to steady the small pail, and one to free up things stuck inside.

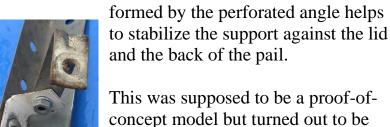
Hmm, I've run out of hands. Sure, I can walk around the side, pivot the lid back, so it hangs down vertically, then walk back to the front and have two hands for the pail. Then I must walk around to the bin's back to retrieve the lid. Yes, I know this is a "first-world problem," but it is still annoying.



Today, I finally stopped long enough to think about a simple solution. The lid now pivots just beyond vertical, so it is within easy reach.



The magical homemade tool? A length of scrap perforated angle with two pieces of scrap angle bolted to it to form a hook. The V



the finished product.

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The tool hangs off the hinge, ready to stop the lid from moving too far back. I remove it before taking the pail out to the curb.

A previous design of these pails had a built in lid stop. The shock caused by the garbage truck's mechanical arm flipping the pail over would crack the lid arms.

I'll make a second tool for my trash bin.

I welcome your comments and questions.

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