

















## SUDDENLY, A SPRAY BOOTH



**Parachute panels.** Pulling a sheet of parachute fabric from a length of PVC central vacuum tubing, where it is rolled for storage, McBride unfurls one wall of her temporary spray booth. Once it's pulled fully open, the fabric wall is held in place with bungee cords stretched to tie-off points.



**The fan is handy.** Mounted on a bracket that is hinged to the ceiling, the fan is fastened overhead most of the time but lowered down into the window when needed.



**All ready to spin and spray.** The stand for McBride's rotating spray table is made with two threaded cast iron pipes, one nested inside the other. One attaches to the car rim at the floor, the other to the tabletop.

Michael Fortune, but none as handy as his stacking clamp storage system. Stacking clamps one on top of the other greatly increases the storage density and enables you to grab a fist full of clamps with just one hand.

The large, easily accessible rolling scrap bin I built, which lives beside my table saw, not only squirrels away potentially useful pieces of wood but can quickly be rolled anywhere to be filled while I work.

### Spray booth for a skydiver

Sometimes spatial constraints are a gift. I like to spray finishes but I didn't want to dedicate shop space to a permanent spray booth. Confronted with this dilemma, and with an odd configuration of walls around the dormer window on the second floor of the shop, I came up with a design for a collapsible spray booth with walls made from parachute fabric. Between uses, the fabric is rolled up and stored in wall-mounted PVC tubes. When it's time to spray, I simply unroll the fabric panels and secure them to tie-off points with bungee cords. I mounted an exhaust fan on a hinged bracket screwed to the ceiling. That way I can store the fan against the ceiling, but when it's needed I simply release a cord and swing the fan down into the window for use. Once the lights and fan are plugged in, I am ready to spray.

My log shop is a simple, rustic structure, and most of the tools inside were made when the aesthetic design of a bandsaw was as important as its working guts. Together, my shop and tools create more than just an inviting place to work. They guide my creative dance and instill in me a sense of adventure and delight. □

*Karen McBride, who makes furniture and sculpture in Dunrobin, Ont., Canada, also teaches and writes about her craft.*