

Vince Owyong's Third Hand Device



The Third Hand is a device that allows a bonsai tree to be held in a horizontal position and secured via the plant's root ball so that root work can be safely completed prior to repotting. As designed, a full sheet 18" x 26" baking tray may be set on base A to contain the waste.

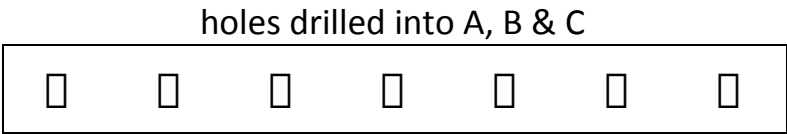
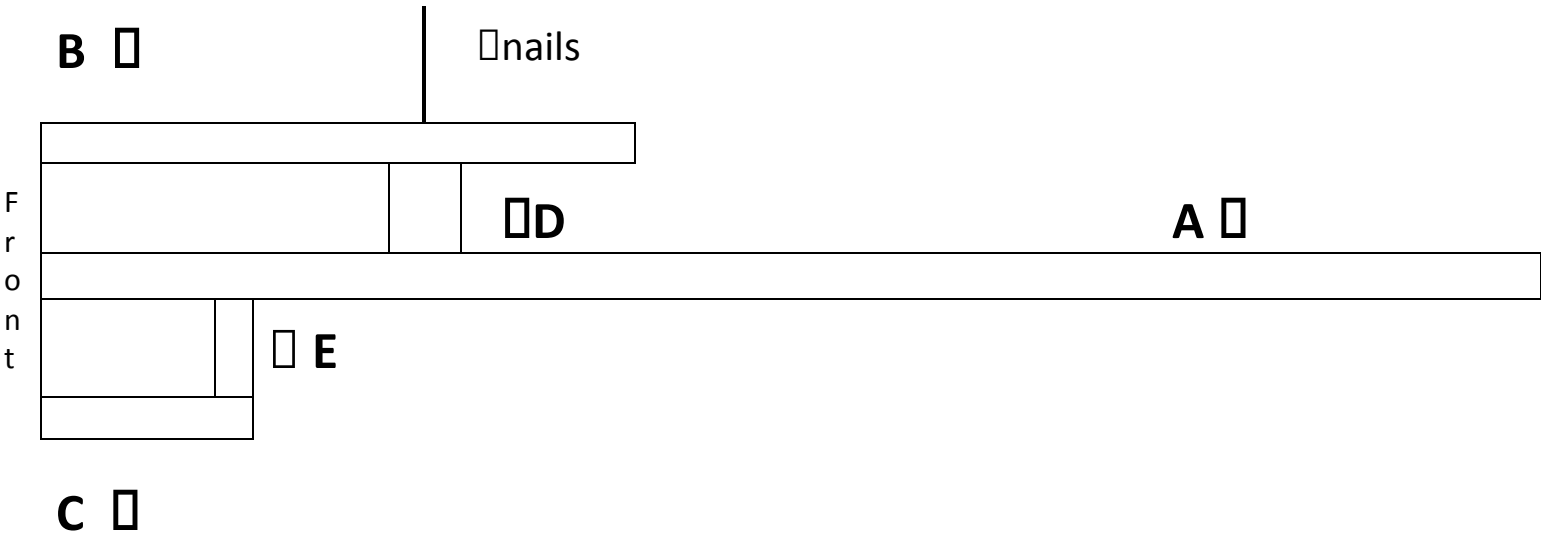


Diagram (not to scale)



Material / Cut List

- Using 3/4" plywood: cut one each
- (A) Base 19" x 30.5" (1)
 - (B) Drilled top board 19" x 4" (1)

(C) Drilled bottom board 18" x 2.75" (1)

(D) Riser between base (A) and top drilled board (B) 19" x 1.5" (1)

(E) Vertical board from base (A) and drilled bottom board (C) 18" x 3-3.25" (1)

Using 1/2" plywood cut to fit sides to reinforce the work end if desired

3/4" pine board 16-17" x 3" drilled to cover protruding nails

3/4" spade bit or Forstner bit

3/32" drill bit for nail holes

seven 16 penny nails (3-3.5" length)

1/2" thin walled electrical conduit – cut 2 pieces 16" long

3" zinc plated mending plate

Screws for assembly

Assembly

1. Align 3 loose pieces B-A-C and keep end of the device square and straight. Firmly fix B-A-C "sandwich" with strong clamps or screws.
2. Drill seven (7) holes: 1 in the center and 3 on each side using 3/4" spade bit or Forstner bit drilling all the way through A & B and **half way through C**. The edge of the hole is 1" back from the front edge of the plywood, which makes the center of the hole 1 3/8" from the edge of the plywood pieces A, B, C.
3. Drill six (6) 3/32" holes in a straight line through B – 3" from the front edge, spaced 2" apart. Advance 16 penny nails all the way through the wood. Slight countersink might be useful.
4. Using glue and screws, attach C to base A using E. Position D under nail heads and attach to B and A with glue and screws; **IMPORTANT: maintain alignment of holes in pieces A, B & C during assembly.**
5. Cut two (2) pieces of conduit into 16" lengths
6. Use 1/2" plywood on the sides to fill in the gap between front edge of B/D/A
7. To make nail cover, use pine wood or other solid wood. Place 1/2" edge centered along nail points, hit with hammer to mark nail positions on solid wood. Using 1/4" drill bit and **partially** drill through the board.
8. Always fasten to table or cart with clamps.





Third Hand attached to a 6' table.

