



Homemade bracket allows Henderson to quickly attach a vise to the tailgate on his pickup and use it as a workshop in the field.

Vise-Mounting Bracket For Pickup Tailgates

Charlie Henderson, Burt, N.Y., recently called FARM SHOW to tell us about a vise mounting bracket he came up with. It allows him to quickly attach a vise to the tailgate on his pickup and use it as a workshop in the field.

The attachment has an L-shaped steel plate that hooks over the back edge of the tailgate. A 4 1/2-in. Sears vise mounts on top of this plate. The other end of the attachment clamps onto the front edge of the tailgate using a lever that you push down. To remove the attachment, Henderson simply raises the lever to release the clamping pressure on the front edge of the tailgate.

"I use it on my Chevrolet S10 pickup, but

the unit is fully adjustable so it can be used on many different pickup models with different tailgates," says Henderson. "Once the attachment is adjusted to fit the tailgate, it can be installed or removed in only about two seconds. The bottom side of the attachment is covered with rubber to keep from marring the tailgate.

"The first model I built used a wrench to tighten a bolt and release the clamping pressure on the front edge of the tailgate. However, the lever is a lot easier to use."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Charlie Henderson, 5651 Wilson-Burt Road, Burt, N.Y. 14028 (ph 716 778-7827).



Replacement mufflers are built to original Farmall specifications and sound much different than standard replacement mufflers, says Wood. Reproduction tractor hoods attach with spring-loaded brackets.

Replacement Mufflers, Hoods For Farmalls

You can restore the original look and sound of a Farmall tractor with these new replacement mufflers that are built to original specifications, both inside and out.

The mufflers are made from galvanized sheet metal and are designed to fit Farmall H and M models as well as Farmall A, B and C models. They clamp on using a zinc-plated clamp just like on the original mufflers.

"The way these mufflers are built internally is totally different from standard replacement mufflers. They make an altogether different sound that's beefier and much more mellow," says Mark Wood, Mark's Tractors, Gifford, Ill. "The mufflers are crimped together, with no external welds. At one time, several different manufacturers made original style mufflers for IH, but the last company quit making them about 20 years ago. Most replacement mufflers on the market don't look or sound at all like the original ones.

"I came up with the idea because I restore

tractors and got tired of the replacement models everyone was using. As far as I know we're the only company that makes an original style muffler for this tractor."

The mufflers sell for \$79 plus \$9 S&H. The zinc-plated clamps sell for \$7 apiece.

Wood also recently introduced reproduction tractor hoods for Farmall A, B, and C tractors. The hoods attach with spring-loaded brackets.

"The original hoods on these tractors are made of thin sheet metal so they dent easily and also rust out. The thin metal makes it almost impossible to repair them to their original look," says Wood.

The reproduction hoods are sold as bare, unpainted metal. They sell for \$100 plus \$15 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mark's Tractors, 2636 County Road 2300 E., Gifford, Ill. 61847 (ph 217 694-4735).

One-Handed Pipe Wrench

You'll only need one hand to use this new, heavy-duty, self-adjusting pipe wrench.

Unlike traditional pipe wrenches, there is no need to tighten an adjustment nut with the RAPIDGRIP wrench. The wrench features a spring-loaded hook jaw design that automatically adjusts to fit pipe or other surfaces up to 2 in. in diameter. A thumb trigger allows users to easily apply or remove it from the work piece.

"Currently the RAPIDGRIP wrench is the only heavy-duty wrench of its type available in the market," says Matt Ondrejko, product manager, hand tools, at Ridge Tool Co., Elyria, Ohio.

The 12-in. wrench weighs about 5 lbs. and has a jaw capacity of 2 in. It's made with a cast handle and forged steel jaw with replaceable parts and is backed by the manufacturer with a lifetime warranty.

You can purchase it wherever Ridgid tools are sold, or order it on line at toolup.com or grainger.com. The online price is under \$25,



There's no need to tighten an adjustment nut with this self-adjusting pipe wrench.

including shipping.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ridge Tool Co., 400 Clark St., Elyria Ohio 44035 (ph 800 769-7743; email: customerservice@ridgid.com).

They "Respline" Crankshafts

If you've got a Deere 70, 720 or 730 tractor equipped with a diesel engine - or another Deere 2-cyl. model - you'll be interested in this ad we saw in a recent issue of Green magazine.

Renaissance Tractor of Chehalis, Wash., has come up with a new process to repair damaged splines and adjust the nut threads on the crankshafts on Deere 70, 720 and 730 diesel tractors.

"We do a lot of engine work in these tractors and have found they often have damaged splines. However, the journals and bearings are still good," says owner Albert Ulrich. "What we do isn't rocket science but it works. First we magnaflex the crankshaft to make sure there are no cracks in it. Then we use a lathe to turn down any bad spots before welding it back up. If there are cracks in the splined area we can often grind the cracks down and then weld on new material to build the damaged area up again. The lathe is then used to turn down the welded-on material so that it's round again. The final step is to cut in new splines."

Ulrich says it typically costs about \$500 to respline the crankshaft on a Deere 730. "A new crankshaft for this model costs about



A Washington company has come up with a new process to repair damaged splines and adjust the nut threads on the crankshafts on Deere 70, 720, and 730 diesel tractors.

\$1,300 so you can save a lot of money."

According to Ulrich, Deere used this shaft design on a number of different models so the tooling and procedure they use can be applied to a wide variety of Deere 2-cyl. tractors. He says they may be able to respline crankshafts on other tractors on a case by case basis.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Albert Ulrich, 120 Cabe Road, Chehalis, Wash. 98532 (ph 360 748-0026; email: Albert@renaissancetractor.com).

Best On-Line Sites For Welders

Need help with a welding problem? Or just want to connect with others who share your interest in sticking pieces of metal together?

We went looking on-line for the best do-it-yourself welding sites.

Here's what we found.

1. www.lincolnelectric.com

At the main site, you can subscribe to an on-line newsletter and email questions to Lincoln experts. For an extensive library of technical articles on numerous welding topics, you can chase the links from the main page, or go directly to www.lincolnelectric.com/knowledge/articles

2. www.hobartwelders.com or www.MillerWelds.com

Both Hobart and Miller Electric are subsidiaries of Illinois Tool Works.

Most helpful at these sites is Welding Talk, the Hobart/Miller welding forum, where you'll find users sharing product information, advice and projects. The forum is overseen by Hobart and Miller experts who frequently chime in with an appropriate "attaboy" or "don't do that."

3. www.arcsmith.com/ntt.htm

Website for National Torch Tip, makers of flame torch tips for all makes and models of torches, as well as oxy-fuel consumables for an array of applications.

4. www.welding.com

This site was founded to let buyers and sellers of welding products get together. The site includes information on products, problem solving, and even welding jobs.

5. www.welding.org

Site details training programs of all kinds and training materials such as books, videos, and CDs.

6. www.amweld.org

Information here is on welding-related books, events, articles, and products.

7. www.stagesmith.com

If you're just looking for tons of links on additional welding and metal projects, from bike building to jewelry making to machinery repair, check out this site.