Making a Paw Keychain Identifier

This is a nifty little project you might want to try and maybe embellish upon. If you have a lot of keys that look alike, this little key identifier might be helpful. I know I have trouble identifying my house key from several other keys I have for work. They all look alike. So I came up with this little key cover in the shape of a dog's paw print that you can use to cover the key you most often use and would like to find fast on a key chain.

The current design is meant for a house key common to most locks, but can be modified for different keys. Here's what you'll need for wood:

Some small sections of birch plywood 1/8” thick. You will need three pieces about 3” x 4” to cut the paws from. You can use other woods, but you will have to experiment to get the right fit. You'll also need some masking tape and CA glue (if you don't want to wait for wood glue to dry.

Step 1: Tape the three pieces together using masking tape, apply the pattern to the top sheet, and stack cut the three paws you will need.

Step 2: Take your key and trace the top of the key on the bottom of one of the paw pieces.

Step 3: Use your scroll saw to cut out the key outline on the paw so that the key fits inside the cut.
Step 4: Use CA Glue to glue the cut piece on top of one of the other paw pieces, so that they match up.

Step 5: Glue the third piece to the top of the stack to complete the sandwich.

Step 6: Notice how this is going to work. The key can be inserted between the top and bottom layer. Drill a 1/4” hole in one of the toes to insert a chain, if you want to attach this holder to a set of keys on another key chain.

Step 7: Sand down the edges and smooth out the sides of the identifier. You can paint or stain it if you like. The key should wedge in between the two outside pieces. If it doesn't you might have to wrap the key at the top with masking tape. If you want to assure that the key will not fall out, put a drop of CA glue on either side of the masking tape before inserting the key, and then insert the key and let the glue dry.

When you are done you should have a nice little holder for your key and your quandary of which key is which will have ended.

Enjoy.  Al Baggetta  Real Wood Crafts  www.baggetta.com