

Building A Quintain

Simple Quintain Construction

by Sir Brion Anthony Uriel Tarragon

Here are some easy instructions and photos for building a quintain.

Here are the parts that you will need to construct from wood:



In addition, I have added a piece of 3/16" abs plastic to cover the shield to extend the life of the quintain face.

Here are the part metal parts you will need. Please take note: DO NOT USE THE LAZY SUSAN PICTURED BELOW. IT IS NOT BUILT TO WITHSTAND THE ABUSE.



Here is a picture of the heavy caster that I would recommend:

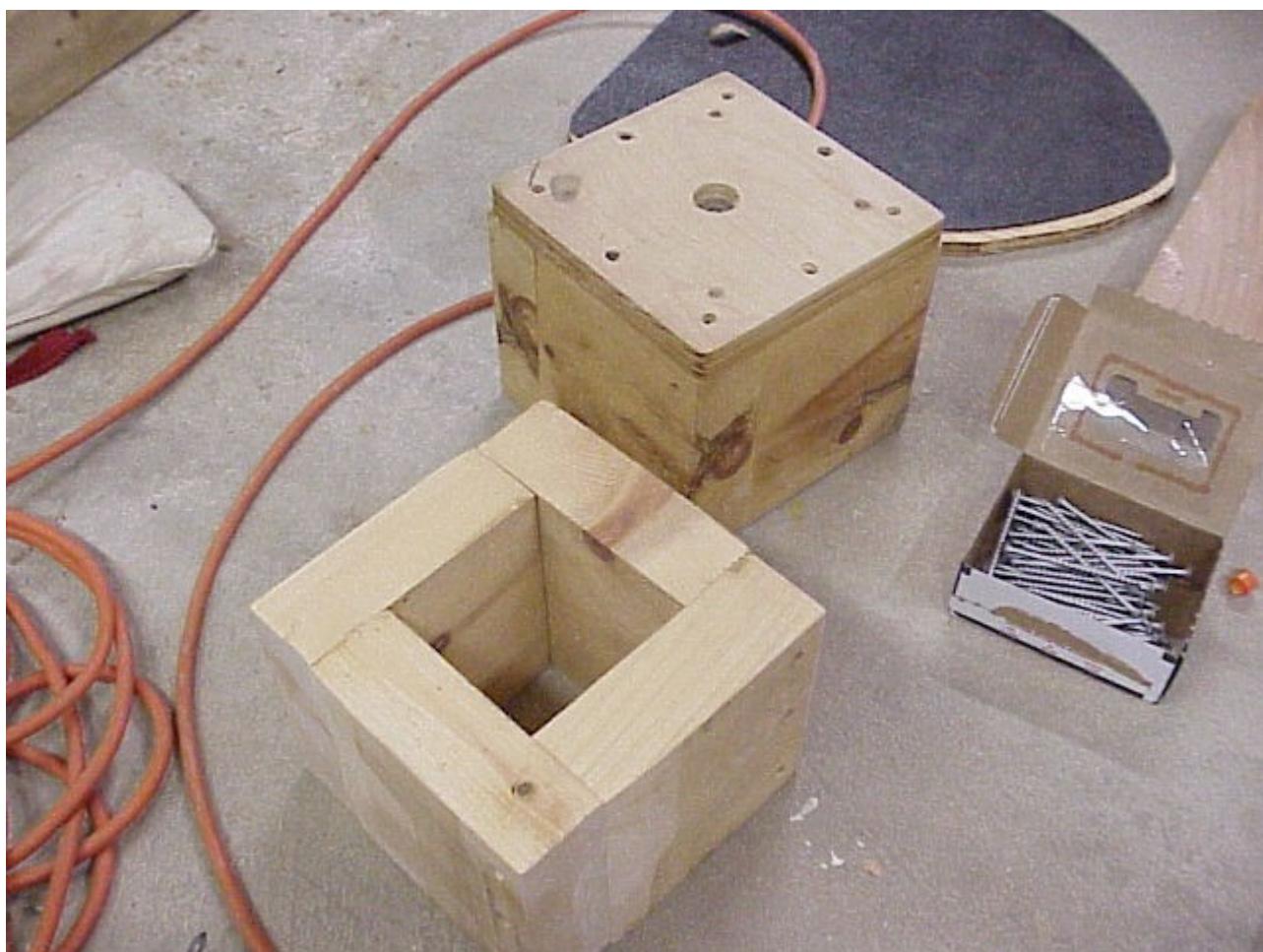


It can be purchased at the Woodworkers Warehouse for around \$10.00. Make sure you get the one with the bolt on the top that you can loosen. The one that I am using has been in use for two summer seasons and has not seen the worse for wear on either of my quintains.

I also suggest making two support brackets to brace the back of the shield face. These are made out of aluminum in the picture below. You could use steel or stainless or wood as an alternative.



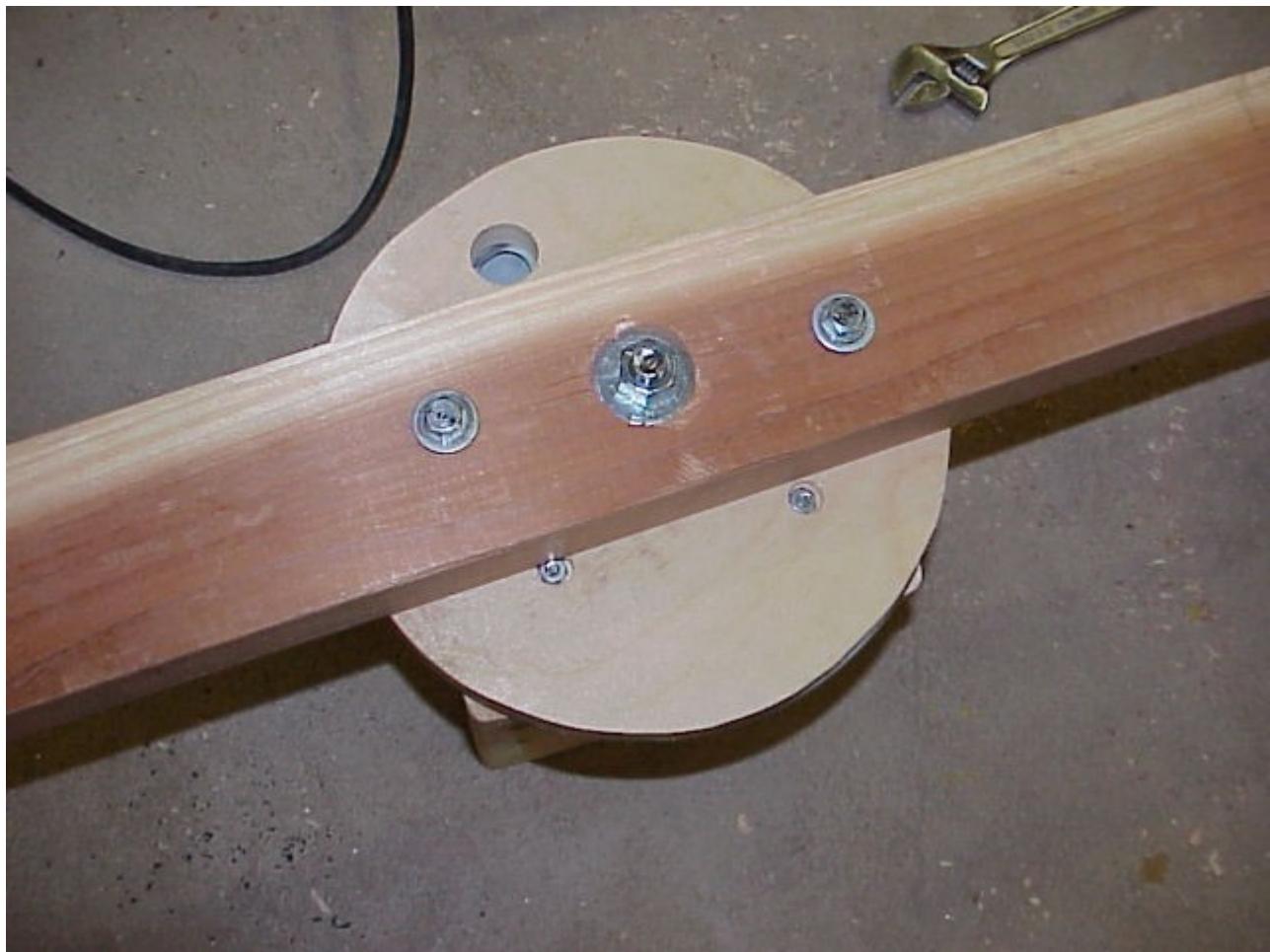
Start by constructing a box. The box is made to fit over a 4 x 4 and is 6" deep. The one below is constructed out of a true 2 x 6 with a plywood top all glued and reinforced with screws.



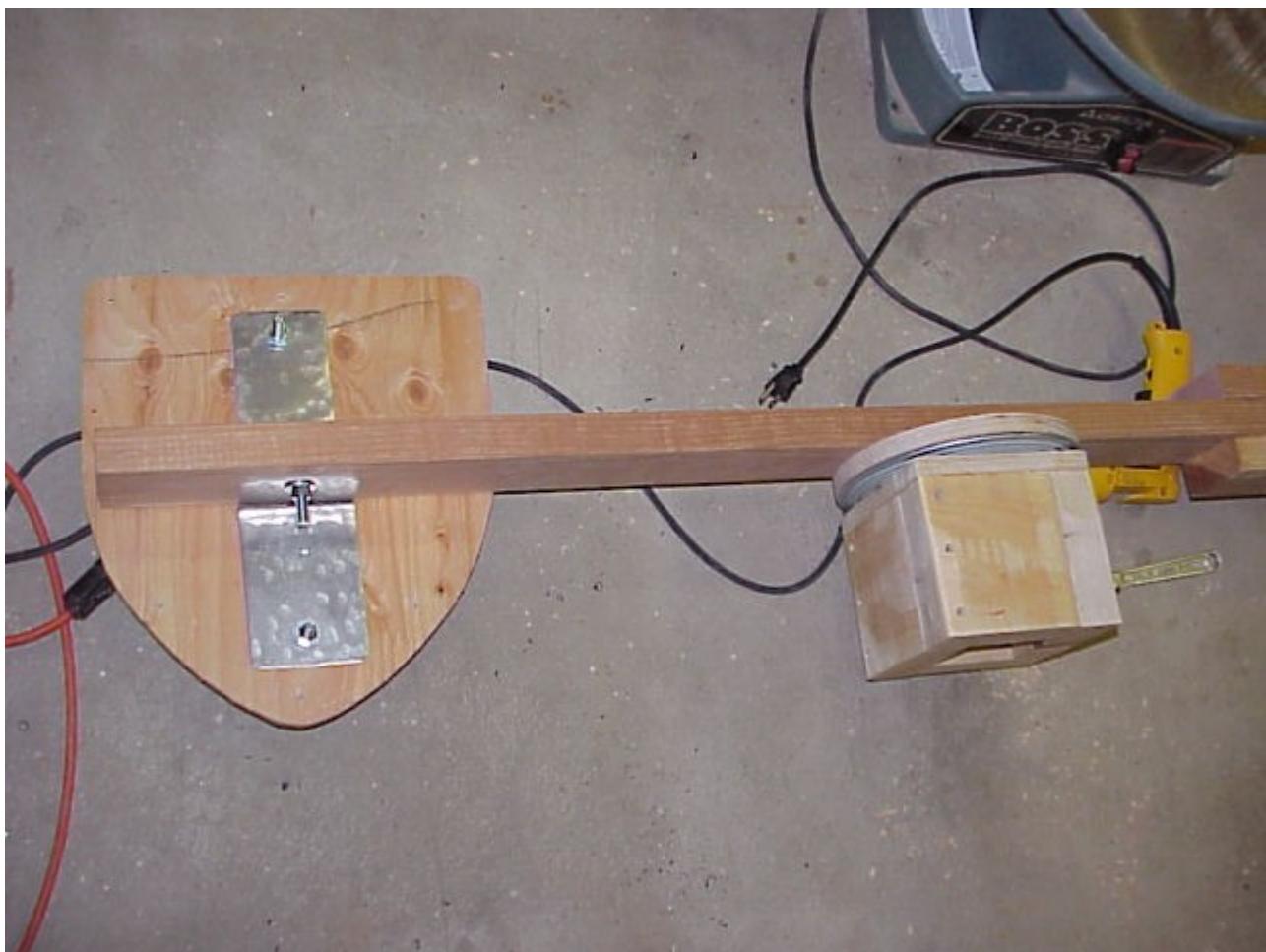


The arm is then attached to the top of the caster, which is bolted to the base.





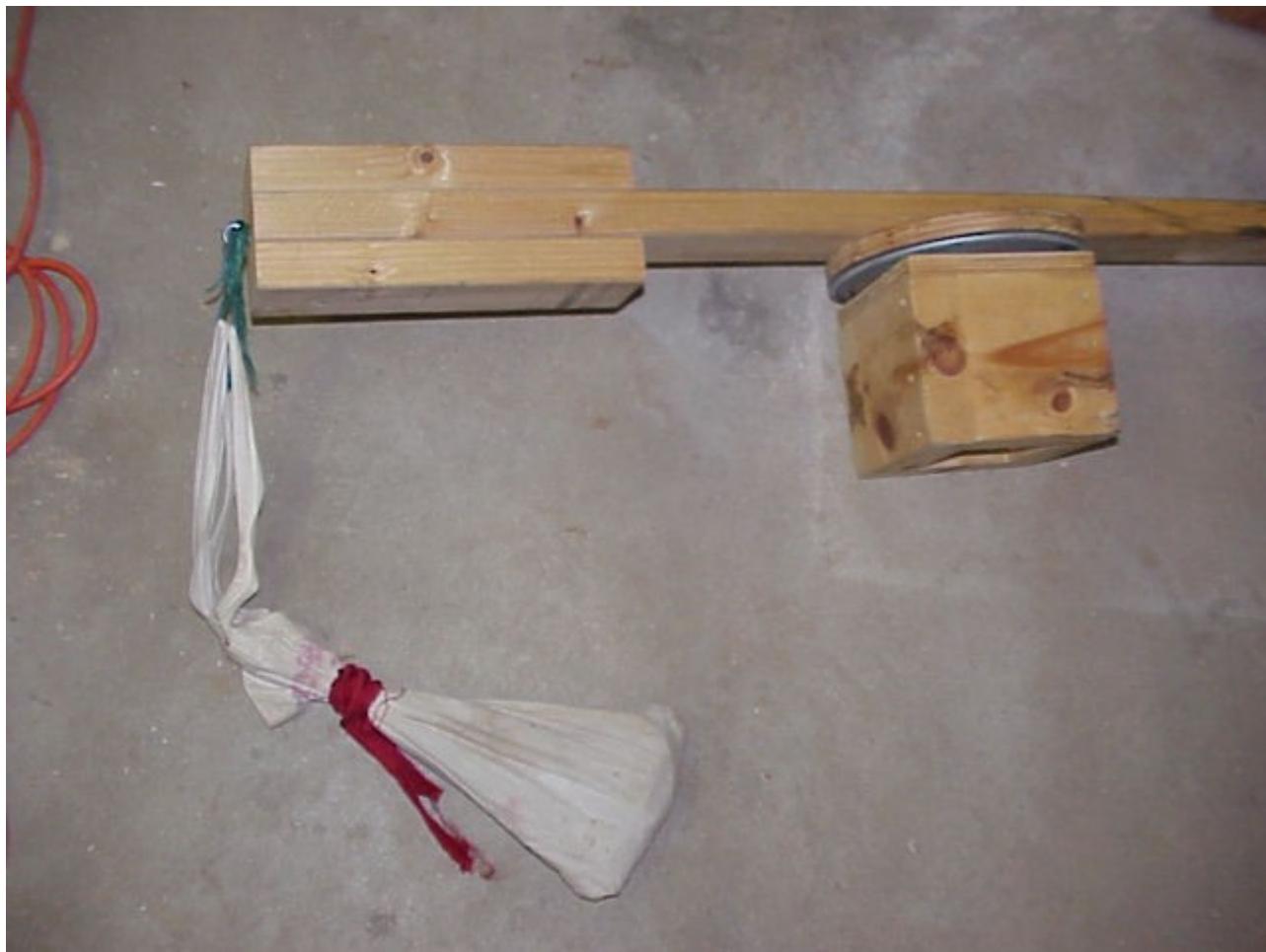
Reinforcements are placed on the back of the shield.



and ABS plastic is placed on the face of the shield. As you can see it has taken a considerable number of hits. I put the rough side facing the rider to provide a bit of grip on the surface for the quintain lances.



The backend of the arm is shorter than the section with the shield. This is for safety. The extra wood acts as a counterweight to allow a good free spin. Finally a bag of sand on the end acts as a reminder to the rider...



As I mentioned, I have two of these quintains and they have held up very well. I mount them on a 4x4 held in the ground by a portable stake. We have also mounted them off of an existing fence post.

Good luck!