

by **Thinkenstein** on August 28, 2009

intro: ART AND CRAFT STOOL	2
step 1: The Pipe Frame	3
step 2: The Seat	4
step 3: The Feet	6
step 4: The Turntable Top	7
step 5: The "T" Top	8
Related Instructables	9
Advertisements	10
Comments	10

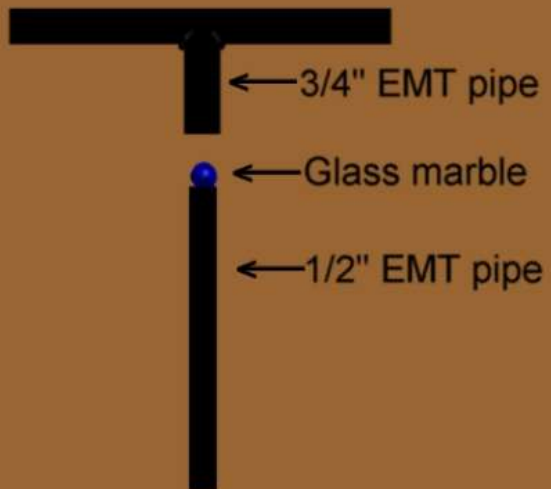
intro: ART AND CRAFT STOOL

This stool has three legs and is stable even on irregular surfaces. The front leg extends upward, making work height adjustable. The pipe supports either a small round turntable upon which one can make jewelry and small sculptures, or a rotating "T" top for use with a drawing board. The stool is light weight and easy to carry.

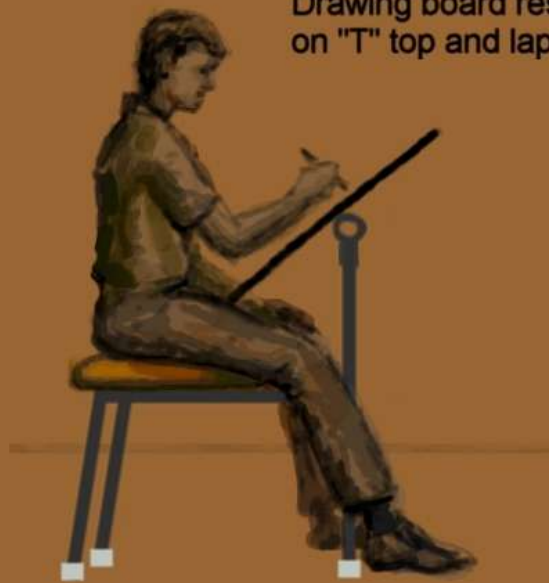
Construction of the stool involves some welding.



Rotating "T" top



Drawing board rests on "T" top and lap.





step 1: The Pipe Frame

This stool was made many years ago and was never painted. Where the pipe was welded, the galvanized coating was damaged and the welded areas are rusted. Use of a rust-preventive paint after construction means more work, but will extend the life of the stool.

The dimensions of the pipe depend on the dimensions of the user. Think of a bicycle seat suspended in the air at a comfortable height. Then cut your pipe the right lengths to connect the seat with the ground.



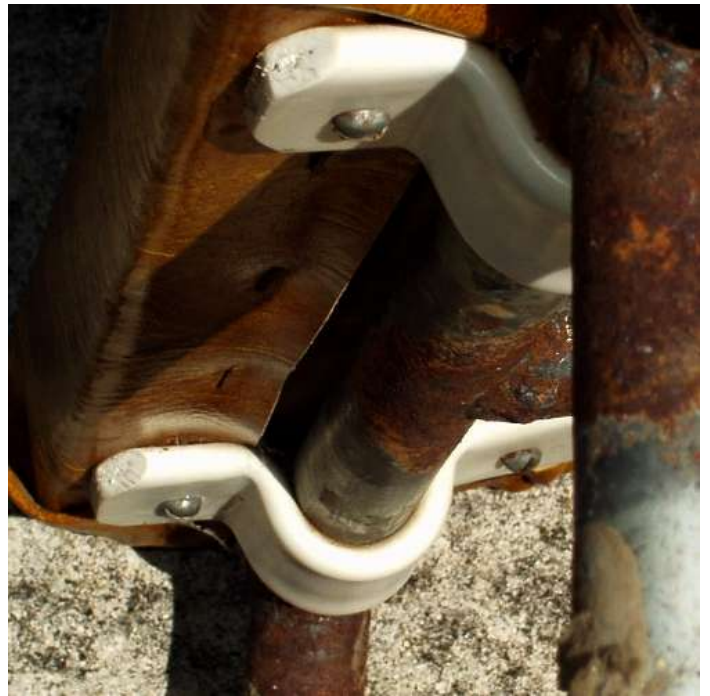


step 2: The Seat

You might be able to just find a comfortable bicycle seat and weld it to the stool's pipe frame.

I cut a piece of plywood to the shape I wanted and upholstered it with some mattress foam and vinyl material. The vinyl was folded over the foam and plywood and stapled to the bottom of the plywood.

The Plywood is mounted to the pipe frame with three brackets I made out of PVC pipe, heating the plastic to form the brackets. If you do that, make sure you have good ventilation and try not to burn the plastic. You could also buy metal brackets that do the same job.





step 3: The Feet

To protect the floor surface, the bottom ends of the pipe legs are covered with 3/4" PVC pipe caps. If I recall correctly, I may have had to heat the plastic a little to soften it and let me jam the caps over the ends of the pipe. Heating would have been done with a propane torch, holding the caps with pliers. Try to soften the plastic slowly and carefully, to avoid burning it. You might get lucky and find caps that fit perfectly without heating.

If the feet caps wear out someday, they are easy to find and easy to replace.



step 4: The Turntable Top

The turntable top was made out of some scrap plywood. A tight-fitting hole was drilled to make a socket for a short section of 3/4" diameter pipe to enter. It was glued in place. The other end of the short section was sawed with a hack saw to make 3 "fingers". The fingers were then hammered over a piece of 1/2" pipe to conform to its shape. A hose clamp tightens around the fingers and holds them to the 1/2" pipe that telescopes up from the front leg.

Loosening the hose clamp allows free turning movement for the turntable. Tightening the clamp keeps the top from turning when you want a more solid work surface.

The same sort of telescoping connection with a hose clamp is used below on the vertical support pipe, where it exits from the top of the front leg.



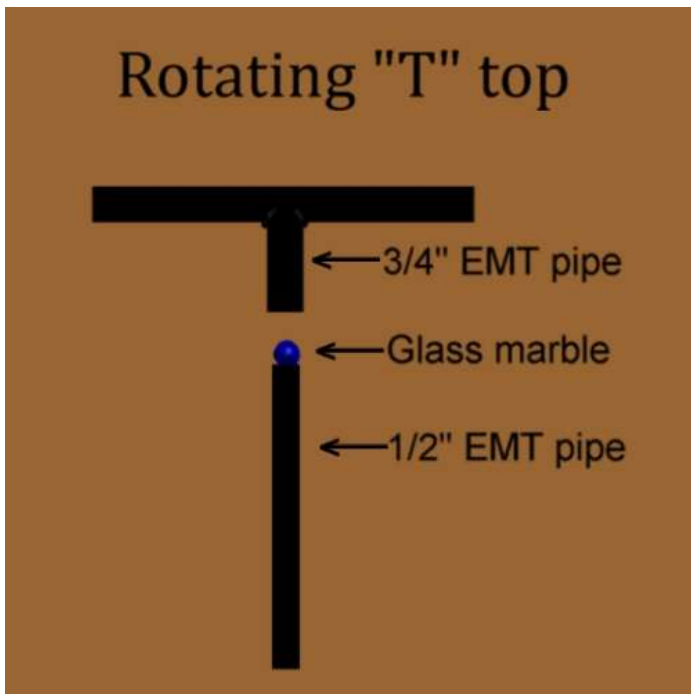
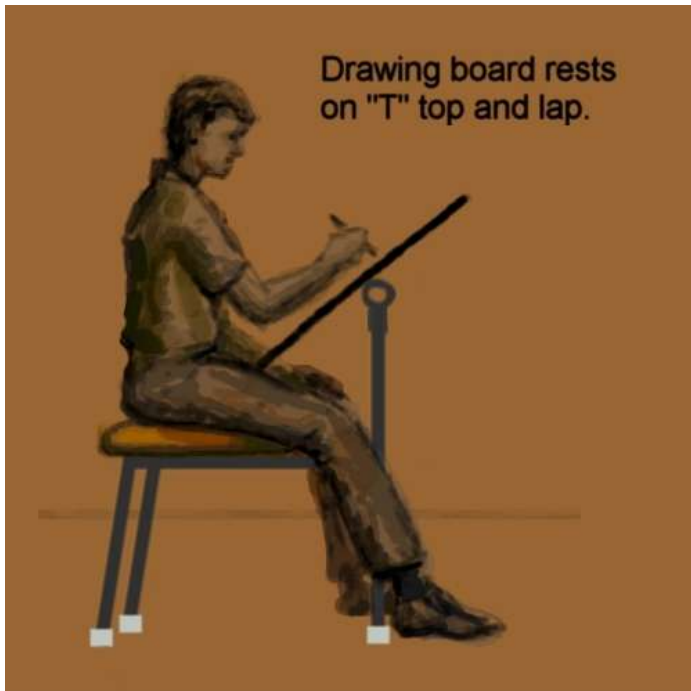
step 5: The "T" Top

I haven't used my stool for drawing in a long time and have lost the "T" top. I no longer have welding equipment to make a new one.

The basic idea can be demonstrated using PVC pipe and a "T" connector. The original "T" top was made out of 3/4" EMT pipe and fit loosely over the top of the vertical 1/2" support pipe.

A glass marble was glued to the top of the support pipe. It reduced friction from the "T" rubbing on the top of the pipe. The marble also creates less friction in the movement of the turntable top.

Given the loose fit of the "T" top on the support pipe, the top spins freely. It always conforms well to the angle of the drawing board and gives good support for the board.





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Comments

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Dipankar says:
Very useful item.
Add three wheels and it could go places.
Well done.....

Aug 31, 2009. 4:59 AM [REPLY](#)



yopauly says:
I'm going to make one(or 2) for my g-daughter. Hey, what is that landscape in the back ground? Is it all concrete?

Aug 29, 2009. 2:09 PM [REPLY](#)



Thinkenstein says:
Nylon-cement, not concrete. Recycled nylon fishnet and cement (3 to 1 sand and cement mix. No gravel.

Aug 29, 2009. 9:41 PM [REPLY](#)



yopauly says:
How has it held up? How thick is it? Your thoughts? Sorry to go off topic. I never heard of such.

Aug 30, 2009. 10:50 AM [REPLY](#)



Thinkenstein says:
Patios about 1/4 inch thick. Walls about 1 1/2 inch thick. Holds up pretty well. Repairable if it needs it. See www.angelfire.com/in2/manythings -- house photos and Nylon-cement text file.

Aug 30, 2009. 4:41 PM [REPLY](#)



thepelton says:
There is a metal plate with a rod centered on the bottom that was made for holding sculpture, and is available from Woodcraft that could be adapted to this.

Aug 29, 2009. 9:20 AM [REPLY](#)



omnibot says:
I like it .. would be the perfect gift for fiancé.

Aug 29, 2009. 1:07 AM [REPLY](#)



hominid says:
Very snappy and inventive.

Aug 28, 2009. 8:28 PM [REPLY](#)



rimar2000 says:
Very interesting.

Aug 28, 2009. 7:46 PM [REPLY](#)



Bongmaster says:
nice stuff :)

Aug 28, 2009. 12:22 PM [REPLY](#)



Ward_Nox says:
i need a modified version of this myself so thank you

Aug 28, 2009. 9:54 AM [REPLY](#)



hawks22gk says:
Clever, I dig it.

Aug 28, 2009. 9:53 AM [REPLY](#)



Kiteman says:
Woah, a reverse-engineered Instructable.
Nice job.

Aug 28, 2009. 9:03 AM [REPLY](#)