

MAY 2020 SAFETY PRESENTATION

We have talked in the past about getting and using a proper metal container for storing discarded soaked rags and paper towels used with solvents, thinners, varnishes or anything potentially a fire hazard.

You can find several stories about TOTAL BUILDING LOSS due to a fire started overnight by soaked rags discarded in a corner which self-combusted.

Recently I tried to equip my shop with such a container, finding a source was not as easy as I thought. First no stock was to be found with the usual suspects, and then came the sticker shock when I located a few specialty supply houses where I could order online. The cost quoted was \$145 for the bucket and lid and the foot pedal option to operate the lid was \$46 extra plus shipping.

Here is my solution. For \$17, I purchased a heavy gauge pail from a local hardware.



It is manufactured by Beheren Metalware. The size is 13" in diameter and 14" tall. I added 2 small hinges, a 12"X 1"X1/8" piece of flat steel, screws and a can of spray paint. Total cost with supplies \$24.

Here is how I did it.

Cut the lid in a strategic location. Position and drill for the hinges, fit and drill flat to fit under the smaller portion of the lid, for support. Assemble lid, flat and hinges secure with machine screw and nuts. Secure lid with two self-tapping screws in the smaller lid portion. Paint to finish.

IMPORTANT, find a storing location for your pail away from readily combustible materials such as a stack of dry blanks or your stash of solvents and varnishes.

Happy and safe turning

Your safety officer, Frank Pagura