

A Self-Contained Workshop Sink, Version 1.0

By R. G. Sparber

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I had a small amount of space and a need for a small amount of water. Once I had recognized the need, the solution was close at hand.

Starting at the top, I have an unruly pile of towels. To impress you, I guess I should have at least folded one up and taken the rest away.

The towels rest on a jug of water with its spigot captured in a conduit clamp. The jug rests on a length of scrap shelf. I use Simple Green to degrease most things, including my hands, so it sits to the right of the jug.

My sink is a repurposed bread pan. It rests in a frame. More on this later.

My sink drains into an old water jug, which rests on more of the scrap shelf.

Another jug, full of water plus a few empty jugs, sits on the floor under this contraption. I refill the water supply about every 3 months and dump the drain jug about every 8 months. Much of the water goes into a cup for use in the shop. Living in the desert, this water evaporates away rather quickly.

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The frame is made of discarded, cheap metal shelving. The shelves have long since buckled and been tossed², but most of the uprights were still good.



To convert the bread pan into a sink, I supported the ends on 2 by 4's. Then I took a steel cylinder about 1½ inches in diameter and placed it in the center of the pan. One whack with a large ball peen hammer and the pan had a nice slope to the center.



I selected a piece of ¾ inch schedule 40 PVC with half of a union welded on it³. This fitting has a circular groove with an O-ring in it.

I drilled 6-32 tap holes from inside the pan and through the fitting being careful to be outside of the O-ring. Then I opened the pan holes out to clearance. As I ran 6-32 screws into the fitting, they cut threads.

The piece of pipe extends about an inch into the jug. To remove the jug, I lift up on the sink and slide it out.

It is always satisfying to me to take bits and pieces that others would toss and turn them into a useful item.

² Yes, tossed. They were that bad!

³ If you are a regular reader, you know I don't throw much away. Projects like this just "feed the disease."

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Rick Sparber

Rgsparber.ha@gmail.com

Rick.Sparber.org