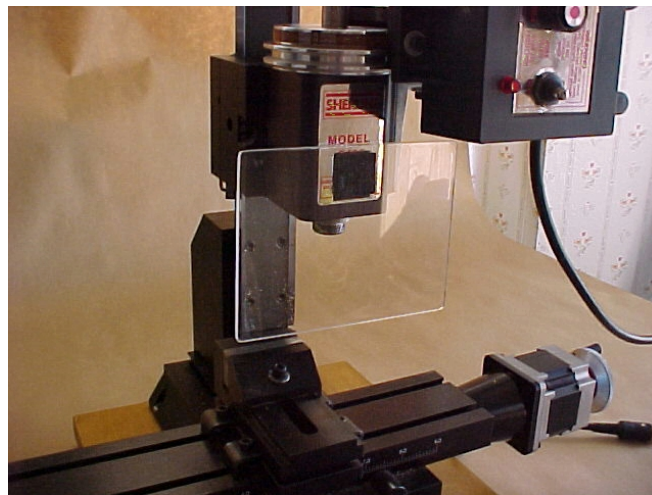


TIP 21 — A Simple Chip Guard for Your Mill/Ron Heading

A mill creates more of a mess than a lathe, because the spinning tool throws chips in all directions. It's one thing to mess up your shop, but it can really get you in trouble if you work in a den or on a kitchen table. Picking curly chips out of the carpet is no fun. Ron Heading came up with a simple shield that can be easily removed during setup. It keeps the hot chips from being thrown toward you, the operator, but it still allows good visibility. He took a piece of 1/8" clear Lexan and cut it to 4" x 5-1/4". He then took a square of adhesive backed Velcro[®] and attached half to the headstock and half to the shield. One look at the photo will explain everything. Ron also has a second piece which he formed into a slight arc by heating the Lexan with a hair dryer. When the setup allows, this shield will contain chips over a slightly larger arc, reducing cleanup a little further. A three-piece hinged shield of wood or cardboard standing on the workbench behind the mill will catch the chips thrown to the sides and behind the machine. (See tip 12.)



(Photo: Ron Heading)