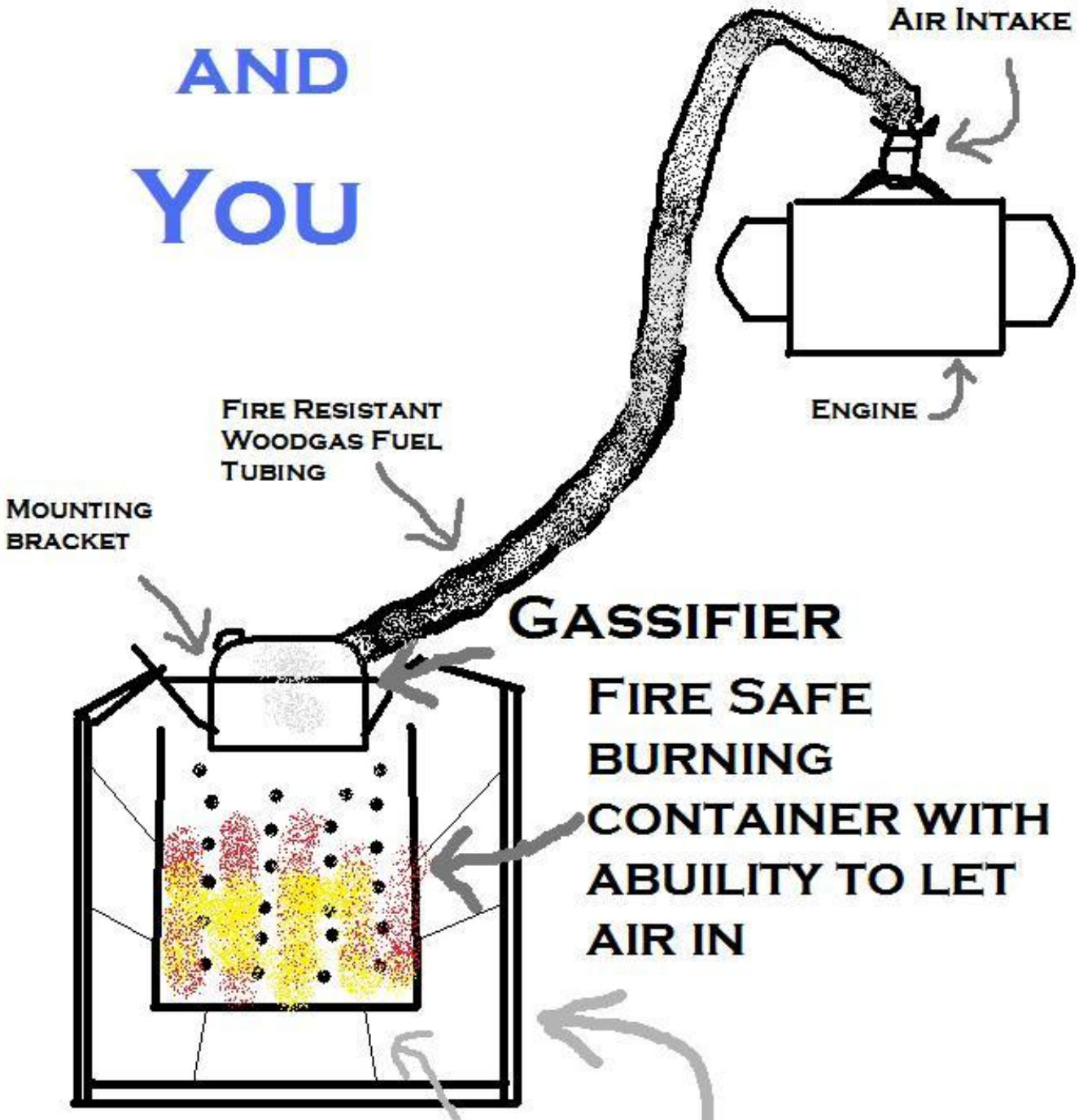
Woodgas and You



Woodgas

and You

: Building your own extremely simple wood gasification system out of parts you have laying around

Written by Michael Butt

INTRO

So you want to start making your own wood gas to power your home? That is good. Take some of the power back from “The Man”. I want it to be known first and foremost that this literature is for information and entertainment only. I can not control any aspects you control and therefore do not indorse anything you may build or construct. Woodgas is very dangerous and must use extreme caution when trying anything with it. Remember I am not responsible for anything that happens as a result of this book and it is completely the responsibility of the reader.

The very condensed history of Woodgas

Before the light bulb and even Standard Oil making petroleum perform the same every time, woodgas was considered as a clean source of lighting. Some small communities even built stations that made and pumped the woodgas into homes in order to light the way.

Then during the Second World War the Germans and many other European nations were forced to go without gasoline. With this option gone they needed to find a way to make there motor cars move. So they turned to woodgas, putting boiler like contraptions that heated wood on the back of their cars, these produced woodgas and funneled it up through a pipe over

the roof and down on the side next to the window and into the engine compartment where it connected to the carburetor allowing oxygen to get in, while providing the woodgas to run.

You may be wondering about how I came to make my first woodgas, well I learned about woodgas through television. Then I looked it up online and found a blueprint. Personally the blueprint I got was far to complex to build and seemed like it had far to many unnecessary components. So I took the principle and pulled the necessary components, and built a simple version I used to power a Toyota truck before the trucks body rusted away and I sold it. The woodgas did not have anything to do with the rust. I bought it horribly rusty and that did not change.

Science: or at least close to it

The Basics behind Woodgas generation is to heat wood beyond 700 degrees, that way it would burn, if there was oxygen present. However if you remove the oxygen the wood has no way to burn, and turns into a gas instead this gas is very flammable and when put into an engine will allow the engine to run on it along with oxygen. Essentially this means that woodgas is made because you’re burning the wood, but since there is no oxygen the wood can not burn so it needs to be placed in an area where there is oxygen and a spark to ignite it. This of course makes the making of

woodgas somewhat dangerous since if the woodgas mixes with oxygen while a flame is present it could explode. Again, this is why I do not advise doing anything this booklet shows how to do. And you take all liability into your hands should you try and use any of the information in this book.

The Plans for a simple WoodGassifier.

Here are the plans I used to make my woodgassifier, they have been redone digitally so that you can make better sense of them, since the originals are all hand drawn. Also remember I do not endorse making one of these as they can be dangerous and I have no way of controlling how you build it, or what happens while building it. .

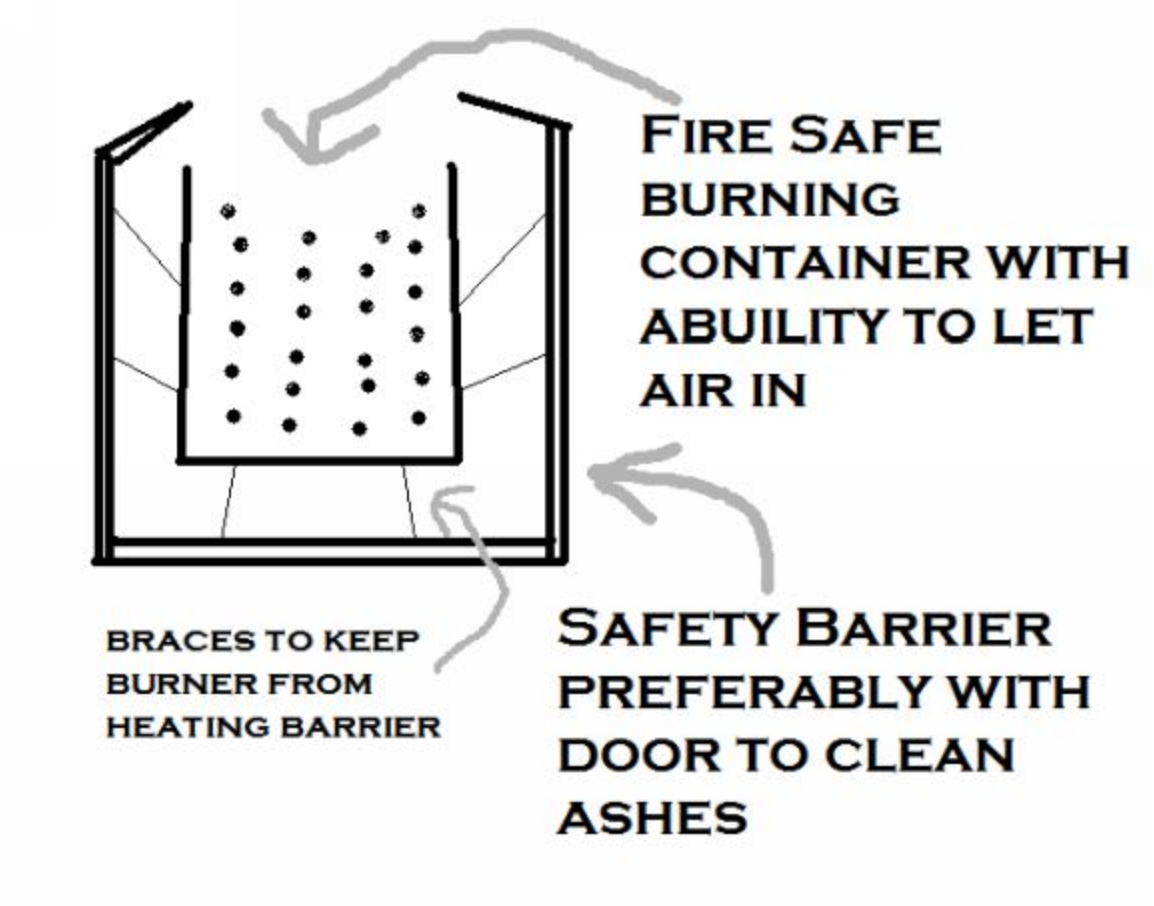
Safe Burner

The first thing you need is a safe burner.

I used the drum from a broken top loading washing machine. You just need to remove anything plastic or otherwise flammable.

Safety Barrier

The next thing you will need is a safety barrier to keep your fire pot from both moving around and lighting things you do not want on fire. You will have to mount it so that there is air between the burner and the safety barrier preferably

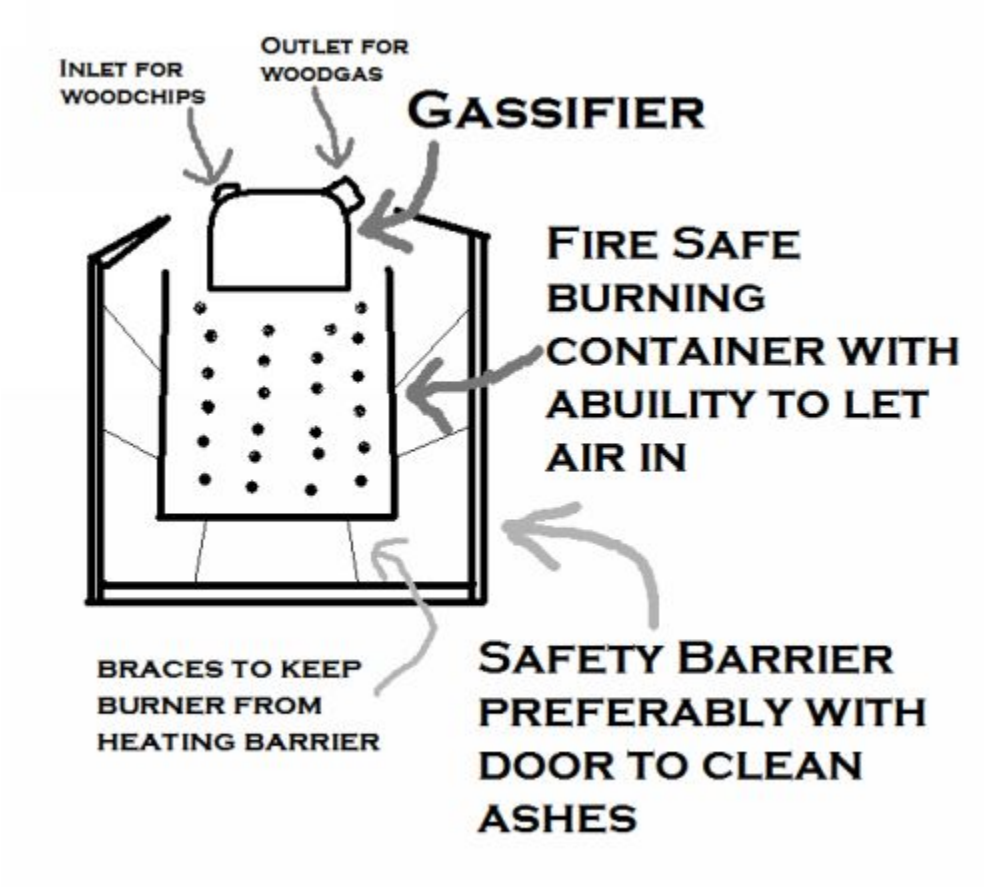


Mounting the burner pot will be very difficult, as you do not want it to heat up the sides. Also making a door can be difficult but will help when you remove the ashes that settle at the bottom. I used the rest of the washing machine minus all plastic, wires, and everything else flammable.

The Gas Maker

If you did not already realize, your gas can needs to be air tight. If air can get into the wood will either burn or possibly even explode. So find a container you know is air tight that can be heated by fire. Remember I claim

no responsibility and the reader of this is responsible for anything they use with this information. It should have an inlet to put wood fragments into that you will heat and turn to woodgas, and an outlet for the woodgas to exit

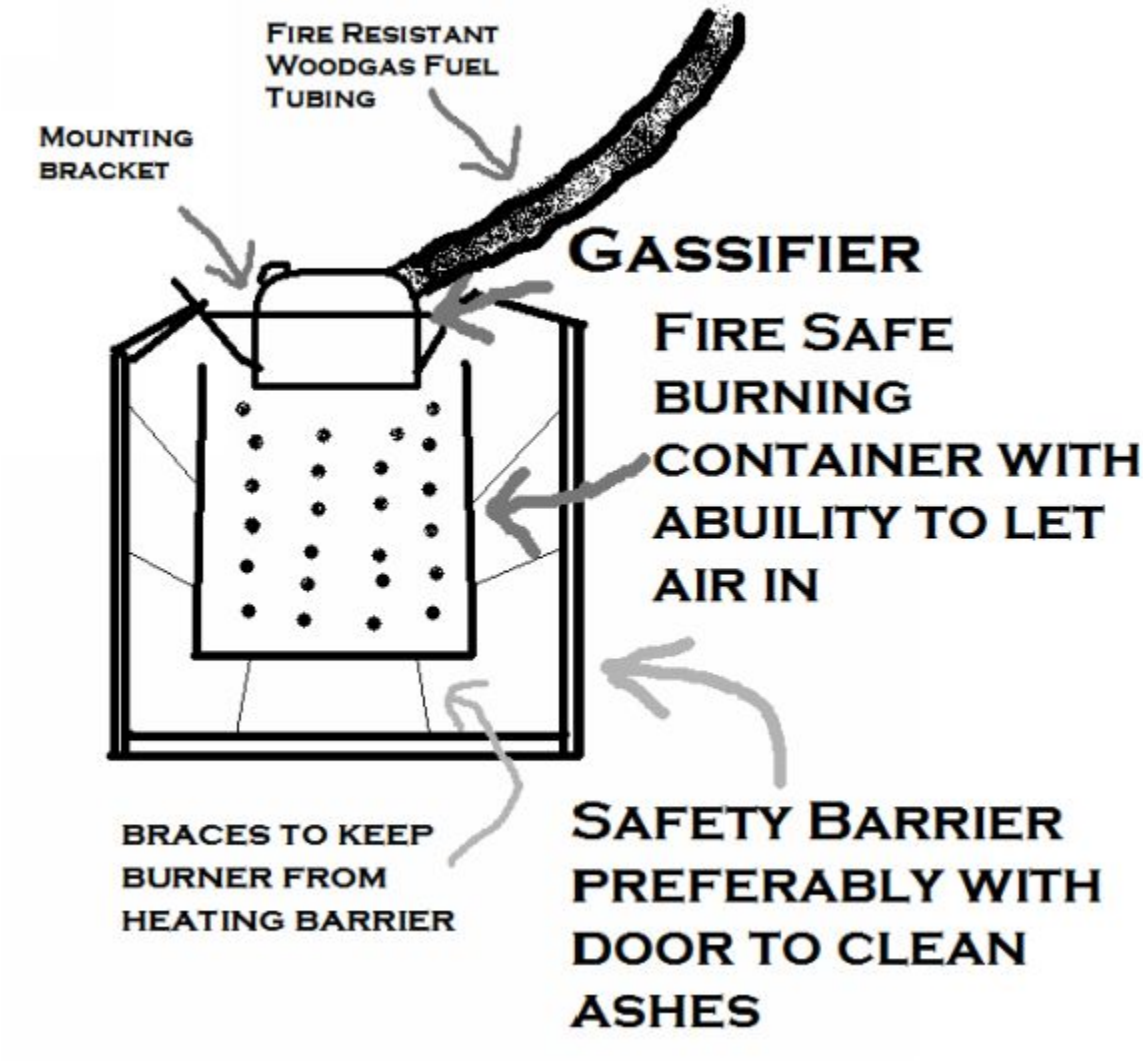


I used a dry and completely empty metal kerosene can, as it was air tight, and could be heated. You may want to find something better to use.

Make a mount for the Gas Maker and put on a gas hose

You will need to mount the gas maker in such a way that it will not move, but still be easily removable for cleaning. This is a bit hard to do, but I trust

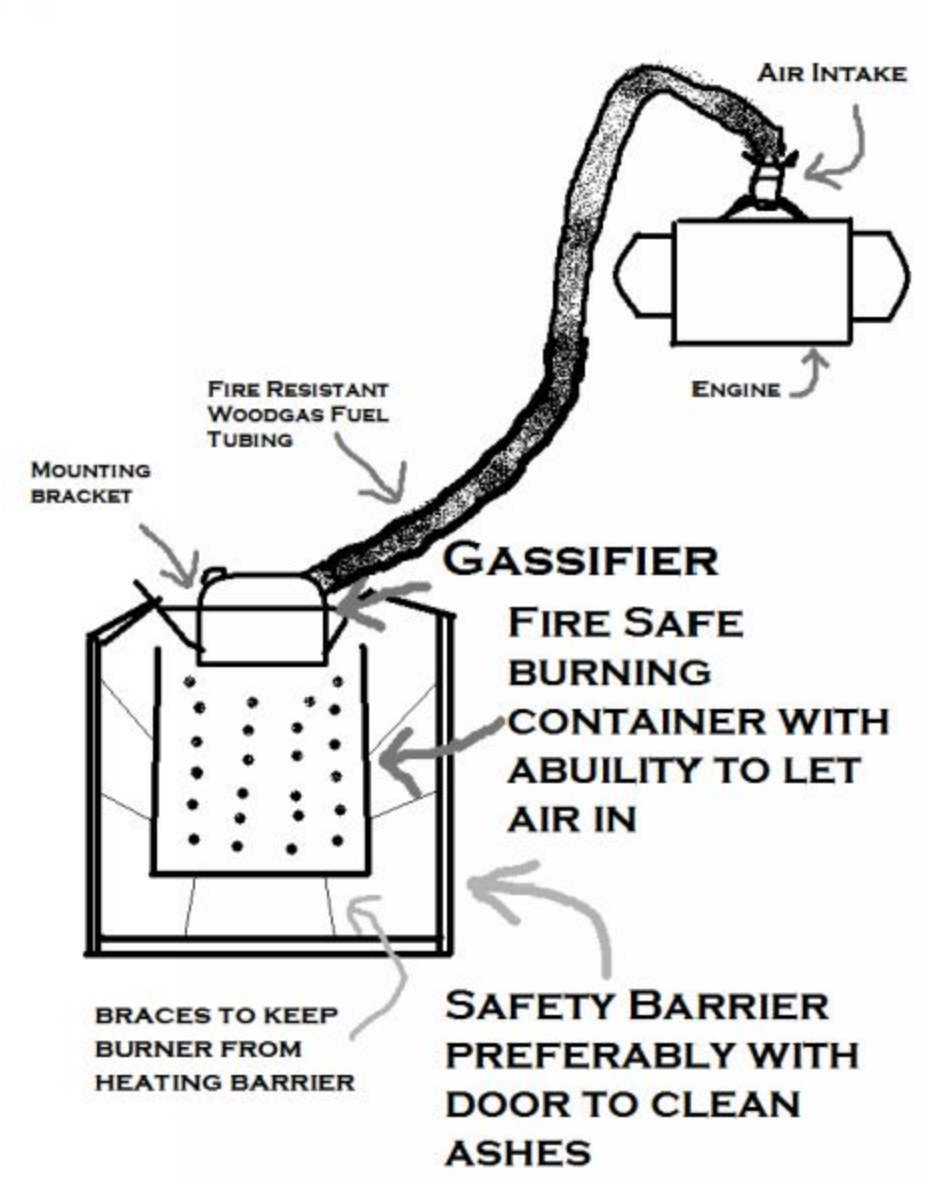
you will find a way. Also make sure it's above the fire to absorb the heat.



The mounting bracket is the toughest thing to make. You can try buying components, but I was a blacksmith and made my own out of scrap iron.

Fitting it to an Engine

There are multiple things you can do with woodgas, if you wish to connect it to a gasoline engine however you will need to find a way to connect it to the air intake. This will depend on the vehicle you choose. But it might look something like this.



I used the warm air intake from my truck, which fit a dryer hose I used to transport the woodgas almost perfectly

FINAL WORDS

If you constructed it correctly you should be able to make wood gas. Remember for the final time I have to make it perfectly clear that I claim no responsibility for anything done with this information. I can not control your build, so therefore I can not verify anything.

A wood gassifier like this has no way of filtering anything bad out of the wood gas before it goes into an engine. If you plan to use it to power an engine make sure your engine has an air filter to help keep the engine safe. Using a simple wood gassifier is kid of like feeding dirty gas into an engine. Sure it runs, but it will last longer if you use a filter to get out impurities.

If you want to cool off the woodgas before it goes into the engine you will probably want to use a coil of tubing or radiator like device to cool the wood gas before it goes into the engine.

Running an engine on a fuel that it was not originally designed to do can sometimes damage the engine, or decrease its longevity.

Woodgas is a little more difficult to create and to use then many people believe, but if you are ever in a situation where you are unable to get gasoline you may find it necessary to build a wood gas generator.

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