

TIP 51 — A Clamp for Long Parts on the Mill/Jerry Kieffer

Jerry didn't provide a photo of this tip, he just described it over the phone, but you probably don't even need a visual. We've provided an illustration to show what's going on, although it's pretty self explanatory. He needed to hold a long part (a model railroad car) on the mill and wanted to grip it from the ends, but his mill vise wouldn't open far enough. His answer was to take an old mill vise and saw it in two in about the middle. The fixed jaw portion is then mounted to one end of the mill table using two or three angle clamps in the groove. The moveable jaw portion and the rest

of the base is moved to the other end of the table and clamped with two or three more clamps and the jaw tightened. It's just like having a really long vise. Perhaps you can find an older vise on eBay that you wouldn't mind dedicating to this task rather than buying a new one, or maybe you'd like to buy yourself a new one now that you have a good use for your old, beat-up vise.

—Jerry Kieffer,
DeForest, WI

