

## GLUING ON RAIL POSTS by Jerry Smith

On my particular ship, the Sir Winston Churchill, there is plenty of small detail. Most of this detail is difficult to handle with my big fat hands, particularly when it came time to install the rail posts. The posts are very small and had to be glued in place in a vertical position. Certainly you couldn't hold them with your hand and apply glue, then expect a perfect vertical position. After laying out and drilling holes for their location I thought of a simple fixture (jig) to hold them vertical while gluing. Remember, if you have a number of posts to install, such as I have, it will pay you to consider looking closely at how I solved this problem, then apply it to your situation. It will well worth your time to build this fixture (. To me it was a way to do it with guaranteed success. You know success is built on many failures.....if you keep at it long enough, and don't give up, you will succeed.

The fixture I came up with is very simple, made from a small block of wood. Keep it wide enough so it will stand vertical on a flat surface. Also small enough so it will fit between posts. Cut a small notch in the bottom to provide clearance for gluing. In order to make sure the post was vertical in the fixture I match drilled the holes in the post to the fixture and glued in small pins, made from the wire rail supplied, to index it. Once the post was inserted on the pins a small piece of tape held it there for gluing. I then set the end of the post in the drilled hole and applied thin CA, using the end of a pin for application, to set it. I was thrilled with the results. Although your posts may look different than mine, no doubt this suggestion will benefit you with a sure fire way to install them.

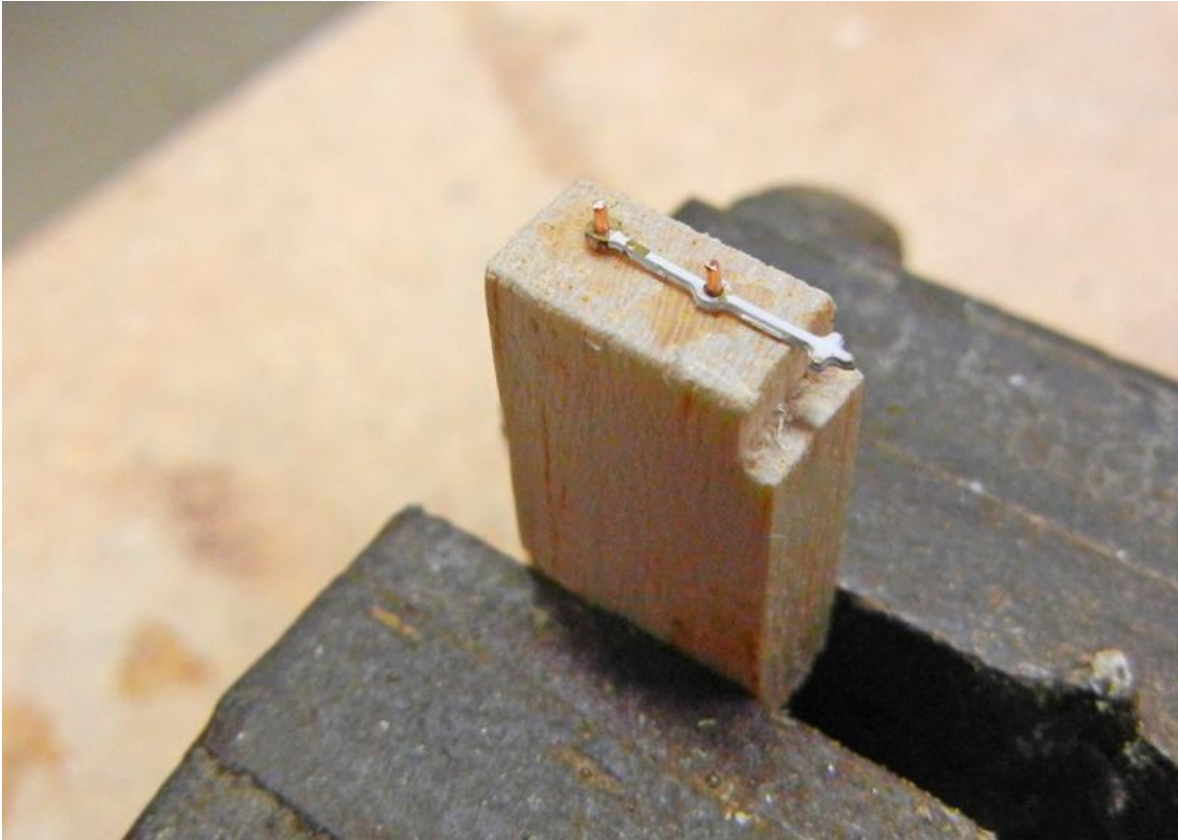
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## PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. (DSCN0351) Fashion a fixture from a small piece of wood. I used a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $\frac{3}{4}$ " piece of hardwood. Don't forget to put a small notch relief to allow for gluing the post in place. In my case the post was very small so take care when handling. They don't give you extras.



2. (DSCN0354) Position the post on the fixture on the center and match drill the holes for the rails in the end of the fixture. Make sure the bottom of the post is in line with the bottom of the fixture. I then installed small pins made from the rail material (.020 wire). ( Note: Best way is to install a longer piece of rail and cut it off after it is glued in place on the fixture.) Let pins stick up 1/16" above the fixture surface.



3. (DSCN0358) Install a rail on the pins and secure it in place with tape. The post is now ready to install. The tape will have to be replaced quite often for secure fastening.





4. (DSCN0344) Drill the holes for the rails posts. I located mine by placing tracing paper over the plans, drawing in the post locations, then transferred them to the actual part. This gave me accurate locations.



5. (DSCN0360) Place the fixture with the post located in the hole and hold in place. Now apply thin CA to the bottom of the post and let cure. I used a small piece of wax paper and put a drop of CA on it. Then transferred a small amount of CA on the end of a pin to the joint. Better control of glue this way. **Good Luck** with installing your rail posts. Hopefully this will get you started in the right way.

