

# Crotch Located Cup Holder, Version 1.1

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By R. G. Sparber

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Today is April 2<sup>nd</sup>. If I had written this article yesterday, I wonder how many readers would have been looking for the joke.

If you are not from my country, this might very well seem like a joke. Us Americans love cup holders in our cars. But in my car, none are within easy reach while I drive.



I have one cup holder near my right knee. Taking a cup out of this holder can be done while I keep my eyes on the road but replacing it is distracting.



I also have a cup holder on my left side. It is only useful for blocking the adjacent air vent.



What I needed was a centrally located cup holder. Maybe right in my lap.

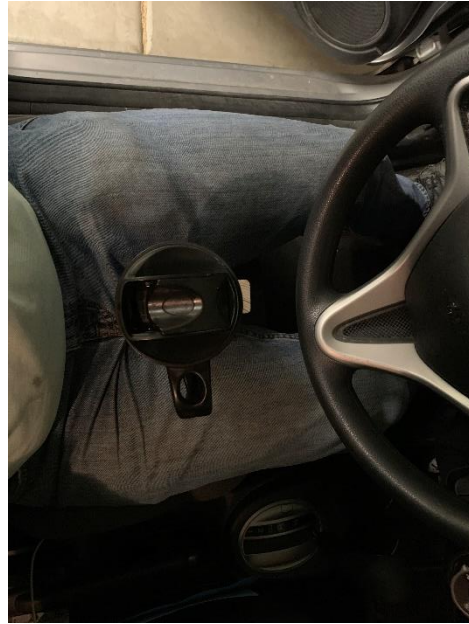
Sometimes I will wedge my coffee cup between my legs but it is both uncomfortable and unstable. Gotta be a better way.

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Here is my proof of concept. Just a block of 2 by 6 with a heavy plastic cup attached with two screws. I did sand the block to remove splinters but that was the extent of the refinements.



I tried it out and am now thinking this might be the finished product. The block is thick enough to match the normal gap between my legs and the height of the block is short enough to not bottom out on the car seat. This permits the bottom of the cup to rest on my inner thighs which helps with stability.

My coffee mug fits snugly into its holder yet releases easily. Just like with real estate, location is everything. Ready to test in heavy traffic!



After using the cup holder for a few weeks, I have added two design elements. The first was these curved braces to the flanks of the block of wood. There were cut from 6-inch diameter ABS pipe. All edges were rounded. My inner thighs fit into these curved surfaces and greatly reduce the tendency of the cup to tilt on tight turns.



The second addition was to place a large washer in the bottom of the cup and secure it with a wood screw. This reduces the flexing of the cup during turns. The result is a more stable holder for my morning mug of coffee.

I welcome your comments and questions.

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