

Reader Recipes

Mini Cheese Biscuits

2 cups Bisquick
1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
1 tsp garlic salt
2/3 cup milk
2 tbsp butter, melted

In a bowl, combine Bisquick, cheese and garlic salt. With a fork, stir in milk just until moistened. Drop rounded tablespoons of dough onto a lightly greased baking sheet. Bake at 450° for 9 to 11 min. or until golden brown. Melt butter and brush over biscuits.
Sara Anderson, Spring Valley, Wis.

Bacon-Wrapped Hot Dogs

8 slices bacon
8 beef hot dogs

Heat oven to 400°F. Line cookie sheet with parchment paper. Wrap bacon tightly around hot dogs. Place on cookie sheet. Bake 12 to 15 min. or until bacon is thoroughly cooked and hot dogs are browned. Serve immediately in buns with your favorite toppings.

Baked Bean Pie

1 12-oz. can Spam
2 tbsp maple syrup
1 1-lb., 12-oz. can of Bush's Original Baked Beans
2 tbsp hot dog relish
1 tsp instant minced onion
1/4 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese

Cut spam into 8 slices. Brush each slice with syrup and arrange around inner edge of 9-in. glass pie plate. In a saucepan, combine beans, relish and onion. Bring to a boil and pour mixture into pie plate. Sprinkle with shredded cheese. Bake in oven at 350° for 20 min. or until the meat is lightly browned.

Mayonnaise

1 large egg yolk
1 tsp fresh lemon juice
1/2 tsp warm water
1/4 tsp Dijon mustard
1/4 tsp coarse sea salt
1/2 to 3/4 cup vegetable oil

Whisk all ingredients - except the oil - until blended and smooth. While whisking, dribble in oil until absorbed and combined. The more oil you add, the less "eggy" it will taste. Stores in refrigerator for up to a week. Great for BLT's!

An Old-Fashioned Desk

If you'd like to have an old-fashioned school desk at home or you know a school that needs new desks, David Oberholtzer can help. When his brother, Titus, a school board member, realized the desks on the market weren't to his liking, he and David came up with a modern version of the old-style desks. David started building them in his Argos, Ind., welding shop.

"It's the kind of desks that parochial schools want to use," Oberholtzer explains. He makes four sizes to accommodate students from grades K-8.

The design includes a powder-coated steel tubing frame with stained and varnished ash wood for the seat and desk. The top of the desk lifts up, with plenty of room for storing books and school supplies.

"They're sturdy but lightweight," Oberholtzer says. He sells them directly from his shop for \$185 (for any size). Add shipping costs, and he'll ship them by UPS. Minimal assembly (10 bolts) is required.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Farmway Welding, 20097 Gumwood Rd., Argos, Ind. 46501 (ph 574 498-6147).



David Oberholtzer builds this modern version of an old-style desk.

Giant Bird Feeder Made From "Hardware Cloth"

"It's big enough that I only have to fill it about once a week," says Paul Miller, Gardiner, Mont., who used ordinary hardware cloth to make this 15-lb. black oil sunflower seed feeder. It hangs outside his bedroom window.

The feeder measures 3 ft. long by 7 in. in dia. and has a concave cap over the top to keep rain and snow out. The bottom is formed from a section of window screen.

He started with a 3-ft. long, 20-in. wide section of hardware cloth with 1/4-in. openings. He formed the cloth into a 7-in. dia. tube and used hog wire to attach the sides together. He made the bird stands by simply pushing 11-in. long chop sticks through the openings.

The cap was formed from a big brass bowl that he picked up at a garage sale. He drilled 2 holes in the bowl. Then he connected a pair of flower basket holders to the top sides of the tube and ran them up through the holes. The basket holders hang on a piece of curved rebar that's welded to half of a door hinge, which Miller screwed to a stud on the house's eave.

Up to 12 birds can feed at a time. "I like it because I can wake up and watch the birds while I'm working at my computer," says Miller. "And I don't have to fill it as often as other feeders."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Paul Miller, P.O. Box 862, Gardiner, Mont. 59030 (ph 406 581-0102; paul.j.miller69@gmail.com).



Big 15-lb. sunflower seed bird feeder is made from ordinary hardware cloth.



Homemade automatic pot stirrer is powered by a 120-volt electric motor that clamps to top of cooking pot. Motor shaft-drives an 8-in. long twisted metal paddle.



Motorized "Pot Stirrer"

This homemade automatic pot stirrer clamps to the top of a cooking pot.

"It saves time. I don't have to spend as much time at the stove when making big pots of sauce, because it does the work for me," says inventor Mike Toppen.

The agitator is powered by a 120-volt electric motor. The motor is connected to a 1/4-in. dia. stainless steel shaft that's welded to an 8-in. long twisted metal paddle. The shaft rides up through a wooden board that has a pair of wooden ears bolted onto it, which fit onto either side of the cooking pot. The paddles are up about 1/4 in. off the bottom of the pot.

"The paddle rotates at about 40 rpm's," says Toppen. "It works great when canning tomatoes or other foods because the circulation keeps the sauce from scorching the bottom of the pot. As a result I can use a lot more heat. Being able to cook at a higher temperature also reduces my cooking time by about two thirds.

"I screwed a 4-in. dia. pvc 'cap' on top of the motor to keep the bubbling sauce from splashing onto it."

Plans for Toppen's pot stirrer can be found on gizmoplans.com.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mike Toppen, 3889 1/2 127th Ave., Allegan, Mich. 49010 (ph 269 673-5597; Fordsrule@btc-bci.com).

FARM SHOW®

New Products For The Farm, Ranch Home

Rocking Cradle For Wheelchairs

"I made the first one to make it easier to wash hair for people in wheelchairs," says Gordon Wibstad, Brandon, Minn. "It turned into a 'rocking cradle' and much more."

His wheelchair assist cradle is designed to hold any ordinary wheelchair and consists of a lightweight aluminum frame that sets on curved metal runners. The runners are fitted with 4 caster wheels that can be locked in a "down" position when needed.

The cradle can be used in several different ways. You can use a pair of levers to lock it into a reclining position. Or you can use it as a tray holder thanks to 2 metal arms. By turning a knob at each side of the cradle, you can adjust the tray's angle to fit any body size.

By adjusting levers it can be turned into a rocking chair. There's also a built-in spring-loaded exercise bar that can be adjusted as needed.

"It comes in real handy for older people in nursing homes," says Wibstad. "The tray works great for eating, doing puzzles, playing cards, reading, etc."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gordon Wibstad, 14200 Aldrich Road N.W., Brandon, Minn. 56315 (ph 320 834-4602).



Wheelchair cradle can be locked in place or allowed to rock.

Simple Can Crusher

Crushing aluminum cans is quick and easy for Mike Steele, South Elgin, Ill., who made a heavy-duty, hand-operated can crusher out of treated scrap wood.

"I just push down on a hinged handle to crush the can against a diamond steel plate. The compressed can falls through a slot at the back of a trough and down into a bucket," says Steele.

He started with a 3-ft. long 2 by 10 and cut out part of it to form the handle. The rest of the 2 by 10 is nailed to a 2 by 4. The 2 by 4 is hinged at the top and matches up with another 2 by 4 that's lag screwed to his garage's wall. The diamond steel plate is screwed to the bottom of the board, which has a small wooden trough nailed onto it at the bottom to hold the can.

"It really works good - the long handle provides a lot of leverage which makes crushing the can an almost effortless job," says Steele. "My son Colton helped me build it. It's built a lot stronger than cheap, store-bought can crushers and should last a long time."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mike Steele, 529 North Dr., South Elgin, Ill. 60177 (ph 847 774-2979; mdicarpentry@att.net).



Operator pushes down on hinged handle to crush can against diamond steel plate.