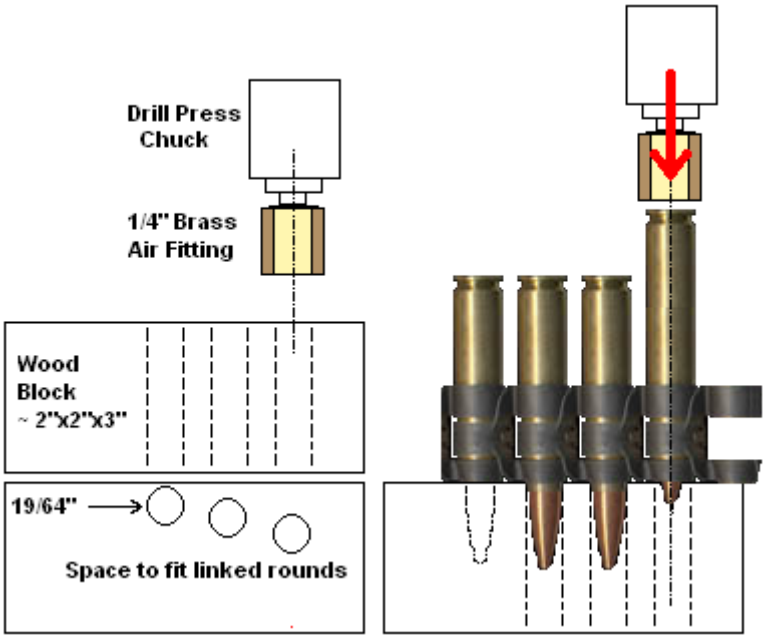
A Simple Cartridge Linker

This simple linker use three 19/64" holes drilled at an angle toward the edge of a board (about 2” x 2” x 3”) and spaced to fit the ends of linked cartridges. The hole is a interference (e.g. snug) fit for the case neck therefore holding the cartridge in place a bit and not allowing the link to pass. The board is fastened in the drill press vise and a brass 1/4" female FPT air fitting with the air side in the drill chuck and the FPT side facing the wood block is used to press a round into the link.

Place a new link mated to the last one and place a new round in the new link and pull down the drill press handle. Move the rounds over one hole and repeat. The holes angling to the side of board allow the belt to trail to the side and not need numerous holes to accommodate them.



NOTE. It took longer to make this drawing and 2 paragraphs than it did to make the jig and link 50 rounds!

Other Ideas

It seems reasonable that a hand loading press could be rigged with a similar jig.

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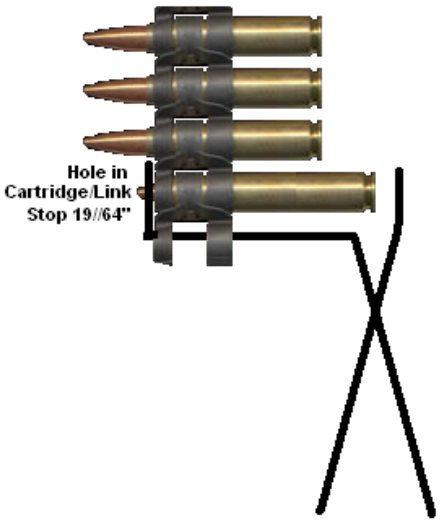
Handheld Field Expedient Linker

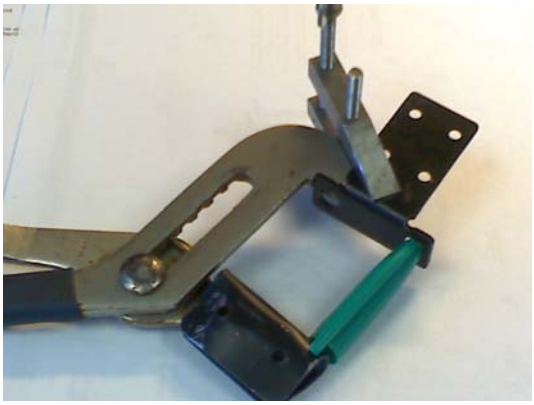


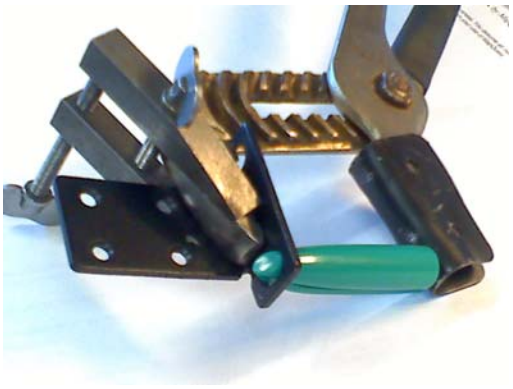
At left: The idea could be transferred to the more elaborate 20 cartridge at a time linkers but make a single cartridge linker that is hand held and operates like a pair of pliers for use in the field if needed. (e.g. Apartment Sized)

I made a quick mock up of the simple cartridge linker using a channel lock pliers … looks like it would be great with a few tweaks. Used a small parallel clamp to hold a small angle bracket for the bullet end and bent a small plate on the other jaw for the "pusher". This was a very simple proof of concept. I will have to work on it more just to have one.

In the photos the green ink pen cap is where a cartridge would be placed. The angle bracket would need to have 2 or three “alignment” holes for the belt, but one hole would work. The brackets could be fastened on using a bolt and wing nut thus the pliers would not be dedicate or ruined by drilling or welding etc. Not that a dedicated tool is a bad idea.

Adding a spring to the pliers to keep them open might be helpful … we can always over engineer a small project.





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