

YET ANOTHER FREE WHEELER

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This arrangement is not new, just a variation on a number of designs that have appeared over the years. It has worked reliably for me both indoors and out. The accompanying sketch shows it mounted on a plastic prop, but it can be used on carved wooden props as well.

Sand/carve/grind/file a flat area on the side of the hub. The precision recess shown on the sketch looks craftsman-like, but it is not really necessary. 3/64" diameter holes will usually pass a fine needle and thread.

Make the two right angle bends on the wire-and-tubing latch assembly, leaving the arms two or three inches long. They can be bent and trimmed after assembly. The wire must turn freely in the tubing; a little end play doesn't matter.

Sew /bind/lash/tie the latch assembly to the hub with two or three loops of sewing thread. Don't use monofilament! Snug-up the binding, knot, and "rigidize" the thread with thin cyano glue. Next, coat the whole lashup with 5-minute epoxy. **Be careful not to get glue in the tubing.**

Bend the arm of the latch wire to make firm non-slip contact with both sides of the prop and the drive arm on the shaft. The shorter arm on the wire prevents the long arm from swinging 180 degrees and digging into the noseblock. Adjust to suit. Only after all the wire bending is done, trim the wire ends to length.

