

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

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Wayne Moore, South Haven, Kansas: "I converted a device for handling big tractor wheels into a handy shop hoist. The device was originally equipped with two horizontal



pipes and a vertical pipe on back. I added a 6-ft. long steel arm to the top of the pipe, as well as a hydraulic pump off a Massey combine and a 1 1/2-in. dia. hydraulic cylinder. I also mounted a 1/3 hp electric motor (off an old washing machine) on back of the unit. The motor belt-drives the pump via a 12-in. dia. pulley.

"The pump was originally equipped with a 6-in. dia. pulley. I replaced it with a 12-in. pulley so I could get by with a small electric motor. This hoist has a lot of lifting power. We've used it to lift a Chevrolet 350 engine out of a car and let it down into another vehicle. We recently had the 903 engine lifted out of our Versatile tractor. We weren't able to use the hoist to lift the engine out, but once it was on the floor, we were able to use the hoist to move it around to different places and turn it over, etc."

Jim Hefner, Lima, Ohio: "After years of wrestling with T-Trail mounted duals on my



4240 and 4440 Deere tractors, I came up with a device I call the Dual Buster.

"It works in reverse of the snap couplers that hold the duals on the T-rail. Rather than pulling the handle into a locked position to hold the duals together, my Dual Buster pushes them apart.



"Before I made this, we used crowbars, wrecking bars, and even log chains to break them apart. Now, we just drive the inside wheel up on a block, remove the snap couplers and then use the Dual Buster at the bottom to snap them apart. It works great and it's a lot easier. When the outside wheel comes loose, it just drops to the ground."

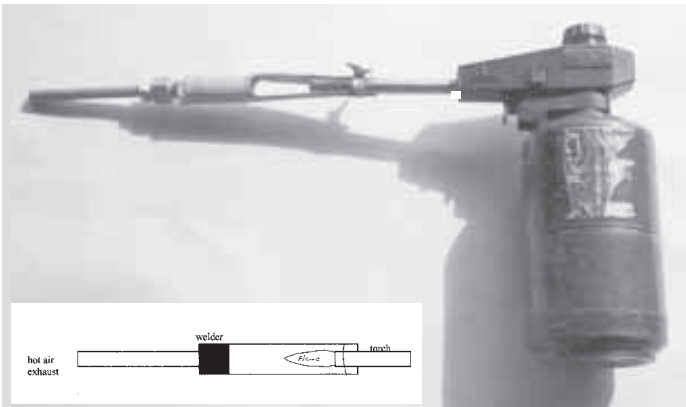
Walter Mott, Staples, Texas: "My 15-year-old son Brent recently built this heavy duty 4 by 10-ft. welding table. He looked at different tables at various tool shows and incorporated the best ideas into his design..

"The rolling table's frame is made from 2-in. sq. tubing and mounts on four castor wheels. The table's top is made from 1/2-in. thick steel plate and has a grate at one end with a hopper underneath. Pieces of slag that result from welding can be pushed into the



hopper. One side of the table consists of an open grid of 2-in. angle irons for various cutting and welding jobs. The other side of the table is designed to support a chop saw and has a series of load-bearing metal rollers next to it. The rollers allow the operator to roll lengths of steel or tubing back and forth when cutting or welding.

The table is equipped with four electrical outlets to plug in drills and other power tools. The receptacles are protected by a circuit protector (ground fault interrupter).



Clamp-on pipe attachment directs heat through a small hole, rather than heating a bigger area.

Attachment Turns Propane Torch Into Plastic "Welder"

"I needed to repair a crack in a plastic tank but didn't want to spend the money for one of the new plastic 'welders'. So I made an attachment that clamps onto the nozzle of a handheld propane torch," says John Lyons, Cornell, Ill.

The 8-in. long attachment consists of a piece of metal brake line attached to a length of 3/8-in. dia. pipe. The sides of the pipe are cut away - to let heat escape - and a wing nut is used to clamp it to the torch nozzle.

"The pipe directs heat through a hole that's about the size of a pencil, rather than heating a bigger area. That's what makes it work," says Lyons. "I used it to fix a crack in my 1,200-gal. plastic water tank, which I use to

haul water to my well. I had to either fix the tank or buy a new one at a cost of about \$350. One plastic welder I looked at was electric-powered so it wasn't portable, and I didn't think it would get hot enough to do the job. My pipe coupler attachment produces heat in only a few seconds, with no need to wait for an electric element to heat up. In fact, the flame gets so hot I have to wear gloves. I may install a heat shield on it to deflect the heat away from my hands."

Lyons says he's looking for a manufacturer. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Lyons, 23847 N. 1050 E. Rd., Cornell, Ill. 61319 (ph 815 358-2737; E-mail: lyons@crtelco.com).

Engine, Manifold Paints Stand Up To High Heat

"Our new line of engine and manifold paints are rated to withstand up to 1,800 degrees F., which far exceeds the heat range of anything else on the market," says Bill Hirsch Automotive, Newark, N.J.

The company's "space age" coatings are designed to withstand high heat without losing their original color or burning off. All are chip, crack and peel resistant. The coatings are available in pints or 16-oz. aerosols. "When brushed or sprayed onto manifold and exhaust areas, they will restore the look to new," says the company.

Here's a summary of what they offer:

- **Space Age 1800° Black** - The company says this is the only black paint that will withstand temperatures up to 1,800 degrees and retain its jet black color. One pint sells for \$25 plus \$6 S&H; the aerosol sells for \$15 plus \$6 S&H.

- **Space Age 1800° Bright Aluminum** - This is not a silver paint, but a very high tech, aluminum coating that you can even paint engines with. Withstands up to 1,800 degrees and keeps its bright finish. One pint sells for \$25 plus \$6 S&H; the aerosol sells for \$15 plus \$6 S&H.

- **Cast Iron Gray 1800°** - Dries with the look of freshly sandblasted cast iron. Extremely durable and long lasting. One pint sells for \$25 plus \$6 S&H; the aerosol sells for \$15 plus \$6 S&H.

- **Stainless Steel 1600°** - Made from stainless steel powder, this finish will impart



"Space Age" 1800° bright aluminum coating withstands up to 1800° and keeps its bright finish.

a pewter gray coating to your manifold. It's rated to 1,600 degrees F. Extremely weather and temperature resistant. Available in pints only, it sells for \$21 plus \$6 S&H.

- **Miracle Paint No. 1 Rust Killer** - A coating that bonds to rusted and corroded metals. It dries rock hard and won't chip, crack or peel. It's impervious to gasoline, lacquer thinner, salt and most acids. Can be painted directly over rusted surfaces and is strengthened by moisture. Will seal concrete, grout, wood, metal and porous tile. Can be sprayed, rolled, or brushed. One pint sells for \$20 plus \$6 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bill Hirsch Automotive, 396 Littleton Ave., Newark, N.J. 07103 (ph 800 828-2061; International or New Jersey 973 642-2404; fax 973 642-6161; E-mail: info@hirsch auto.com).

Portable Work Bench Designed To Hold Six Bench Top Tools

One person can easily move this new portable work bench to any location, even when it's fully loaded with tools.

The Port-A-Shop is a triangular-shaped, three-legged metal stand that measures 60 in. long, 52 in. wide, and 34 in. high. It can support up to six heavy benchtop tools at a time via drop-in mounting points. The tools plug into a six-outlet electric power strip at the base of the unit.

It comes with three 5-in. swivel casters so it can be moved in any direction or rotated in place. All three casters can be extended or retracted at the same time with a hand-crank. Because of the three-legged design, the work bench can be used on irregular surfaces with no leveling required. Also, more than one operator can use the Port-A-Shop without any interference between tools, even when working on long stock.

Unit weighs 110 lbs. and has a weight capacity of 500 lbs. A triangular design allows it to be stored in a corner when not in use.



It comes with a rust-proof, black powder coat finish.

Sells for \$299 plus \$55 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, AGM Container Controls, Inc., 3526 E. Fort Lowell Rd., Box 40020, Tucson, Arizona 85717 (ph 800 995-5590 or 520 881-2130; fax 520 881-4983; E-mail: portashop@agmcontainer.com; Website: www.port-a-shop.com).