

Mid-Winter Garage Projects

If mid-winter has you weary of house projects, football games and terrible TV shows, consider some fun garage projects that help organize your Corvair stuff while just making you feel good. Below are some of the ways I have amused myself; if you have a neat idea, submit it to the VairCor!

Specialty Tool Wall Board: Special tools that are used infrequently can hide themselves in the wrong drawer, get left in a different work area and generally cause grief when you know you have them somewhere but can't remember where. A wall board does not encroach on garage space like a cabinet and you can spot a tool quickly as well as notice when one is missing. I used $\frac{3}{4}$ " pre-finished particle board cut to fit vacant wall areas. Particle board needs to have pilot holes for attaching screws when mounting items, but the slick white finish wipes off nicely and it reflects light back onto the floor space. The bottom of my large tool board rests on the floor to help support the weight and it is anchored into the concrete wall.



Mounting Fixtures For Specialty Tools: I like to practice wood working techniques and finishes by creating mounting fixtures out of scrap lumber thrown in a box from larger wood projects. It can be fun and challenging coming up with creative ideas that are functional. Using combinations of hardwoods, stains, and various finishes just adds a little extra touch and makes them easy to clean.



Air Tool Holders: There are a lot of specialty air tools that make Corvair work easier which can be picked up at swap meets, garage sales and Harbor Freight at reasonable prices. Stuffing them in my bottom tool box drawer was not the answer so I made another wall board similar to the one described above, adding chuck key mounts under each tool (why don't we have a "universal chuck key" law – the government has a myriad of regulations we don't need).



Grease Gun Storage: I have two grease guns I use regularly, one is air powered (one handed) and the other manual. Both work great but will occasionally leak a drop or two of oil, especially with synthetic grease. I used scrap lumber and a couple of plastic lids to make vertical storage in an area that had no other use. The plastic lids catch any oil that escapes.



Air Compressor Filter: Air filters for my vintage two stage Ingersol-Rand air compressor are \$25 on the aftermarket so I used a spare late model air cleaner, a flexible hose from the parts store, two clamps and some minor welding to create a larger remote filter that costs \$5 to change (and less frequently).

