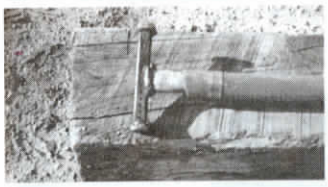
Dale R. Grandstaff, Overton, Tex.: "I used car wheels to make this handy stand to hold hoses, welding leads, etc. It consists of a 4-ft. long piece of 2 7/8-in. pipe welded to the center of a wheel rim that lies flat on the ground. Two more wheels bolt to either side of the pipe, held in place by a single bolt that sticks through a hole about 7 in. from the top of the pipe. The top of the wheels should be below the top of the pipe to make the stand easier to handle. It's easy to move around by rolling it on its base.

"I also used auto wheels to make an inexpensive work table area that can be built at an easy height to work on and can be set up to any length. When you're done with it, you can take it apart easily and tuck the parts away in the shop. Here's how it works:

"Make four stands like the one shown in the photo using a wheel rim, a piece of 2 7/8-in. pipe, and a 4-in. long piece of angle iron. Weld the pipe into the center of the wheel rim and cut an angled slot in the other end of the pipe to hold the piece of angle iron, which you weld in place. Once you've made the four stands, you just set them out in a square to serve as the four corners of the work table, and then lay a long piece of pipe across each pair of legs. You can work on top of the pipes like a pair of big sawhorses, or lay a board over the top of them to make a flat work area. You can make the stands tall enough so you can work at the height most comfortable for you."

Buddy Simons, Arp, Tex.: "By gluing three wood blocks to a framing square, you can eliminate the need for another person when squaring up a building project that's lying flat on the ground. Such as when making a gate out of pipe and you need to hold the square up off the ground to get the corners square. The blocks hold the square up without the need for another person."

Martin D. Yeager, Danville, Penn.: "I had trouble with my 1980 International 585 diesel running rich, especially on hot days. I finally figured out that if you keep the radiator clean of all dust and debris, you won't have the problem."



Ben Busenbark, Winnett, Mont.: "I made a device for washing radiators that are hard to get to as well as oil coolers and air conditioners that don't swing far enough out to be washed out from the front. It consists of a piece of 3/4-in. dia. steel pipe that slips into the end of a garden hose. The other end of the pipe is squeezed down flat and welded to the piece of 1/2-in. sq. tubing 4 in. long. Before joining the two pipes, just drill two 1/4 in. holes in the side of the sq. pipe and weld the round pipe over the holes. Then weld the ends of the square tubing shut and drill 14 1/8-in. dia. holes in one side of the sq. tubing. The fewer the holes, the higher the pressure.

"This device works excellent for removing dirt. It doesn't work as well if the cooling fins are plugged with both oil and dirt."

Arnie Johnsrud, Algoma, Wis.: "I replaced the engine in my 125 Deere skidsteer loader with an engine off a 203 International combine. The International engine was slightly longer and taller, but I squeezed it in and it only sticks out about 4 in. more than the stock engine. By making new mounting brackets, I was able to fit the back radiator guard back on so the machine looks original. The main modification was machining a new adapter plate to mount the hydrostatic pump onto the back of the engine. The combine engine and radiator were installed as one unit since they were mounted on a separate frame on the combine.

"This machine gets used almost everyday and has worked fine with its new engine for two years now."

Dan Yehl, Allegany, N.Y.: "I rebuilt a 10-ton wrecker winch so it would mount

on a tractor 3-pt. hitch. It's pto-driven and drops down to the ground when towing so it pulls the tractor back to dig into the ground when pulling a heavy load. It's a real workhorse."

Jake Arant, Chappells, S.C.: "I have a 1993 Polaris 350 ATV and I complained to the dealer that the resistance on the gas lever was so strong that my thumb gave out after riding it a short time. He told me that he could not alter it due to government regulations so I corrected the problem myself by simply slipping a 3/4-in. plastic pipe coupling over the lever, thereby extending it 2 in. The added leverage makes it easier to hold. I use the machine for spraying cows, fence lines, etc., and can now use it for hours without fatigue."

Eugene Sellers, Trout Run, Penn.: "A lot of farmers have trouble with nuts on studs that refuse to unscrew. I apply 'Never-Seize' to any nut that I think I might have to remove someday. If I think there's a chance the nut will work loose I use threadlock. It also prevents nuts and bolts from rusting together."

Gary Duspiva, Parma, Idaho: "I use WD-40 as a starting fluid on hard-starting 1-cyl. gas engines used on lawn mowers and other small power equipment. It provides some lubrication to the cylinder and doesn't fire as hard as conventional starting fluid so it's easier on the engine."

Ivan Miller, Millersburg, Ohio: "Our new blade sharpener for circular saw blades is faster and easier to set up and more accurate than a jockey grinder. It can be used on carbide or regular teeth and is installed by threading a 1/4-in. bolt in mandrel or

FARM SHOW

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

Have you come up with any unusual money saving repair methods for fixing farm equpment? 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 farm 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.

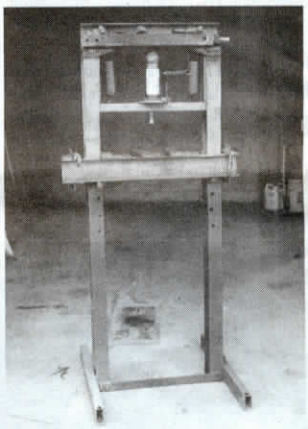
Mark Newhall, Editor

Home-Built Hydraulic Press

Edwin Freese, Scotch Grove, Iowa, used metal from the frame of an old McCormic-Deering 2-row stalk cutter to make a hydraulic press.

"It works as well as commercial hydraulic presses that cost $200 or more and was built entirely from salvage parts," says Freese.

He cut out sections of the stalk cutter's I-beam frame and mounted them on stands made from other parts of the frame. The press's "work table" rests on a pair of steel rods inserted through holes spaced 6 in. apart on both sides of the press frame, so the table can be moved up or down as needed. A hydraulic jack rests on a strap iron "slide" that rides up and down inside the I-beam sides of the press. A pair of springs are used to return the jack to its closed position.

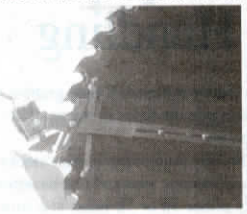


"We made it about 15 years ago and haven't found too many things it won't do," says Freese. "We use it to straighten out steel rods and shafts and to press bearings and gears on and off shafts. We even use it to straighten out bent-up beaters on manure spreaders. We have three different bottle jacks ranging from 8 to 20 tons that we use with it."

Freese welded a piece of iron across the top of the press frame to keep the sides from pushing apart.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Edwin Freese, 12974 E. 23 Co. Home Rd., Scotch Grove, Iowa 52331 (ph 319 487-3651).

left hand sawmills. It's powered by a 12-volt motor or a 115 AC master mechanic



drill. Sells for $239 without grinding stone."

Justin Jessop, Presho, S.Dak.: "When we put a big air compressor in our shop, we installed several outlets along the walls for easy access to air anywhere in the shop. Now we just carry a hose around and plug in whenever we need air. I'm also pleased with the ease of use of my Miller 200 wire feed welder."

Tim Ward, Missouri Valley, Iowa: "One of the handiest ideas I've had in my shop is using an old cable spool for a portable work bench. It's easy to move right to the equipment you're working on, and it's easy to get it out of the way when you're done."

Lester Myers, Marquand, Mo.: "After losing two fuel tank caps after forgetting to put them back on after re-fueling my tractor, I mounted a shallow cat food can onto the fender. Now I just drop the cap into this can and if I forget to put it back on, in won't vibrate off and get lost."

Dale W. Downey, Inman, S.C.: "Instead of using a top link when 'bush hogging', I use a chain with heavy metal rings on each end. This allows you to lift the mower, and yet it still floats on the ground when going