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The thumb screw that connects the NXT bass to the stand is effective and nicely out of the way. The disadvantage is that it takes a while to tighten and I wanted something faster. I did a similar thing to my Ingles bass stand, and have been very happy with it.



Top of the NSD stand for the NXT bass, tools, and parts.

The process involves these steps: 1) remove the thumb screw, 2) make and secure the crank, 3) secure the handle, and 4) mount the modified assembly. Note: This is a project for an experienced craftsman with a lot of tools.

1. Remove the thumb screw.

Case 1: The thumb screw is held on by an M8-1.25 thread and a roll pin (spring pin). remove the spring pin with a small punch. Unthread the handle. Case 2: The handle is held on by 5/16-18 thread and kind of mashed into place. Grip the shaft with tape and pliers and unthread the handle. Clean up (chase) the threads with a die.

2. Make and secure the crank. Yes you can buy these, but think of the fun you'd miss! I used a piece of mild steel 1/2" wide and 70mm long. Mark the steel for drilling at 10mm (threaded hole for shaft), 20mm (bend), 50 mm (bend), 60mm (threaded hole for handle) and 70mm (end). Cut the steel and file off any rough edges. Drill and tap the holes to match the shaft and handle you have. Here are the tap drill sizes: 5mm-0.8 thread 4.2mm or #19 (0.166), 6mm 1.0 thread 5mm or #8 (0.197), M8-1.25 6.8mm or letter H (0.266), and 5/16-18 letter F (0.257). Bend two opposite 45 degree bends by persuading the steel as it is clamped in the vise. Secure the crank to the shaft using a washer, nut, lock washer, and crank in that order.

3. Secure the handle to the crank in the same way.

4. Mount the assembly to the stand top using the 5/16-18 nut you removed earlier. The nut can be held in place using a screwdriver as it fits into the recess.

Many thanks to Greg Kreinsen ("the parts guy") at NSD for his help and advice. Enjoy your new handle as you quickly set up in a dark pit after a long traffic jam.