

# Dust Collection for the Mini Lathe

By Scott Muth © 2004 Edmonds Woodworks



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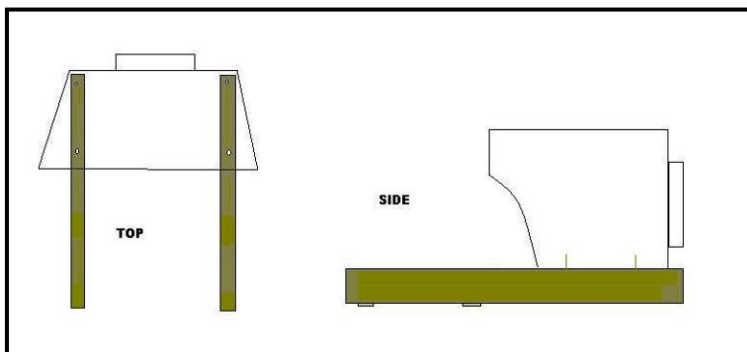


Exposure to fine sawdust is a legitimate health concern for all of us. I had struggled trying to configure a dust collection set-up for my mini lathe. Another goal was to help vent off some of the fumes from finishing with CA glue. I came up with a simple solution that is adjustable and can be installed and removed with incredible ease.

I purchased a dust collection hood that can be obtained from [www.rockler.com](http://www.rockler.com) or virtually any other woodworking supply. The challenge was how to attach it to the lathe? The stock configuration as shown here, attached it with a metal bracket that I found to be problematic because you could not easily adjust it or remove it.



This set-up uses rare earth magnets to secure the rails to the lathe. They are getting to be very popular with woodworkers due to their highly magnetic strength and small size. I got these from Rockler as well.



The rails are made from  $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2" x 10-12" Oak. I pre-drilled holes in the bottom of the rails for the magnets. Placement of the magnets will vary depending on the width of your lathe bed. I

also drilled a recess for the cups with a Forstner bit (but it is not necessary.) I scuffed the bottom of the magnet cups on my belt sander before applying epoxy to them to improve adhesion and screwed them down and installed the magnets.

The dust hood is attached with flathead sheet metal screws, using pilot holes to prevent splitting. (Note: mount them as wide as the hood will allow, giving you maximum clearance for adjustment of the tool rest.)



Completed assembly. (Top and bottom views.)



I use mine connected to a 2HP 1200 CFM dust collector. You can benefit from the same setup using a good HP shop-vac and a reducer to attach it to the hood. While it is not as effective as a dust collector picking up chips, it can still capture fine dust from sanding and help vent the harsh fumes from the CA glue that many of us use for finishing.

Feel free to email me with questions or comments at [edmondswoodworks@comcast.net](mailto:edmondswoodworks@comcast.net)

*Disclaimer: I make no claim that this will prevent injury or eliminate health concerns associated with wood dust. Use this information at your own risk take the proper safety measures when operating a lathe with or without this modification.*