Folding Anvil Stands

The idea was to create a folding (or collapsible) anvil stand. The exact dimensions are dictated by the anvil to some degree. In the examples here, the base is 18" on a side, the top is 9" x 12" and the height when assembled is 26.5". The material use was 3/4" T&G plywood (floor underlayment) with the top surface composed of a section of 2x10 pine. The front and back surfaces had two strips of material glued and screwed on to form grooves into which the sides are inserted. The Mark One had a single hook pointing down and the front and back sides had a hook each (opening upwards). These hooks were a bit over the half way point.

A chain system was cobbed together from a discarded office chair. One link was attached to the end of a long bolt and hands from the downward facing hook (under the top). There is a washer with two chains that hook over the lateral hooks and a large "wing nut" that threads onto the bolt. When the chains are hooked up, the nut is screwed upwards and all componets are locked together.

After using the Mark One, several irritations became obvious. It is not easy to hook all three hooksm especially since access is only from the bottom. When stored, those hooks make a flat storage impossible. The solution was the Mark Two. In this variant, the top of the bolt is actually a "T" which inserts through a slot and is twisted 90 degrees to lock. The lateral hooks are replaced by a couple of holes.

Each chain is inserted through the hole to the outside with sufficient slack to allow the last link to be rotated and used as a lock point.

The sides are provided with hand access ports

that make assembly easier than in the Mark One. One the 'T' is rotated and the side chains deployed, the "wing nut" is tightened.

The results are that the components are securely locked together yet store flat when disassembled. Both designs work but the Mark Two is clearly better. Just as when towing, it is a good idea to retighten the bolt after a few minutes of working. Those access ports make this WAY easier than removing the anvil and flipping the stand over - something that is needed in the Mark One (though ports could be added if I got around to it).