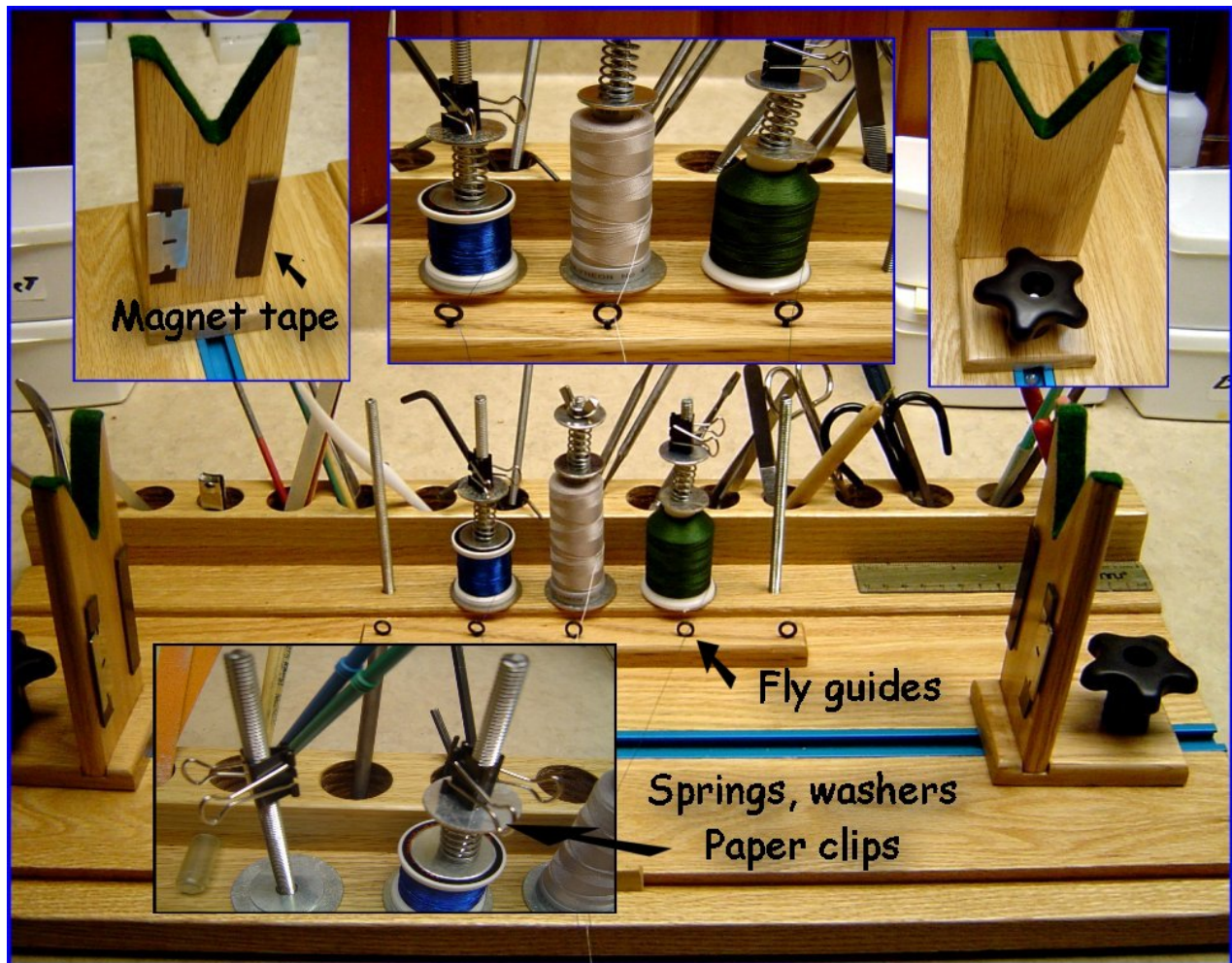


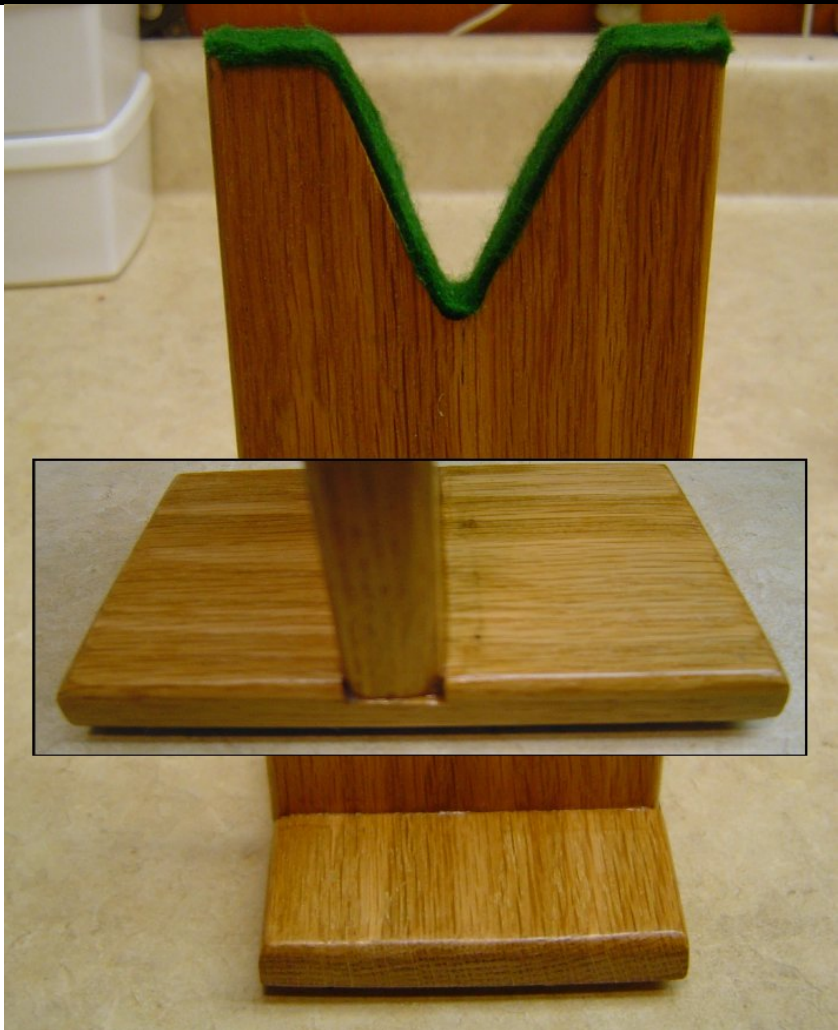
Building a Hand Wrapper

Let me start by saying that I am NOT a wood worker and this is the First thing that I have ever built out of wood that I was happy with! I used Oak solely because I wanted to make the "ultimate" (for me) wrapper. Pine or anything else could be used just as well.

The dimensions were basically decided by the fact that Lowe's had Oak lumber in 2' lengths pre cut. The base is a 12" wide X 24" piece. The tool holder piece is 2 1X2" pieces glued together and the "base" that the thread sits on is a 2" by about $\frac{1}{4}$ " piece. All of the pieces were standard lengths and needed no cutting.

The wrapper uprights/bases were 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide and $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick and the stand alone uprights/bases were 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " X $\frac{1}{2}$ " There was no specific reason for the dimensions other than I wanted fairly narrow widths for the wrapper uprights since they would be secured in the T-tracks and wanted the stand alone ones to be a little bigger/heavier. They were 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall.. The upright pieced in the stand alone supports need to be higher to compensate for the thickness of the wrapper base.





I used a Forstner Bit in a small tabletop drill press to drill the holes in the tool holder piece. I think that if I were to do it again though, I would make the hole deeper (as deep as I could) to hold the tools a little straighter, but it's not a problem the way it is now. Since I had received a router/table for a birthday gift and had NO idea how to use it, I had a friend teach me and I routed the dovetail slot for the sliding thread guide (made from a piece of scrap sanded to a triangle shape to loosely fit the slot and fitted with a #8 fly ceramic guide straighten out. The raised piece of wood in front of the thread holders was glued in place and the thread guides (#8 fly guides also) afterwards because when the guides were mounted directly on the base, the thread often slipped under the spool and got stuck. Raising them up took care of that. I decided to go with tensioning the spool instead of the thread so I used $\frac{1}{4}$ " threaded rod for the spool holders and washer/springs from the hardware store. I put a larger washer underneath the spool and a smaller washer/spring/washer on the top. I originally used a wing nut to control the tension and it worked well but was a pain because I made the rod long enough to handle large spools like Madeira, etc. and it was a pain to take the wing nut on/off with a low spool like Gudebrod. I switched to the heavy "Paper clip" clamps from Office Max and love them. Quick and easy. One thing that you have to make sure is that you place the rods far enough forward of the tool holders that any size spool will be able to fit without hitting the tool holder (the reason for the $2 \times \frac{1}{4}$ " piece is that I originally drilled the rod holes to close to the tool holders so I covered them with the 2" wide wood piece and re drilled for the rods. I like the look though so it worked out fine). I sprayed a couple coats of quick drying lacquer on it. Mounted the T-track and added the peel and stick felt in the uprights and felt "buttons" on the standalone uprights and the base, mounted the hardware and am very happy with it.

Incidentally, with the exception of the tool holder(Titebond), everything was put together with Rod Bond, even the T-track. No screws were used in the wrapper.

The felt and felt "buttons are available in most hardware stores and the T-track, T-bolts and knobs were purchased from Rocker www.rockler.com

PS One thing that I forgot to mention is that on the bottom of the wrapper upright bases, I put a about a small piece of dowel a inch or so in front of the T-bolt just to keep the upright straight. Not mandatory but makes it slide a little straighter.

Remember, just make it to suit you!!

If you have any questions, feel free to holler

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