Tips & Tricks – Plans Holder

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I am building a Sonex/Xenos motor glider but have a very limited amount of space in my shop. I am working in a 1 car garage, 8 x 18 ft wide with other people's cars on either side of my work area. In order to have any work space, I have had to find ways to store everything out of the way as much as possible, to have access to view the drawings as I work. It is really hard to work with the plans spread out over the part your building!

One idea I had was to get the drawings up out of the way so I could read them right in front of me as I measured and cut. I'm at that age where I can read a measurement on the drawing and walk 3 feet away to measure it and I will not be sure what it was, so back I go to double check. I call it old timer's disease. Robbie from the Sonex Builders & Pilots Foundation says where he's from, they call it CRS (can't remember stuff). I wanted to hang my drawings right in front of my work area so here's what I did:

Before

After

 I strung a wire right in front of the small table I use for measuring and layout. I used some old picture hanging wire, a small turnbuckle and some hardware store hooks I already had. A doubled up piece of safety wire will work. (You will need to twist the safety wire close to the hook so it doesn't sag. (Grab it with a pair of pliers about 8 inches from the hook, put a screw driver between the strands, and twist it until it is tight.) I bought some spring clips and binder rings at Staples and some ¼ by ½ inch strips of wood 3 ft. long. Fold the top of the drawing over the wood strip and clip it in 3 places. Attach the rings to the clips and lock around the wire. You can hang 3 or 4 drawings on top of each other and just turn the sheets over like turning a page of a binder. Over the build table I hung some old scrap U channel from the lights.

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