

Snowblower Built From Old Riding Lawn Mower

Roger Fisher, Spirit Lake, Iowa, used the drive train and rear wheels off an old riding mower together with the auger and spout off an old snowblower and the handlebars off a push lawn mower to build a 17-in. wide snowblower.

The blower is powered by a Kohler 2-cyl., 16 hp gas engine.

The 3-speed transmission, rear end, and rear wheels and axles are off a Ride King riding mower and were originally manufactured as one unit. Fisher mounted the drive unit backward so the control levers face the operator. He used 1/4-in. thick flat steel to make a box frame over the axle and bolted the engine on top of it. He mounted two pulleys on the engine crankshaft - one to belt-drive a gearbox on the blower and the other to belt-drive the transmission. Lawn mower handlebars also bolt to the frame. The snowblower auger welds to brackets on front of the frame.

"I mounted a centrifugal clutch on the engine so it operates like an automatic transmission. I replaced the transmission's original pulley with a bigger one so it runs very slow in first gear. I bolted a length of 1-in. wide, 1/2-in. thick rubber belt on the bottom of the blower to prevent damage to sidewalks. A 12-volt battery on back is used to start the engine. The gas tank is off an



Drive train and rear wheels are off an old riding mower.



Blower is powered by a Kohler gas engine. Handlebars are off a push lawn mower.

old Wisconsin engine and the muffler is from an old snowmobile," says Fisher.

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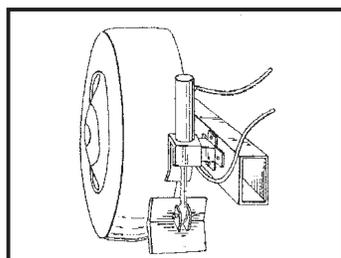
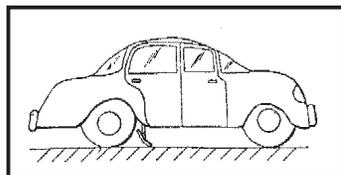
Auto Wheel Snow Scraper

Here's a new idea that's patented but isn't on the market yet. It's similar to a "snow deflector" system for pickups we featured a year ago (Vol. 21, No. 1).

The Auto Wheel Snow Scraper is a hydraulically activated "shovel" system designed to scrape snow out of the way of a vehicle's drive tires. It consists of a pair of small plow-type snow blades operated by 5-in. hydraulic cylinders with 4-in. stroke. Connected by a 12-ft. hydraulic line, the cylinders operate off a 12-volt pump. The system mounts on the frame rails of the vehicle. At the end of winter, you simply unbolt the shovels from the cylinder pistons and store them until next season.

Suitable for both large and small cars, trucks, buses and airplanes, according to inventor John Borrás who's looking for an investor or manufacturer.

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Carlos Trevino, Navsta, Box 488, Fajardo, Puerto Rico 00738 (ph 787 865-3033).

Narrowed-Up Farmall Powers 60-In. Snowblower

"It's built so narrow that I can use it in places where there's not enough room for a conventional tractor," says David Bengtson, Pelican Rapids, Minn., about the Farmall B tractor he modified to operate a 60-in. snowblower that was originally designed to mount on a skid steer loader.

Bengtson uses the tractor to blow snow out of his driveway and big yard. "I wanted something with more power than a garden tractor but small enough to fit between the buildings in my yard and that would not take up a lot of storage room," he says.

He stripped the Farmall down to the drive axle and frame which he reinforced using the frame rails off a Farmall F20. The rear steering axle is off an old 2-WD Jeep. Bengtson narrowed it up and fitted it with 12-in. wheels. He put 16-in. swather wheels on the drive axle. Power is supplied by a Buick 6-cyl., 231 cu. in. gas engine. A Dodge 3-speed transmission mounts be-



tween the engine and the tractor's original 4-speed transmission. A short driveshaft connects the two transmissions together. He tipped the ring gear over in the differential to run the tractor in reverse.

He used a pair of used lower lift arms off an old Ford tractor and scrap steel to make his own 3-pt. hitch for the snowblower.

"The two transmissions provide 12 speeds," says Bengtson. "The Buick engine has a lot of power. Originally, I used the engine to belt-drive a shaft that powered the snowblower. However, with so much power I broke a lot of belts so I recently converted



ATV-pulled bobsled is a scaled-down replica of an old-style, horse-drawn bobsled.

Bobsled Turns ATV Into Winter Workhorse

This new scaled down replica of an old-style, horse-drawn bobsled turns your ATV into the ideal winter workhorse for woodlot work and other chores, according to the manufacturer.

Prescott Mouldings & Wood Products says its "Pied Piper Bobsleds" are designed for use with any 4-WD ATV equipped with a 300 cc or larger engine. Like old-style bobsleds, the units feature hardwood construction throughout, and the carriage rides just 15 in. off the ground for easy loading.

Four 4-ft. runners, two per side, are made from QT 425 plate steel which has 10 times the wear resistance of normal steel. Independent runner suspension increases load handling stability and the four runner steering system makes it easy to maneuver in tight quarters.

Front and rear runners hook together with

adjustable cross chains, providing a minimum length of 8 ft. and a maximum length of 10 ft., with bunk space of 50 and 70 in., respectively. Length can be increased by substituting standard chain with a longer one.

Features an overall width of 46 in. with inside bunk width of 42 in. and easily handles a half cord of wood. The sleds come apart with pins for quick and easy storage or transport in a pickup. Can also be used with a snowmobile.

Sells for \$1,285 (Canadian).

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Bobsled's four runner steering system makes it easy to maneuver in tight corners.

"Slip-On Cleats" Help On Ice

The 10-degree incline into Stephen Toth's barn is just steep enough to become treacherous after an ice storm. After nearly taking a couple spills, the Hanover, Ontario, farmer decided to do something about it.

"I made 'slip-on cleats' out of an old pair of overshoes and wood screws," Toth says. "They work great and cost practically nothing to make."

He cut the overshoes down to within an inch or two of the sole and punched holes in the sides near the toe and near the arch and threaded laces through them.

He next pushed 16 3/4-in. long wood screws through the bottom of the soles, fitting them with 1-in. dia. washers to keep the screws from pulling through the rubber. About 3/8-in. of the screw sticks out of the sole.

"I pull them on and lace them over my overshoes whenever I leave the house and



Toth made his "slip-on cleats" out of an old pair of overshoes and wood screws. He pulls them on and laces them over his overshoes whenever it's icy outside.

it's icy," Toth says. "I made the first pair several years ago and haven't even had a close call on ice since."

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the snowblower to hydraulic drive. I mounted a hydraulic pump on the engine that's belt-driven off the crankshaft. The pump also supplies power to a power steering motor mounted on the steering column so it steers

much easier now."

For more information, contact: FARMS HOW Followup, David Bengtson, Rt. 1, Box 37, Pelican Rapids, Minn. 56572 (ph 218 863-7631).