

Urinal Made From Chevrolet Turbo 400 Transmission

Doug Peccianti of Sacramento, Calif., has a custom urinal in his welding shop that always attracts attention, as it's made from a Chevrolet Turbo 400. "I built the shop 10 years ago and knew I wanted to add a bathroom," says Peccianti. "But as I scanned the room, I saw the Turbo 400 in the corner. Inspiration struck, so I decided to put it to use."

Peccianti removed the transmission's internal components and placed a stainless-steel salad bowl into the recess. "My wife got a new one for the kitchen, I promise," he laughs. One of his favorite features is the flush valve, made from a Hurst shifter that he also had on hand.

Peccianti estimates he invested \$100 into this project by purchasing most materials at swap meets. The project took about 10 hrs., mainly because the design took some tinkering to conceptualize fully. "I could build it again in 4 hrs.," he says. "Cutting out the internal components took a bit of tinkering."

The custom urinal never fails to earn a response from those who see it. "It can be a real talking point in the shop," says Peccianti. "It always puts a smile on people's faces."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Doug



Peccianti's shop urinal features a flush valve made from a Hurst shifter.

Peccianti, 4064 Las Pajas Way, Sacramento, Calif. 95864 (ph 916-482-4272).

Add-On Keeps Brakes From Freezing Up

Wyatt Van Damme has a simple solution for frozen brakes with The Meth Head canister. Van Damme recalls fighting with frozen brakes while growing up on the family farm. While injecting methyl hydrate into a brake system does the job, it's difficult and tends to spill.

"The Meth Head canister is really just a chunk of pipe with three legs and two airline connections," says Van Damme. "It provides a closed system that won't spill. Just hook it up once a month in the winter or every few months, depending on how many miles you go. In between, disconnect it and store it in your shop."

Simple instructions on use match the simple design. Instead of trying to pour methyl hydrate into the glad hand on the trailer air line, set up The Meth Head behind the cab or sleeper and connect it to the coupler from the truck and the glad hand on the trailer air line.

"Once it's connected, close the valve and hit the air brake button," says Van Damme. "Disconnect it, and away you go. It's an easy preventative."

Van Damme used the skills he developed as the owner of Triple Pass Welding to design and fabricate The Meth Head. He entered it in the Manitoba Ag Days Innovation Showcase and won the top prize in the Farm Built Solutions category.



The Meth Head uses methyl hydrate to keep brake lines from freezing.

The Meth Head is priced at \$300 CAD and is available directly from Van Damme.

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FARM SHOW

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

Have you come up with any unusual money-saving repair methods for fixing farm equipment? What maintenance shortcuts have you found? Have you had any equipment recalled by the factory? Name a particularly tough mechanical problem you've had with a piece of equipment and how you solved it.

These are a few of the questions we asked randomly selected FARM SHOW readers. If you have a repair tip, maintenance shortcut, or other mechanical experience you'd like to share, send details to: FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or email us at: editor@farmshow.com.

Scott Geyer, Editor & Publisher

Gary Meeks, Verona, Va.: "I've had a lot of trouble with fractional horsepower electric motors seizing and sticking, especially window fans. Oiling them isn't enough as they quickly stick again. It's as if the grease turns to glue. I found the cure—spray the bearings out with ether, then oil them. It works well."

"Do you have a key to the house or shop that's hard to find on your ring of keys? You can get colored plastic key top covers, but they make the key bulky, and mine wore out quickly. Try putting it on a small ring that extends it out a bit from the main ring, or use a paint pen to cover the top of the key in color. Another option is to take one of those colored pieces of tape that Subway uses when wrapping the sub and wrap it around the top of the key. When it wears off, eat another sub."



"I use a paint can lid as a low-sided parts/tool tray when working under my car. It's easy to reach into, slides easily, and is easy to clean."

Robert Lee Greenwood, Bellwood, Neb.: "When pouring my concrete floor, I dug out and poured in two 6-in HW steel tubes with cross bars on the bottom and 5/8-in. chain anchored inside with a steel bar across the tube and welded in. Both were fitted with lids at the floor surface. Now, I have an anchor point in the floor to chain a bent machine and pull it back in shape anchored to the second point. They also serve as floor mount points for shop tools like metal benders."



John Rochester, Charlotte, N.C.: "To get something really firm in a bench vise, put it all the way down on the bar or use a spacer block."

"If you need to clean paint or caulk off a screwdriver, put a heavy razor blade in a vise."



Ralph Volkman, Black Creek, Wis.: "The steel toes in my boots hurt my feet. Before throwing them away, I used a bearing press to bend them outward. It worked—no more sore feet!"

Anthony Tanzi, Mastic Beach, N.Y.: "I've had luck drilling hardened steel plates using a carbide tip drill bit at high speed."

Paul Schmittauer, Albany, Ohio: "I use my leaf blower to clear snow from my



"A C-clamp makes a great movable handle for moving plywood."