A press brake allows fabricators to bend sheet metal to a desired angle. It can be a very valuable tool in your workshop. But you don’t have to go out and purchase a press brake that takes up a lot of space in your shop to take advantage of its benefits.

In this project, craftsman and maker Jimmy DiResta builds a press brake out of scrap metal from around his shop that can be the perfect small-footprint addition to your shop.

Watch exclusive footage at arcmagazine.pub
**SAFETY FIRST**

Before you start any project involving welding, make sure you have the right Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), which includes, at least, an ANSI-approved welding helmet, safety glasses, appropriate welding gloves for the process you’re using, and a flame-resistant shirt, jacket, or sleeves to protect from UV rays and burns. You should also keep a fire extinguisher close at hand. Use adequate ventilation when welding. Use an approved respirator if exposure to welding fume cannot be controlled, or if welding outside and natural air movement is not sufficient to keep welding fume out of your breathing zone.

**REMEMBER:**

Press brakes have pinch points that exert significant forces when used. Always keep your hands away from the jaw area when using the brake.
Project Spotlight

Drawing & Cut List

Front

Back

Side

Illustrations by Jeremy Lacy

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