



TRADITIONS TRAINING, LLC.

“COMBAT READY” FIREFIGHTING

FIREGROUND PROVEN TIPS, TECHNIQUES & DRILLS

Less Expensive Metal Cutting Props

Fire Engineering[®]

We’ve all seen nice props used for metal cutting scenarios, these are usually made from heavy metal and require welding and/or fabrication. Once we get into the fabrication of metal products, the cost increases. These props are great and absolutely provide advantages over other types. But, they can be too costly for some firehouses, or departments. So, in order to afford our firefighters the opportunity to get accustomed to how their saws operate we need to create something less costly. Our friends at the Woodruff (SC) Fire Department built a “cutting tree” from lumber and items found at the local hardware store. By utilizing a 4x4 as the center piece, 2x4s for the stabilizing legs, various pipe fittings/shut offs, and eye bolts they were able to construct a prop for their firefighters to cut at varying heights, as well as to cut padlocks. (Pictures A & B by Chief Wade Godfrey, Woodruff FD)

By getting creative with items readily accessible several things can be made easily, and inexpensive. For one class we used a plastic frame that one of the guys was getting rid of. We drilled holes through it to hold rebar, mounted it on lumber for stability and height, and quickly had a cutting station affording multiple cuts simulating window bars.

