

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

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threads, but I was concerned about tapping a thread insert into the hub without a proper alignment tool. I tried to tap it by freehand but wasn't able to get the tap to start properly.

"To solve the problem, I took a piece of wood from a 2 by 4 and made a guide bushing out of it by drilling it to the tap drill size on my drill press. I also located and put two additional holes in it to bolt it to the hub. I drilled the stripped hole with the proper tap drill for the insert, using the wood block to guide it. Then I tapped it with the wood block in place, which guided and propelled the tap forward to make a perfectly tapped hole in the hub. This method can be used for any stripped out hole where a piece of wood can be bolted or clamped over it."

J.B. Gingrich, Inc., 169 Katherine St. N., RR 2, West Montrose, Ontario, Canada N0B 2V0 ph 519 664-3826; "Our new angle rings are made from 10-ga. steel and have a



seamless design. They're available with or without holes and in black or galvanized steel. They can be used for ductwork or spouting.

Wood Splitter Used To Bend Tubing

When the bottom rings on his round bale feeders began rusting through, Art Freymiller, Woodman, Wisconsin figured he could repair them himself.

He had a supply of the right sized square tubing to do the job. What he needed was a way to bend it.

After thinking it over, he turned to his 3-point mounted wood splitter.

Several years ago, he rebuilt the wood splitter, changing the ram from horizontal to vertical. The splitting wedge is attached to the ram, rather than stationary as it is on some hydraulic wood splitters.

"I figured if it could split wood, it could bend tubing," he says. So, he made a die from scrap steel tubing, old wheels and strap iron to fit over the wedge. He added a piece of pipe on each end so the die wouldn't crimp the tubing.

"I welded two pieces of steel onto the die to make a V in the center, so the die just fits over the wedge, without modifying the splitter at all," he says. His die has a handle on it



Art Freymiller mounted a homemade die on the wedge of his 3-pt. mounted vertical wood splitter in order to bend tubing, that lets him position it under the wedge when he's bending.

"I was amazed at how well it works. I can bend a length of 1-in. or 1 1/4-in. tubing into a ring in just a few minutes with very little effort," he says.

And, Freymiller notes, it didn't cost a thing to make, since he made it from scrap parts he had on hand.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Art Freymiller, 15161 Town Hall Rd., Woodman, Wis. 53827 (ph 608 533-3506).

Easy New Ways To "Pull" Nails

Nail Kicker

The Nail Kicker® denailer by RECONNX, Inc., is a handheld, air-powered nail remover that works up to four times faster than pulling nails by hand. It doesn't just pull nails out. It "kicks" them out from the bottom.

It's similar to a nail gun, but works in reverse, kicking them out without damaging the wood.



Nail Kicker knocks out nails.

According to RECONNX vice president and CEO Jon X. Giltner, the Nail Kicker can do a day's worth of work in two hours. "It can kick nails out of plywood, flooring, and even two-ply material without damaging the wood surfaces," says Giltner. "Of course, the nail size, lumber thickness, species, moisture content, and skill of the operator all affect the resistance of a nail. As with any tool, operators get more proficient with practice. We can say that if the Nail Kicker can fit over the nail, it will move the nail."

The company's "try-and-buy" return program allows customers to recoup the purchase price (minus a restocking fee), if they decide the unit doesn't suit their needs.

The unit sells for \$439 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jon X. Giltner, RECONNX, Inc., P.O. Box 3009, Boulder, Colo. 80305 (ph 888 447-3873 or

303 554-8554; fax 303 554-8556; email: jxg@RECONNX.com; website: www.nailkicker.com).

Nail Wrench

The patent pending Nail Wrench by RECONNX, Inc., is a nail puller and screw remover that attaches to handheld drills. It removes nails and screws quickly by grabbing the head and spinning it out of the wood.



Nail Wrench grabs head of nail or screw to twist them out.

At a low to medium speed, the Nail Wrench drills into the wood and around the fastener like a hole saw, until the fastener is held firmly. It spins the drill or screw in place, so you can pull it out with the drill. The Nail Wrench goes into production later this year and will sell for less than \$50.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jon X. Giltner, RECONNX, Inc., P.O. Box 3009, Boulder, Colo. 80305 (ph 888 447-3873 or 303 554-8554; fax 303 554-8556; email: jxg@reconnx.com; website: www.reconnx.com).

They're slightly oversized for ease of installation when slight angles are anticipated.

"We also recently introduced new angle ring clamps to complement our angle rings for a true 360-degree grip. You can use them to make stronger joints than bolting rings together. Speeds up installation and allows fast removal of segments. The clamps are made from 10-ga. galvanized steel and come in complete sets of two, with bolts included."

Steve Rea, Salem, Ohio: "I've had problems breaking axle bolts on my Case 1845 Uni-Loader. Replacing the bolts is tough because I can't get my hand into the holes to install them. I called the dealer and was told to pull the axle housing off. However, after studying the situation I came up with a better way. I welded a small nut on the end of an axle bolt. The nut is smaller than the diameter of the bolt and sits on its side. I used low temperature when welding the nut to avoid damaging the bolt. Then I took a piece of mechanic's wire and fished it through the axle bolt hole and up through the axle chain inspection hole. I run the wire through the small nut and pull the bolt through the hole and put the nut on. This procedure saved me hours

of downtime and a lot of work. I always keep at least one axle bolt - with a nut attached to it - on hand in case of an emergency."

Roger Wessels, Fairbury, Ill.: "The under-the-hood air cleaner on my Deere 4520 tractor was hard to get at so I replaced it with a big air cleaner off an old Allis Chalmers tractor. It consists of a big metal cylinder that I mounted on a steel I-beam which I bolted lengthwise to one side of the tractor. I inserted a piece of 4-in. dia. PVC pipe into the top of the tank. It puts the air cleaner out in the open where it's much easier to service.



"To make it easier to get on the tractor, I added a wooden 'stepping plank' that reaches from one side of the tractor to the other and extends out about 3 ft. on each side."

Drill-Powered Pencil Sharpener

Dale Whitehead and Doug Henry work together making and installing cabinets, and both were tired of interrupting work to sharpen their pencils. Together they came up with the idea of a drill bit pencil sharpener that was fast and could be carried with them at all times. What resulted was the Pro-Sharp pencil kit.

The Pro-Sharp is made of heavy-duty plastic that is able to withstand the power of a standard 1/4-in. drill.

Because it fits almost any drill, the Pro-Sharp can be slipped on to sharpen a pencil in seconds and then quickly removed. It produces a long sharp point.

After building a prototype, Dale and Doug applied for and received a patent. They contacted the C.H. Hanson Co. to make and distribute the Pro-Sharp. The company makes other marking products, including a pencil holder that fits on a tape measure.

The Pro-Sharp kit, including 5 pencils, sells



Pro-Sharp can be slipped into a drill chuck to sharpen a pencil in just seconds.

for \$5.99.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The C.H. Hanson Co., 3630 North Wolf Road, Franklin Park, Ill. 60131 (ph 800 827-3398; fax 800 827-5834; email: sales@chhanson.com; website: www.chhanson.com/prosharp).

State-Of-The-Art Oil Pumper

"Our customers tell us it's the fastest and easiest-to-use hand transfer pump they've ever used," says Sherry Walker, Hydraulic Problems, Inc., Days Creek, Oregon, about the company's new Filter Pumper.

The unit can be used to handle any oils from 10 to 90 weight. It's available in three different models that are designed to pump from 5, 16, or 55-gal. drums.

The pumps come with 6 ft. of hose. The models designed for 55-gal. drums thread into 2-in. bunge holes. A filter is available to remove contaminants, if needed.

You can measure as you pump. Four complete strokes equal about one quart.

"Most commercial units pump only in one direction. The Filter Pumper pumps on both the up and down stroke so it works twice as fast," says Walker. "It can pump 5 gal. of hydraulic oil in only about 2 1/2 minutes. Another advantage is that it forms a tight seal on a 5-gal. container so if the container tips over, no oil will spill out. The pumps on other units don't have enough power to pump oil through a filter. When used with quick disconnects or couplers, the oil is transferred without exposing the system to contamination."

The model designed for 5-gal. buckets sells for \$78 without the filter; \$90 with it. The



Filter Pumper is a fast and easy-to-use hand transfer pump. Models are available to fit 5, 16, or 55-gal. drums.

drum models sell for \$15 more.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hydraulic Problems, Inc., Box 130, Days Creek, Oregon 97429 (ph 541 825-3690; fax 541 825-3692; email: hydprobs@pioneer-net.com; website: www.filterpumper.com).