

LEN'S TRAILER SIDING TUTORIAL

Courtesy of Len D.



Step One:



001

I'm using an 8' Van Mark Trim Brake with 24" white aluminum trim stock. Sometimes known as "Coil Stock", it comes in 24" X 50' rolls, usually for about \$78-80 a roll. Choose metal that is the same color on both sides if possible. It saves a lot of brain work later.

You can rent Trim Brakes or you might want to try one of these sites on ideas to build your own:

<http://www.ch601.org/tools/bendbrake/brakeplans.pdf>

http://www.garymkatz.com/ChartsDrawings/homemade_brake.html



002

Cut your length then mark the metal at 3/4"



003

Bend to 90 degrees. If this is your starter piece your done if it is not...



004

This is a Formica roller. If you do not have one of these a rolling pin works just as well.



005

By hand bend the 3/4" lip shown in 003 over, then roll flat.



006

Once flat it will have to be opened slightly. For this I use a putty knife. This is the bottom of the siding.



007

Using pre measured Blocks as markers. These are cut the size of the rolls in your siding. (Early Shastas were 6"). I use blocks as opposed to a ruler for consistency.



008

Mark from the bottom up



009

Insert into the break and bend.



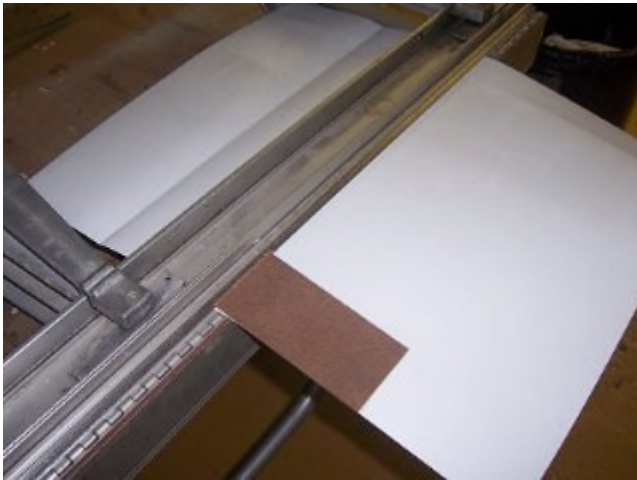
010

To about a 45 degree angle.



011

While still in the break and using the blocks...Mark again.



012

Put the metal into the break up to the line in 011. Then mark it again. You will be adding 3/4" to these marks later



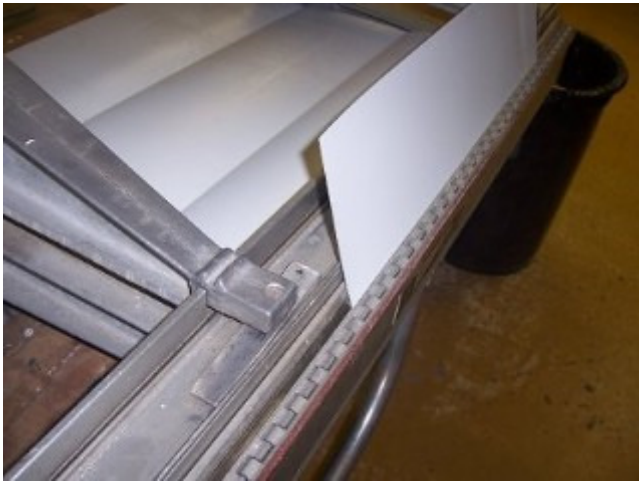
013

Bend to about a 45 degree angle.



014

Add 3/4" to the marks in 012



015

Set metal in brake on the second (3/4" longer) marks and bend as much as possible



016

Remove metal from brake, flip it upside down and set your last bend 3/4" away from the stop.



017

You will be making a bend that looks like a "Z"



018

Remove siding from brake and place on work bench.



019

Flatten "Z" bend. You can do this by hand, the roller or a block of wood and a mallet.



020

Place the siding face down on the work bench.



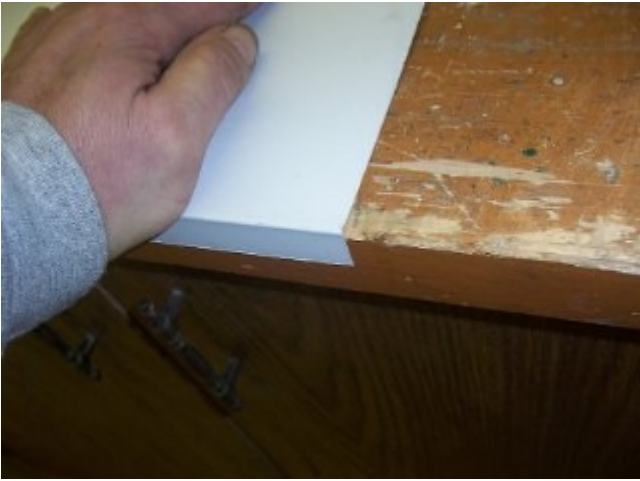
021

Roll all the bends as flat as possible.



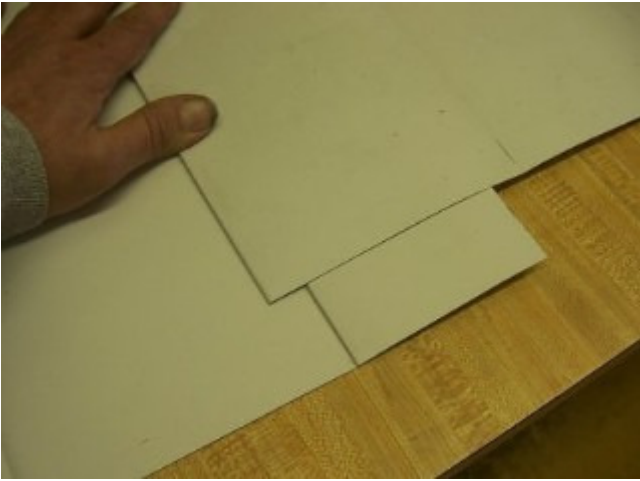
022

Roll all the bends as flat as possible.



023

Returning to photo 003. This is how the first piece at the bottom of the trailer should look.



024

The 2 pieces of siding join like so.



025



026

The 2 pieces of siding join like so.



027

The 2 pieces of siding join like so.



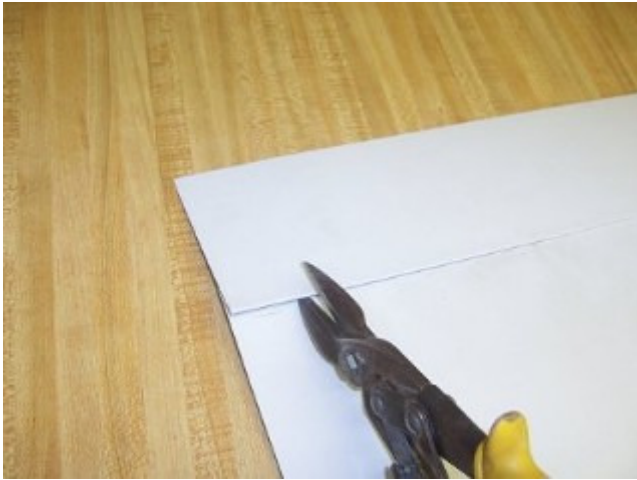
028

The 2 pieces of siding join like so.



029

Siding is held in place by nailing/ stapling it on the top as marked.



030

Joining Siding: ALWAYS PUT THE PIECE TO THE REAR OF THE TRAILER IN FIRST. Cut the top tab back 1 to 1 1/2" like so



031

From both the front and the back

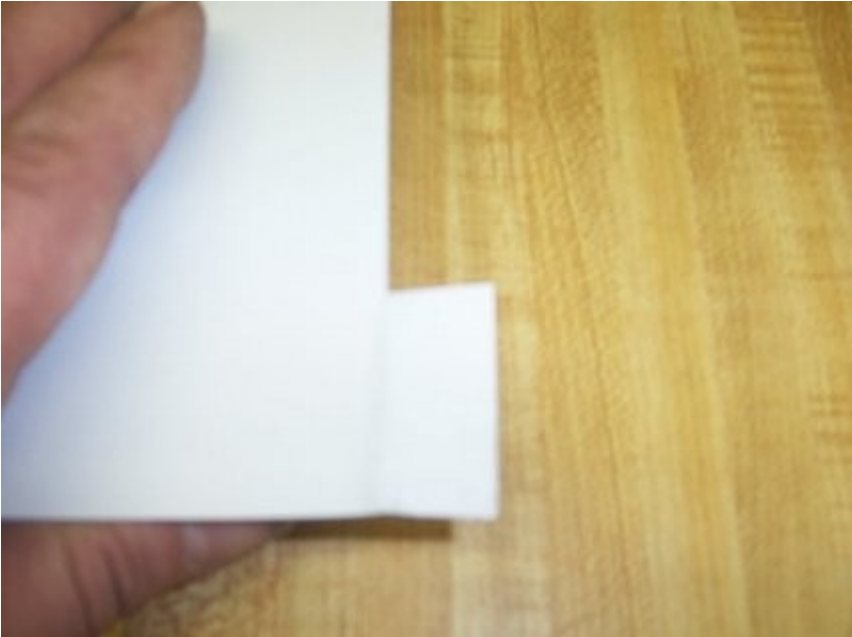


032

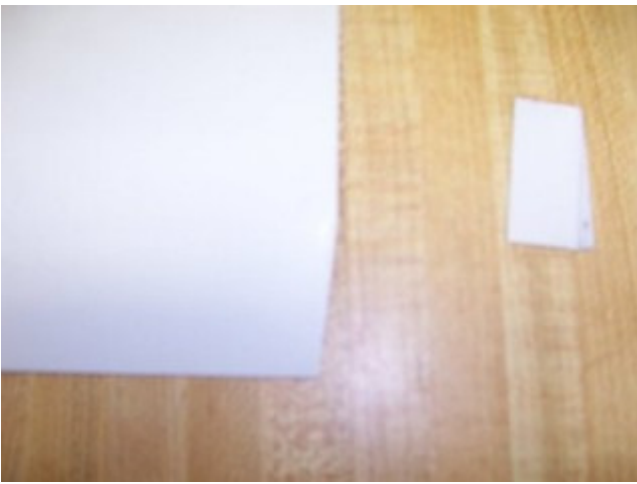


033

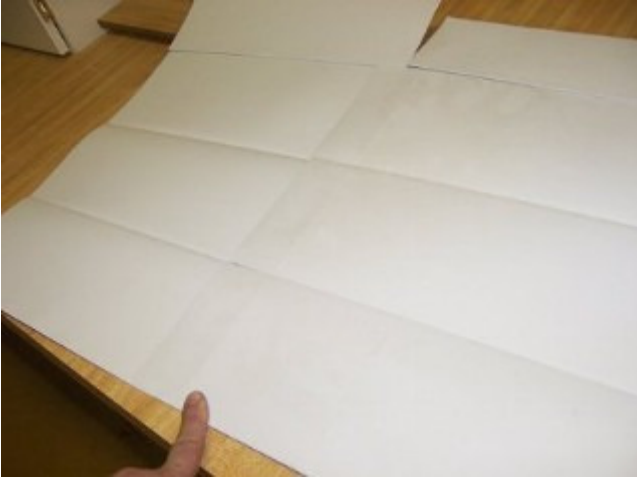
on the bottom just remove 1 to 1 1/2" of the 3/4" bend.



034

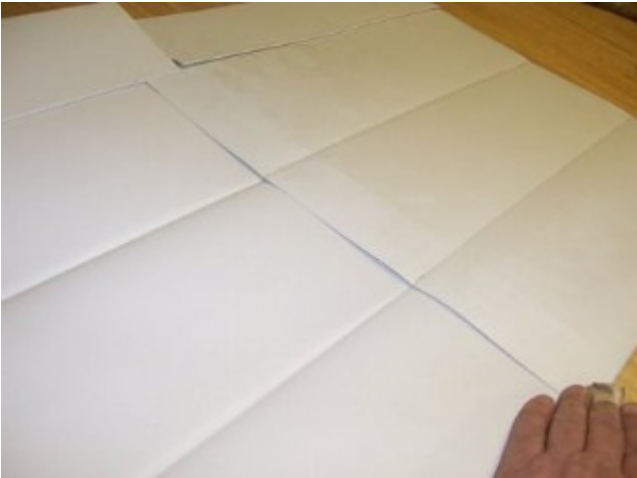


035



036

Both pieces should go over each other. The upper and lower "Z" bends on the other pieces hold the siding in place.



037

I also put silicone in this joint. If the joint does not sit flat a small trim nail can be added in the creases of the metal.

I use 1/2 to 3/4" staples apply the siding to the trailer. And they get used just above the "Z" bend shown in shot #029.

Hope you have enjoyed Len's tutorial.

Len's Shasta Teardrop

