

Turners often use a so-called “close quarters” electrical drill for power sanding. Many of these drills are variable speed, with the speed being controlled by the amount of lever depression. These drills often go too fast for prudent sanding, and it is hard to hold the speed constant at a fraction of the maximum trigger range.

I find it helpful to put a trigger block in place at a location appropriate for your desired speed for a given application. Many turners use a wooden block under the trigger. If this is glued in place, only one maximum speed is available. I have found a unique application for a rubber automobile exhaust hanger. I found one in my junk box (I think it was for my 1971 Sahara BMW 2002, rust spot in the usual place, long since gone to Bimmer Heaven) that fit the drill perfectly. It sticks tightly in one location for operation, but, even so, it can be moved back and forth to adjust the maximum desired speed for a given application. You can probably find one that will fit your drill for a couple bucks at your favorite automotive supply store or dealer.

