

## Extra Hand

Have you ever wished you had an extra hand when trying to fill a void in a bowl with turquoise or epoxy? Usually I do this with the bowl mounted on the lathe, but sometimes it would be convenient if the bowl was in some other orientation. Well, Phillip Medghalchi came up with an idea for an inexpensive jig that can hold a bowl in many orientations. Here is my version of Phil's jig.



The jig consists of a bracket that can be purchased from Home Depot, a 2" long threaded rod 1-1/4" 8 TPI, and a piece of mesquite that was turned to fit in the bracket and accept the threaded rod. The bracket can rotate thru 180 degrees, the mesquite piece can rotate 360 degrees. A chuck or faceplate fits on the exposed threaded rod, as seen below:



The jig from Home Depot is a bull float bracket, which is less than \$18:



**ANVIL** 4-Hole Button Handle Bull  
Float Bracket  
Model# 57547

**\$17<sup>61</sup>**

The machined mesquite piece can be any convenient size. My jig has a threaded hole 1" deep to accept the threaded rod. The large part of body is the same diameter as my Nova G3 chuck and about 2" high. The thin tail is also 2" long and about 1.25" in diameter so that it will fit in the float bracket.



This jig has become a useful addition to my shop. I use it as an extra hand when finishing bowls and when filling voids with turquoise or epoxy. And all it cost was about \$25, and an hour turning the mesquite portion of the jig.