

Rob's Briefings : Bicycle Renovation & Refurbishment



A series of easy-to-understand guides to help enthusiasts repair or rebuild bicycles

Map or route-sheet holder - navigation made easier

There is already an excellent product on the market called a *MapTrap* (or *Polaris MapTrap*) - however it is rather expensive for the purpose it serves.

A very simple and cheap map or route-sheet holder can be made with either a small piece of *Perspex* or thin plywood and some suitably sized *Terry* spring clips available from a DIY store or ironmonger plus a *Bulldog* clip - and 3 pop-rivets with large heads.

Cut the *Perspex* or ply to the size required to - 180 x 130 mm is about right - to fit on the handlebars at the junction of the stem and the bars themselves (bear in mind you will want to hold the bars on the tops)

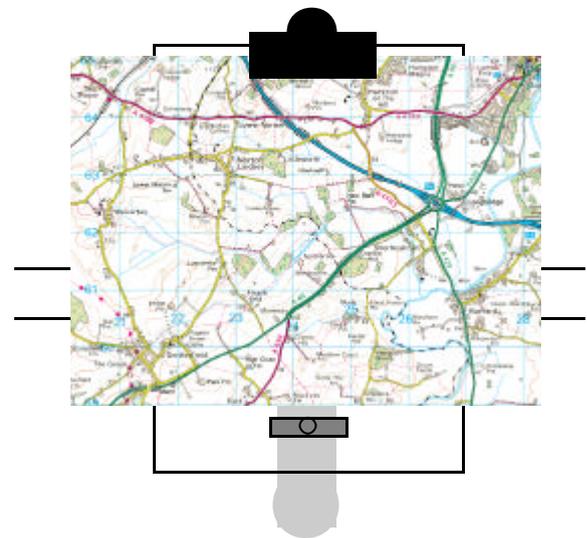
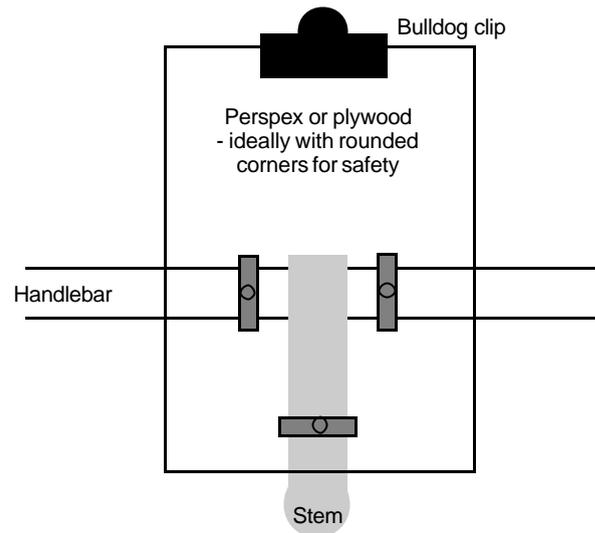
Position the *Terry* clips on the bars either side of the stem (approx 15 from the stem) and on the stem itself (approx 15 mm from the end nearer the saddle) [Some fiddling may be required depending whether the stem is an old-style *Quill* stem or a newer *A-head* type - but the principles are the same) [Remove the *Terry* clips from the stem and check that the fixing hole is the same as the pop-rivets - if not then drill out to suit]

Mark the *Perspex* or ply and drill 3 holes the size of the pop-rivets (if using *Perspex* then drill through a patch of masking tape to reduce the risk of the drill slipping)

Position the *Terry* clips on the underside of the *Perspex* or ply and insert the pop-rivets - use the rivet gun to close the rivets and fix them - remembering the angles at which they will fix to the stem and bars.

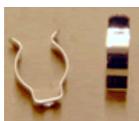
Fit the assembly to the bike and position the *Bulldog* clip at the front of the "platform" - that holds the map/route-sheet in position.

The map holder will hold route sheets, instructions or a complete map suitably folded - use a clear plastic bag to keep them dry.



Instead of the *Terry* clips and rivets the platform could be attached, permanently, with zip-ties.

An alternative is possible using a small A5 or thereabouts sized clipboard from a stationery supplier and just attaching the *Terry* clips as described. At the time of writing WH Smith stocks a clear plastic A5 sized clipboard.



Terry clip

If you have any ideas or tips that you would like to share then e-mail : cyclebriefings@beewee.co.uk

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