

How to Build a "Drill Buddy"

Leave it to Jan to find a brilliant way to have your cake and eat it too, or in this particular case, have your frozen dinner and build a "Drill Buddy"! What exactly IS a Drill Buddy you ask, and why would I want one? Well, it's a nifty little device that you will need to build so you can core glass using a drill press and some diamond coring drill bits.

As you will soon learn when you read the next article in this series entitled, "How To Core Glass", the two most important pieces of equipment for coring glass are a drill press and some diamond coring drill bits. However, in order to safely and successfully core glass, you **MUST** be drilling with the glass **AND** the coring bit **UNDER** water and this is where the Drill Buddy comes in handy.

First, you will need a plastic container. You can use any plastic container (like an old Tupperware dish) providing the sides measure at least **TWO** and a half inches in height. (Jan and I have found that the frozen food aisle at the grocery store yields a delicious assortment of plastic containers!) You will need to be sure that the bottom of your container is **FLAT**, and that the container is large enough to contain the size of the glass piece you are wanting to core.

You will then want to locate a piece of scrap lumber (about $\frac{3}{4}$'s of an inch thick) that will sit comfortably inside your container. So, if you have a plastic dish that measures **6" x 6" x 2.5"** you should be looking for a block of wood that measures no more than **5.5" x 5.5" x $\frac{3}{4}$ "**. If you don't have any scrap pieces of wood at home, stop by your local hardware store and ask for some. Usually, they are only too happy to have you take whatever you need!

Next, pick up a tube of silicone sealant (Liquid Nails makes a great product) and apply several thick beads to the bottom of your plastic container, before pressing the piece of wood in place. Apply enough pressure to press out any air that may be trapped under the wooden block. Then, using more silicone sealant, caulk another nice thick bead of sealant all around the base of the wood block, where it meets the base of the plastic container and allow this to dry thoroughly according to the manufacturer's instructions (usually about 24 hours)!

Once the sealant has completely cured and your block of wood is firmly anchored to the base of your plastic container, your "Drill Buddy" is ready for action!