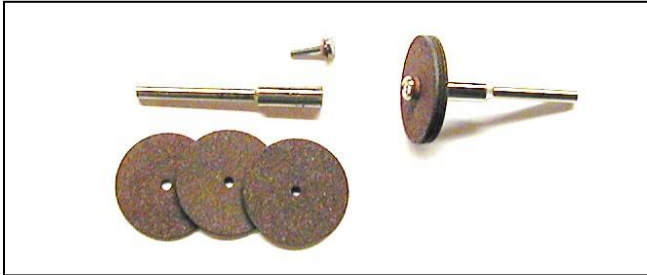


MAKING CAMS WITH THE ROTARY DREMEL TOOL

By Harley Michaelis, LSF 023

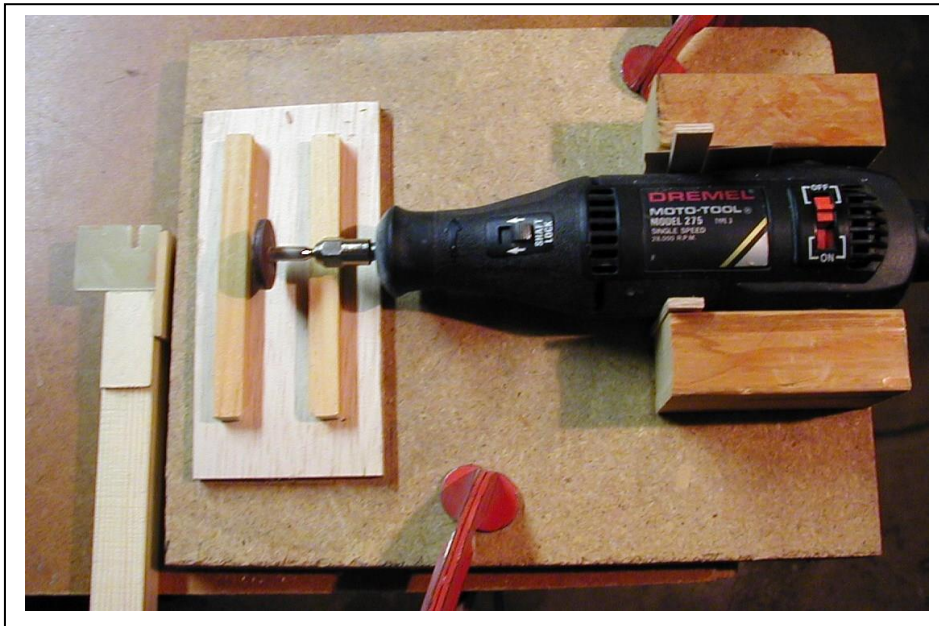
This requires having 1" x 1-3/8" cam blanks to work with. See Miscellaneous Pictures in the Genie pages about cutting 1" wide strips. See the other cam supporting document in the list about sizing pieces 1-3/8" long and drilling holes using the A,B,C jig.

As a slotting disk, 3 of the 1" Dremel #420 Heavy Duty cutting disks can be bonded with thin CA glue. A micrometer measures these .125" thick. Pick disks that lay flush against each other so this thickness is maintained to nicely fit 1/8" music wire guide pins.



Tightly attach the disks on a mandrel with the little fiber washer under the screw head. If needed, clamp disks to make flush contact. Wick thin CA glue around the perimeter. Let it cure well.

Insert the assembly into the tool and with the Dremel dressing stone, grind the vertical edge so it's smooth.



To a $\frac{3}{4}$ " base, glue a $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick platform. Snugly support the Dremel between glued-on blocks. Stabilize with shims or attach a metal strap over it. Optionally, blocks can also be glued either side up front to further stabilize it. Note the tool can still be shifted laterally. This enables positioning the cutting disk in

the right place to cut a 5/16" deep slot centered 3/8" up from the bottom of the blank.

To the left, a cam blank holder (about 8" long) is partly shown. It's $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide. If 5/8" thick, it places the blank nicely to get a clean slot. Glue $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick rails to the platform either side of it to guide the blank nicely squared-up into the disk. Wax surfaces for easy sliding. Clamp the base to the workbench to leave both hands free to feed the blank into the disk.

The picture below shows how the holder supports and guides the blank into the disk. The base can be clamped on the workbench so the Dremel points toward your belly. Should the disk then shatter, pieces won't fly toward your face. Dust will spew, so use eye and lung protection.

