

Branding Irons Not Just For Animals

Branding irons aren't just for cattle any more. A California company says its gas and electric-heated branding irons can be used on wood, leather and plastic and other materials.

Branding irons have a 1/4-in. thick solid copper plate into which your design is machined. The copper plate attaches to a steel shaft with a wood handle. The gas-heated branding iron is heated by placing it in the flame of a propane torch or in the flame of an ordinary gas kitchen stove. It takes about 2 minutes to reach branding temperature. When the branding iron has reached branding temperature - determined by testing on a piece of scrap - you simply place it onto the workpiece for about three to five seconds. A gas-heated branding iron will brand five to six pieces before it needs to be reheated.

The electrically-heated branding iron is designed to be inserted into a heating element. It takes 10 to 15 minutes to reach branding temperature.

The company says it can make branding irons with almost any design, logo, photo or even signature.

The company recommends using branding irons to mark and protect tools and equipment, computers, telephone equipment, projectors, monitors, video equipment, laptop computers, etc. Brands are available that say "Property of" or "Please return to."

If you have a fine collection of tools that you're proud of, branding them with your special logo or signature will protect them from unauthorized "borrowing."

The company says it has made branding irons as large as 30 sq. in. but an iron this big requires special heating and handling. Irons with interchangeable numbers, letters, characters and character holders are also available.

Prices start at \$87.67 plus \$9 S&H. Electric heating elements sell for \$47.90 to \$282.19 plus S&H depending on size. Cost is determined by the area of your design. A portable propane brander is also available. It's equipped with a 10-ft. hose for connection to a propane tank. Sells for \$149 plus \$9.50 S&H.



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Teflon spray is highly recommended when branding any plastic material. The company sells an 18-ounce can of Teflon spray for \$9.95.

Western style branding irons are also available in which your name or simple design is machined into a heavy brass block. They even offer a "steak brander" that can be used to brand steaks, pork chops, hamburgers or hamburger buns. It sells for \$59.95 and up.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, BrandNew Industries, Inc., 5511-C Ekwill St., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93111 (ph 800 964-8251; fax 805 964-4262; email: sales@brandnew.net; website: www.brandnew.net).

Fire Extinguisher Works Great For Changing Oil

Old fire extinguishers work great for adding oil to engines, transmissions and rear ends where there's not enough room for a standard quart oil bottle, says Bill Nickerson, Pennsburg, Penn.

Nickerson uses old-style fire extinguishers designed to hold water under pressure, which he buys cheap at sales and salvage yards. He unscrews the top of the fire extinguisher to add oil and then uses an air compressor to fill the tank with air.

"I've used this idea for about 15 years on all my equipment, and it works great," says Nickerson. "I have eight different fire extinguishers on my farm. I put a tag on each extinguisher to mark the kind of oil that's in it. Each extinguisher holds about 2 1/2 gal. When filling the extinguisher with air I watch the pressure gauge on top of the extinguisher. I put about 120 lbs. of air in.

"I'm usually able to buy the extinguishers for a couple of dollars or even get them free. This idea won't work with newer-style fire extinguishers that use a dry chemical extinguishing agent or with ones that use liquid carbon dioxide, which dispenses as a white cloud that smothers the fire."

Nickerson says one example of where this idea is especially handy is on his Bobcat 743 skid steer loader equipped with a diesel en-



Old-style fire extinguishers work great for adding oil anywhere space is tight, says Bill Nickerson.

gine. "There's not enough room in the engine area to maneuver a quart oil bottle, but there's plenty of room to insert the fire extinguisher hose."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bill Nickerson, 1263 Red Hill Rd., Pennsburg, Penn. 18073 (ph 215 679-2287).



New bale cart lets you pick up a bale and haul it without ever having to touch it.

Nifty Bale-Handling Cart

"Our new bale cart lets you pick up a bale and haul it without ever having to touch it. You can pull the cart by hand or behind an ATV or garden tractor," says Jeanne Ansotegui, Fallon, Nevada.

The cart has a hinged frame on top with a pair of hooks at one end. To load the bale, you push the cart up against the bale, then lift up the frame and push the cart's floor all the way under the bale until you can lower the frame so that the hooks extend over the end of the bale. Then you pull back and forth on the handle, using it like a ratchet to lock

the hooks into the bale so you can pull it onto the cart.

To unload the bale you lift the hooks off the bale, then pull ahead to slide the bale out of the cart. "If you want you can cut the wires or twine and feed the bale right out of the cart," notes Ansotegui.

Sells for \$275 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bale Kart, 5871 Reno Hwy, Fallon, Nevada 89406 (ph/fax 775 423-3996; email: info@balekart.com; website: www.balekart.com).



Cart has a metal floor and a hinged frame on top with a pair of hooks at one end.



Replacement liner is made from poly and covers existing tank floor under auger.

Replacement Liner For Case-IH Grain Tanks

The grain tanks on some Case-IH combine models sometimes rust or wear out around the unloading auger. Replacing the entire tank can cost a lot of money. A new replacement floor patch - made from poly - solves the problem at a fraction of the cost.

The replacement auger liner provides a slippery surface to keep grain feeding into the unloading auger faster. It comes in 1/8-in. thick sections that are held together by pre-cut, hold-down strips of stainless steel, which you bolt onto the original tank. No bolts go through the poly. The curved design of the poly fits tightly against the grain tank

floor and allows the poly to expand and contract without buckling.

"It installs quickly and easily, with no welding required," says Pat Reinhart. "It's a much less expensive alternative than replacing the entire tank."

Fits all Case-IH 1600 models except the 1620; all 2100 models; and all 2300 models before serial no. JJC0270499.

Sells for \$340.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Poly Tech Industries, Drawer 349, Monticello, Ga. 31064 (ph 800 542-7659; website: www.polyskid.com).