

Gourd Dust Blower, Homemade

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Please! Wear a dust mask when working on gourds - as in cleaning, carving, cutting, burning, etc. Keeping your good gourd health is up to you. To help you wear a dust mask and keep it on, here are instructions for my homemade **Gourd dust blower**. This blower should cost less than \$15 to make, depending on the pump size, air output and brand. Big box stores and pet shops sell the items needed. Listed below is what you will need and how to make it. See pictures.

Needs:

1. A small aquarium pump. (Diaphragm type, not underwater type, about 15 gal. size)
2. At least 3 feet of flexible (thin walled) tubing to fit pump outlet.
3. Paperclips, small or large. (or wire about the same gauge).
4. Rubber bands.

Paperclips:

1. Bend and straighten one end of paperclip; leave the small end bent in the curve.
2. Put the straight end inside the tubing; leave the curved ends short end on outside of tubing.
3. You may need to squeeze the curve closed some to keep it from falling out.

Rubber Bands:

1. Place the tubing end, with wire in it, down one side of the tool.
2. Use several rubber bands to attach tubing to the tool.

How it works:

1. Bend the wired tubing to follow the shape of tool.
2. Shape/adjust it to blow air towards where dust is created and the dust will blow away.

Hints:

1. Make several paperclip wires, one for each tool, then just switch wires. This saves time from over bending and breakage.
2. If you do heavy carving, you may want a stronger pump. A 20-gallon or larger pump will work, but the \$\$\$ goes up.

Have a Gourd day, blow the dust away and wear a dust mask.

