



## Magnetic Socket Inserts

"Our magnetic socket inserts work great for holding bolts in hard-to-reach places," says Bob Vasichek, Vasichek Enterprises, Michigan, N. Dak.

The removable inserts contains a strong neodymium magnet that's designed to securely hold nuts, bolts and self-tapping screws.

"It'll hold a bolt straight, no matter what angle you're holding the socket at," says Vasichek. "It works great for getting bolts started and especially shines with burrs because it'll keep the burr in the socket without it falling out.

"To remove the insert, you take a blunt object such as a bolt, stick it through the ratchet end of the socket and push the insert back out. "A lot of mechanics put the inserts into a set of sockets and leave them in there permanently," says Vasichek.

Standard magnetic socket inserts are available in sets of nine from 3/8 to 7/8 in. Metric sets contain 10 pieces from 10 through 19. These sets sell for \$9.95 including S&H and fit 1/4, 3/8 and 1/2-in. drive sockets.

A combination set is available which has both standard and metric inserts. This 19-piece set sells for \$17.95 including S&H.

The inserts are also available in stores including Sears, Northern Tool, and Fleet Farm.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Vasichek Enterprises, LLC, P.O. Box 197, Michigan, N. Dak. 58259 (ph 701 259-2288; vasent@polarcomm.com; www.brmagneticsockets.com).

**Reader Inquiry No. 80**

## 4-Door Mini Pickup Meets New Import Standards

We spotted this new 4-WD, 4-door mini pickup at the recent Farmfest Show near Redwood Falls, Minn.

Made in China, the LZ970-3 is powered by a 4-cyl., water-cooled gas engine that gets 35 to 40 mpg.

"It's competitively priced with ATV's and utility vehicles, but you also get a secure cab, air conditioning, 4-WD, and a quiet ride," says dealer Randy Nilson. These trucks have thousands of different uses from farm utility vehicles to off-road hunting. They are extremely reliable and fuel efficient, combined with comfort and protection from the elements makes these vehicles an inexpensive alternative to pickup trucks and utility vehicles.

Top speed is 62 mph. It has a 55-in. sq. bed with 13 1/2 in. high sides. The base model comes with air conditioning, steering on the left, a roomy cab with bench seats in back and bucket seats in front, off-road wheels and tires, and a rear winch receiver. A deluxe model is available and includes leather seats,



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front and rear winch receiver, front and rear tube bumper, rollbar, Baja lights, and a CD player. Both models are available with either a short or long bed.

The base model sells for about \$12,000.

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**Reader Inquiry No. 81**

## Engine-Powered Hose "Winder Upper"

"It works slick and saves a lot of hassle when I'm watering my yard," says inventor Phil Cruise of Canton, N.C., about his engine-powered hose "winder upper". "It'll wind up 50 ft. of hose in only 30 seconds."

The battery-operated unit is powered by the starter motor on a stripped-down single cylinder Briggs & Stratton engine. The starter motor turns the engine crankshaft which has a 15-in. aluminum wheel attached to it.

To wind up the hose, Cruise simply opens the engine's original gas tank, which was modified to contain a switch and cable that's connected to the engine's solenoid.

Is all of this overkill? "Maybe," jokes Cruise. "But then, I really despise garden hoses."

He removed the piston, connecting rod, camshaft, valves and gear from the Briggs & Stratton engine, keeping only the starter, solenoid, crankshaft and block. He used two set screws to attach an aluminum hub to the end of the crankshaft. Then a wheel adapter was welded to the hub and the wheel was bolted to the adapter. A brass rotary water valve fits onto the hub

"There's a 10 to 1 ratio between the starter and the flywheel so it has a lot of torque," says Cruise. "A 50-ft. hose holds two gallons of water which weighs 14 lbs., yet it has no



**Hose winder mounts on wood frame with a 12-volt battery on back.**

trouble pulling all of the hose onto the reel. One time I even replaced the hose with cable and used it to pull a truck on a gravel road for a short distance.

"It didn't cost much to build. My friend Scott Allison rigged the starter solenoid and cast the aluminum hub by melting down old pop cans. My friend John Conard gave me the engine. I bought the chrome wheel at a junk yard for \$10."

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**Reader Inquiry No. 82**