

# Sewing Light Great on Drill Press !!

by Bob Heltman, CMW, AAW © 7-2011

While gandering about as my Good Wife did the serious shopping at WalMart, I sauntered through the crafts and sewing section. There I spotted, for a measly \$9.97 (+ tax, of course), a small battery powered LED light for attaching to a sewing machine.

Naturally, being a top-flight, A+, and #1 husband, I bought one for my wife...in pink, no less.

Since it became immediately obvious that this was just what I needed for my bandsaw, which is sequestered in a darker area of my studio. I added another to the shopping cart, "...for my safety in my workshop (studio), dear."

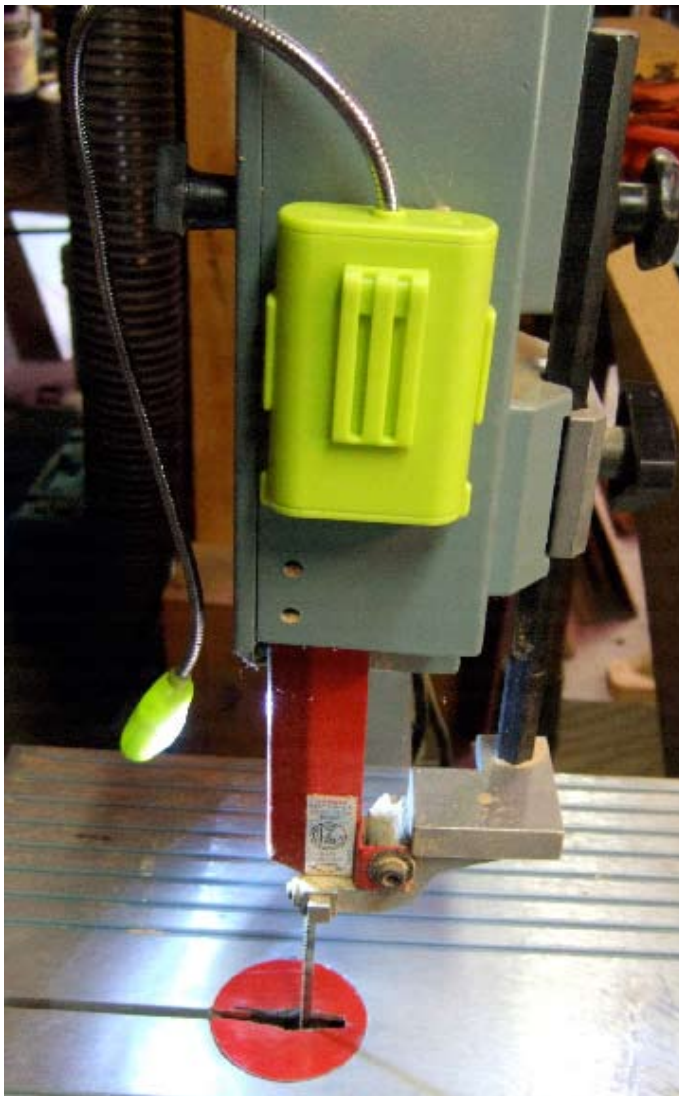
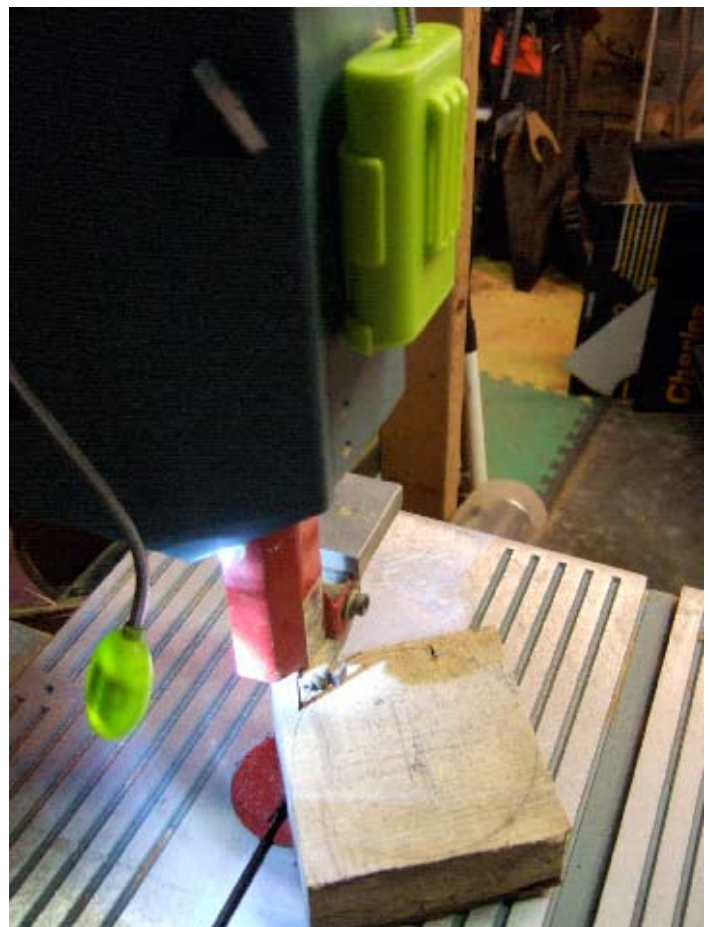


Figure 1 shows the "rig" in place, using the double sided adhesive tape supplied with the light. It could also be mounted using screws through the bracket that holds the battery pack. In that case one needs to look carefully inside the upper wheel cover and make sure screws do not interfere with devices inside...like the bandsaw blade!

The 14" long "snake neck" allows for easy adjustment to almost any position, and to allow for the thickness of the wood being sawed. With the battery life of 10 to 12 hours, the three AA batteries will last a LONG time in the average life of a woodturner. This approach also gets rid of the need for a 110VAC light with cord and perhaps installation of an added electrical outlet. There are 3 LEDs, giving plenty of light.

Figure 2 is a full view as see by the person sawing the wood.



One problem I often encounter is the building up of fine sawdust on top of the piece of wood I am sawing. If the mark is pencil, and the wood rough and not smooth, this dust can make the pencil line harder and harder to see; an unsafe situation and one that might lead to cutting through the pencil line and into the work piece being defined.

Figure 3 is a close-up, with a rough piece of old poplar being cut into a 4+” square, and then having the 4 corners cut off to reduce the turning time on the lathe.



As you can see, this cure to an old problem works just great, and it was fast and easy to install.

One piece of advice. After the 3 AA batteries are inserted, the slide cover goes on right up to a very small bullet catch. This tiny catch has to be depressed with a ball point pen, flat end of a toothpick, or the like, in order for the battery cover to slide all the way home. That is important to do, to keep out fine dust.

Amazing, what one craft can provide for another! This was cheaper, quicker, and if the power goes out you can see in order to extricate the piece of wood being sawn.

Here's a great idea to help YOUR wife; ;-) 😊😊