

Stand by Your Bird



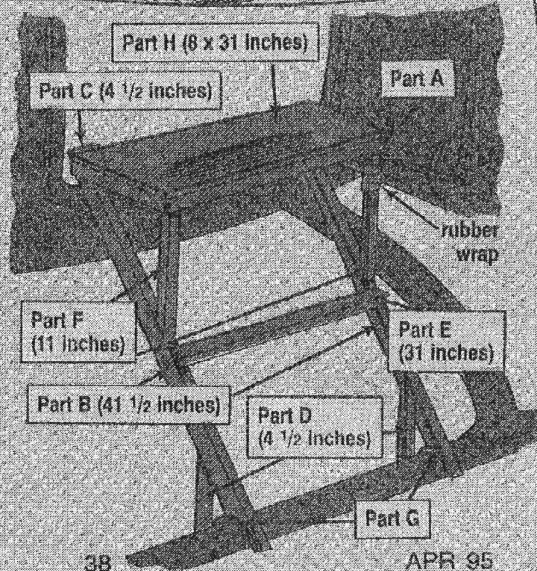
Dear Windy,

Most of us, when we pull inspections or do maintenance topside on our Kiowas, plant our big feet on the rear seat.

Not only are we always off-balance, but the seat gets dirty and greasy. Most work stands won't work, because the skid tube gets in the way.

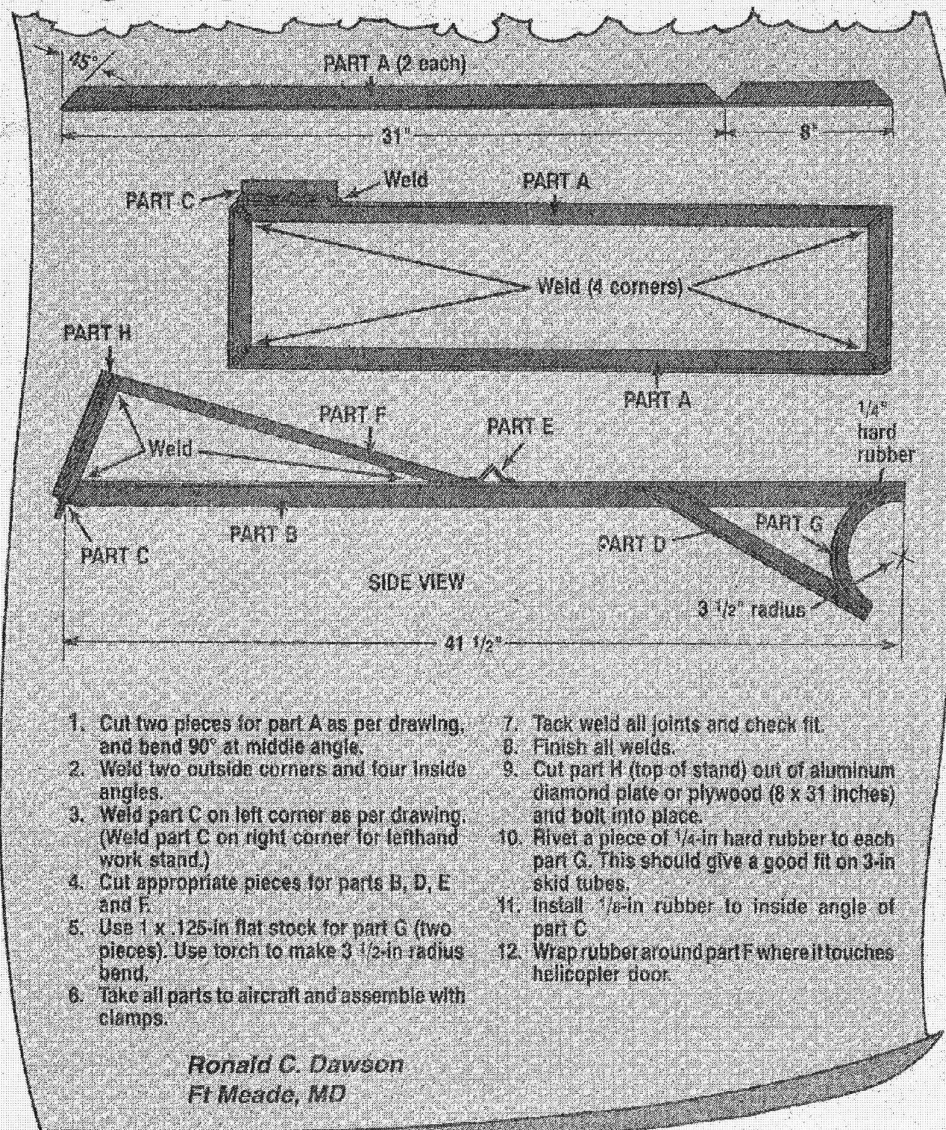
We made a maintenance stand out of 90° angle steel, 1 x 1 x .125 inch, that solves that problem. Here's what it looks like and how to make it:

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1. Cut two pieces for part A as per drawing, and bend 90° at middle angle.
2. Weld two outside corners and four inside angles.
3. Weld part C on left corner as per drawing. (Weld part C on right corner for lefthand work stand.)
4. Cut appropriate pieces for parts B, D, E, and F.
5. Use 1 x .125-in flat stock for part G (two pieces). Use torch to make 3 1/2-in-radius bend.
6. Take all parts to aircraft and assemble with clamps.
7. Tack weld all joints and check fit.
8. Finish all welds.
9. Cut part H (top of stand) out of aluminum diamond plate or plywood (8 x 31 inches) and bolt into place.
10. Rivet a piece of 1/4-in hard rubber to each part G. This should give a good fit on 3-in skid tubes.
11. Install 1/8-in rubber to inside angle of part C.
12. Wrap rubber around part F where it touches helicopter door.

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