

gallon antifreeze jugs and use them to hold straps, cables and log chains. Works great.”



Bob Payne, Coldwater, Miss.: “I got tired of dragging my tire changing tools out onto the driveway when I needed them. So I mounted all the tools on a piece of 3/4-in. plywood bolted to a wood pallet. It lets me easily move all the tools at once with a pallet fork and I can use my forklift to put it up on a shelf when I’m done with it. In the past, I always had trouble using the bead breaker because it was supported poorly. So I flanked it with a couple deck boards that hold it solidly in place. I have a 5-ft. pipe extension I can slip over the bead breaker handle when I need more leverage.”



Karl Scheibengraber, Lisbon, Wis.: “Whenever I would lay down a piece of cardboard and lay down on my side to service or repair vehicles, I would get a sore neck if I didn’t support my head somehow. Old pillows or a folded cloth worked but quickly got too dirty to use. I had a ‘eureka’ moment when I realized an empty plastic Folgers coffee container placed upside down on the concrete would make an ideal headrest because the bottom is soft and rounded. It’s also stable, easy to keep clean, and won’t slide around. It even has molded finger grips for easy handling. Now I keep several empty containers around my shop so I have one handy whenever I need it.”



Gary Swensen, Yankton, S.Dak.: “I bought two extra mounting brackets for the jack on my old trailer and mounted one on

each side of the trailer. Now, if I have a flat while pulling the trailer, I just attach the jack to the side that is flat. No more wondering, ‘Do I have a jack in the toolbox, or did I leave it in the shop or someplace else?’”

Rick Croll, East Stroudsburg, Penn.: “The gas mixture screws on my chainsaws can be difficult to adjust. They have knurled heads and I can’t seem to find a tool that makes it easy to reach and turn them. Instead of breaking the plastic guards off my new saw and trying to get a needlenose in there, I used a small piece of small diameter plastic tubing. Snake the tubing through the guard and onto the screw head, then adjust it and pull the tubing off. It works great.”



Craig Nelson, Heron, Mont.: “When spring rolls around and it’s time to take off the hydraulic oil tank that supplies my snowblower, it can be a difficult task getting it off and into storage.

“I decided to build a dolly that would allow me to remove the tank and roll it away. I made it from scrap 4 by 4’s and some plywood, buying large pneumatic swivel caster wheels from Harbor Freight that let me move it over gravel. The handles came off the frame of an old trampoline. I added a box on front to hold the pump that I pull off the pto.”



Rick Bohl, Cedaredge, Colo.: “Instead of carrying around a trouble light with a long cord, it’s much easier to equip the light with a short stub cord and bring an extension cord over to it.”

Lauren Rasmussen, Kokomo, Ind.: “Small pieces of a plastic shopping bag can be used as a thread locker on bolts or as a sealant on pipe threads.

“I use a light chain hanging from the ceiling of my shop to help support long items on the drill press.”

Mel Hauck, Sauk Rapids, Minn.: “I protect hydraulic hoses by attaching a 4-in. pvc pipe to the implement tongue and then running the hoses through it.”

Harvey Gillispie, Glasgow, Ky.: “After dealing with mower issues every spring, I converted my self-propelled lawn boy mower to E-85. I set my automatic choke to open no more than 1/3 while running and placed a fuel shut off so the carb runs out all the E-85 after each use to prevent any possible corrosion. With those minor modifications my mower runs better than on regular gas with no loss of power. With gasoline prices on the rise, E-85 is less expensive with the added benefit that the exhaust smells like popcorn.”

Ken Henderson, Woodland, Calif.: “Whenever I crack a wooden garden tool handle, I put a couple of screws in to repair it, but it always seemed I would get a big sliver from the sharp end of the break. I’ve found that ‘shrink tube’ works great to cover the slivers and doesn’t come unraveled like duct tape.”

Work Table Lifted By Hydraulic Jack

To work on mowers, pressure washers, and other equipment that’s too heavy to lift, Bob Payne, Coldwater, Miss., bolted a lift table to the lift plate on a large hydraulic jack.

The 3/4-in. plywood deck has hinged 2 by 4 sides that can be latched shut. Car ramps make it easy to roll equipment onto the platform when it’s down. Then you close the sides and crank it up with the jack.

Once the lift table is at working height, Payne puts a sawhorse under each end and lowers the table onto them. “I can use the lift table wherever I need it and it stores under a workbench. It’s easy to unbolt the table from the lift jack if you need the jack for other uses,” he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Payne, 65 Wallace Road, Coldwater, Miss. 38618.

Lift table is bolted to the lift plate on a large hydraulic jack. Once table is at working height, Payne lowers it onto a pair of sawhorses.



Antique Tractor Seat Shop Stool

Dave Dam, Eau Claire, Wis., mounted an antique metal tractor seat on the base of an old IH cream separator, using a pair of elevator bolts that go through existing holes in the seat and base.

“The holes just happened to match up perfectly,” says Dam. “I bolted the bottom of the base onto a pair of 5 by 5-in. wooden blocks to make the seat just the right height. I painted the seat red and the separator’s base black for contrast. It makes a nice looking little stool.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dave Dam, 111 N. Buena Vista Rd., Eau Claire, Wis. 54703 (ph 715 450-2943; damwhistler@gmail.com). Please call after 6 p.m.



Antique metal tractor seat is bolted to the base of an old IH cream separator.

“Splash Bib” Keeps Gas Off Your Vehicle

Ever filled up your car with gas, but had the gas splash back and dribble down the side of your vehicle? To keep that from happening, a few years ago Marty Heilman, Andover, Minn., designed a rubber bib that safely drains the gas away.

His “Gas Splash” measures 6 in. long by 4 in. wide and has a gas-cap size hole near the top. The rubber is very flexible, making it easy to put on and take off.

To install, you remove the vehicle’s gas cap and stretch the bib around the filler tube, then replace the cap and fold the bib up over it. The next time you open the door, just grab the bib and fold it down so it hangs outside the door.

“I got the idea one day while watching our baby girl eat while sitting in a high chair, and getting food all over her bib,” says Heilman. “I made a pattern and cut out part of an old truck tire tube, then tried it out on my friends’ cars. They loved them.

“A local business called Car World made about 1,000 bibs for me, in two different sizes, and I gave most of them away to local car dealers who gave them to customers. We even printed the dealer’s name on the bib. But for various reasons the marketing effort soon fizzled out, and no more bibs were ever made. Now I only have a couple left.”

He says the bib works on vehicles with locking gas caps, and on vehicles without a gas cap as you can just stretch the bib over the filler tube. Another advantage is the bib protects the vehicle if you accidentally bang



Rubber “bib” safely drains gas away from side of vehicle.

a gas pump nozzle against the car.

“Over the years I’ve used it on my lawn tractor, 4-wheeler, and snowmobile. It’s really handy when I have to use a 5-gal. gas can, because it’s hard to keep a big can like that steady as you pour.”

Heilman is looking for a manufacturer. “I think the Gas Splash could be sold for under \$5,” he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Marty Heilman, 148th Lane N.W., Andover, Minn. 55304 (ph 763 434-7301; mheilman@comcast.net).