

This way of making a guillotine tool is more a fabrication project than it is a blacksmithing project.

But you only need basic tools to do the job, a belt grinder (or angle grinder), welding equipment and some clamps to hold everything in place. I used 4 pieces of 6x30 and a length of 150 mm, 2 pieces of 20x20 square also 150mm length, 50x20 (C45) for the dies and a piece of scrap plate to weld it on.

It is best to put the piece of 40x20 (wrapped in a little bit of paper) in the vise and mount one side of the guillotine on it. Then you put a little spot-weld in each corner of the workpiece then I checked if it was able to move freely over the piece of tool steel. Once this is ok you can weld the hole side of it although 2 or 3 welds of 30 mm should firmly hold it all in place. Repeat this process a second time for the other side.



Then you can grind the welds down or you can leave it if the welds are proper. Once this step is done you can proceed to welding it on the plate. It is best to use some welder magnets or a machinist square to keep everything straight and in place. Wrap the piece of tool steel back in paper to get enough clearance, and put some spot-welds at the base of the 2 pillars. Check again without paper that the 40x20 freely moves up and down. If it does you can proceed to making your desired dies.

Guillotine Tool Dies: Top: 6 1/2" length  
Bottom: 1 1/2" length

