January 30, 2012

By Gerry Strope, Texas

"I have just completed a velomobile based on an extended Warrior design with an electric hub added. It turns out that the Warrior design is a very good choice to put a velomobile shell around. I have had no problem with handling with the body on the warrior chassis. I didn't know anything about velomobile design when I started this project. I just started reading all information available and started building. I learned quite a bit while working on this project.

I have learned how to work with coroplast to shape the body and I do like working with it. I have found a good source of information is on Facebook in the “Coroplast Tutorial” and “Velomobile—Coroplast” groups.

I made a number of errors in my design. This design has too many vertical joints and the tail section is too narrow compared to the front. Also, the nose should be rounded. I put together a series of flat sections with joints where a curved rounded shape is more desirable. It takes

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more skill too make the rounded corners which I am learning. All seams should run horizontal.

I also found the under seat steering is not the best design for a velomobile. The handlebars are too wide and interfere with the body and the under seat mounting interferes with having a bottom surface of the body. Also, if you want to enter the body from the top, the handlebars occupy the area that you want to step on to get in. I am going to convert to a top mounted tiller steering at some point.

Now, ignoring all the mistakes, I do like the way the streamlined body works, even though mine could be more streamlined. The body is nice in cool weather to keep you out of the wind and the fairing makes headwinds much easier to deal with. It seems to go almost as good into the wind as when it is behind you.

With the extra weight the electric hub is a real plus. I do like to pedal along with it. Most of my travel is in the 15 to 25 mph range depending on the grade. I can see where this could be an alternative to using an auto for short trips.

I must warn you if you don’t like attention a velomobile is not for you. When you go by a playground the kids scream and wave. People will follow you in cars and take your picture. Young boys yell out awesome and girls of all ages wave and smile. All in all I am having a good time with this and will build more."

“Hello, I am Charles Brennan, with the bike "Dying Breed", hailing from Newfoundland! She is my pride & joy. It took me 10 years to piece it together from old and new parts.

Thanks for the inclusion. I have been following your site for years.

Best regards, Charlie”
“Technophobic about downloads, but easy to do. Great buy. Good help.”

~ equestrispots52

“My name is Willem Willemse, 48-years old and I’m from the Netherlands (West coast). My bike project started about 2 years ago, after I strolled around on the Internet. I used to ride motorcycles, but because of the lack of space and funds, I was looking out for some worthy replacement. And, that’s where the bikes stepped in. So, I started the project together with a colleague of mine (who worked in our company’s workshop). We used a lot of scrap metal and second-hand bike parts. The result was this 10’ long lowrider which weighs around 90-100 lbs. It has a 3-speed SRAM coasterhub, a 28” front wheel and a 26” 80 mm wide rear wheel. That’s the story in a nutshell.”

Atomic Zombie
Facebook fan page

Show the world that you like Atomic Zombie and bike building.

Thank you!
AtomicZombie.com
"Hello. The thing I hate about it is I did not think of it first!
I love this bike. I get more looks on this thing than I do in my Corvette. You do great works of art. Keep up the great work. Thanks for the fun, Kenneth."

"Good Day! I’m Carlo Ahillion from the Philippines.
I’ve been viewing your website AtomicZombie.com and it helped me build my own chopper bicycle. Attached is a picture of my bike that I wanna share with you guys, and hope to post it on your cool website! Thanks!"
Hi there. I’m a fan of this place. Long time reader, first time poster. I was in a car accident when I was 11 years old, and I am now 23.

It took me a while to realize I never enjoyed certain things, most relevantly, never enjoyed riding a bike or going at top speeds. I’ve only ever used my manual chair and never ridden a car, bike, trike, or even an electric chair.

I am taking time off school for health reasons and I am living in the “boonies” in Prince Edward county, Ontario.

There is no public transport here and the nearest grocery store is 10 miles away.

Read more and join the discussion: http://forum.atomiczombie.com/showthread.php?6077

Hi guys. I’ll first introduce myself. My name is Wimpy, almost 49 years old and the proud owner of the LowLife Limo.

It’s a 10’ long pile of tubes, which I’ve built some 2 years ago, together with a colleague at work. Because of its weight (100 lbs), I’ve put in a 3-speed hub and it rides great.

No breakdowns for the last 1000 miles, so that’s good. Some of you may know me from other bike forums, most of you don’t. So I’ll be checking out AZ from now on. See ya ’round. Be cool.

Read more and join the discussion: http://forum.atomiczombie.com/showthread.php?6066
"A quick note to say thanks for helping me get my download links when my Internet provider was having problems. Appreciate your patience and persistence to help me out."

~ Brian W., Arizona

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"Hi there. Here is a photo of my recently completed LWB Tourer.

Cheers for now, Julian Clothier aka "Jayceenz" New Zealand"

"The top frame just lent itself to a Kangaroo shape, so we made these coreflute cut-outs to adorn the sides of the frame with.

"Completed ride ready for Australia Day, January 26. Big Red - an 18 inch frame on bottom with a 16 inch top frame with non-direct steering."

Peter Tremlett, Adelaide, South Australia

Join the Atomic Zombie family of bike builders
Send us a picture of your completed handmade bike.
Each picture less than 2MB in size, please. JPG preferred.

>> gallery@atomiczombie.com <<

Show off your bike building talents!