

Sanding small pieces

I cut most of the small pieces on my scroll saw, so I sand the stock before I cut out the pieces, this can save a bunch of time. I use an **Ergonomic Hand Sanding Pad** that uses 6" Hook and Loop Discs. These make hand sanding much less fatiguing. You can buy one or make your own



I also will use a sanding mop on the bottom of my scroll saw projects to remove the fuzzies that are created by the scroll saw. These attach to a hand held drill. By varying the speed and pressure you can sand the project and ease the sharp edges



I have used a drill mounted wire wheel to add texture to project, for example, feathers for birds or fur on an animal. Again be very careful with speed and pressure. I use this with the general grain direction to get the best results.



I made a shop built spindle sander with some scrap plywood and a 1725 RMP motor, I purchased a [Flex Drum Sander Kit](https://seyco.com/product/ds-01-flex-drum-sander-kit-for-your-motor/) (<https://seyco.com/product/ds-01-flex-drum-sander-kit-for-your-motor/>)

This kit uses sanding sleeves and a flexible pad. The only down side to this is if you are trying to get a perfect corner it doesn't work, the soft pads tend to round over the edges. These are really made for intarsia projects.

Several people commented on my dust collect adapter, it is a standard #4 can with the top and bottom cut out, it fits a 4" dust hose perfectly.



For small parts fine sanding I made a jig to hold a ¼" finish sander clamped upside down. I clamp the jig with the sander in it onto a B&D Workmate and connect a shop vac to collect the dust. With this sander and jig even if the part slips out of your hand the sand will not do any damage to your hand. The only drawback to this setup is that if I use it for a long period of time the vibration will affect my hand and arm. Also I empty out my cyclone separator before I start a project, more than once I have had to fish out parts that slipped out of my hand and got sucked into the cyclone separator.



And lastly I use a Vibratory Tumbler/Polisher for small scroll saw pieces, this is the same type of device that people use for polishing brass or jewelry. I use a walnut shell media with the addition of some 1/8" Ceramic Tumbling Media, This does not really sand much, but it eases the sharp edges that are created with the scroll saw. Depending on the size and thickness of the pieces I can put between 20-40 pieces in each batch and let it run for a few hours.

