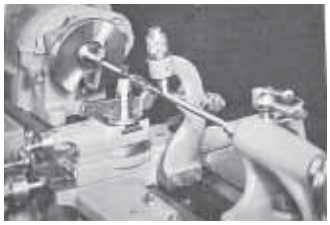


Stan McDonald, Foxboro, Ontario: "Recently I was asked to cut some small diameter round stock using a lathe. The problem arose when I attempted to cut the thread. The pressure applied by the tool caused the material to bend out of the way. After some quick research, I came up with this attachment for my South Bend lathe.

"A conventional follower rest has bronze fingers which in time wear away, so I decided to make steel rollers on mine since they could be replaced if needed.

"It works so well I now sell the completed follower rest for $100 (U.S.) plus shipping." Contact: Stan Mcdonald, 402 Mudcat Road, Foxboro, Ontario K0K 2B0 Canada (ph 613 968-9516; email: smcdonal@kos.net).

Ken Scharabok, 1645 West Blue Creek Rd., Waverly, Tenn. 37185: "The blacksmithing tools I make for sale on eBay (See Vol. 28, No. 3) require that I keep a small

quantity of many sizes of steel on hand. To use space efficiently, I built this rack onto the walls of my shop. In 24 ft. of wall space, I have room for 48 sizes of stock. I made the racks simply by drilling upward tilting holes in the 4 by 6 posts and the 2 by 4 studs in between. I then drove 10-in. sections of 3/8-in. dia. rebar into the holes. The rebar was a lot cheaper than big spikes would have been."

Charles Carson Sr., Bridgewater, Conn.: "For tubeless tires around the farm that get slow leaks, I just put a bit of used crankcase oil inside to seal them up. Solves the problem."

Steering Wobble On GM Pickups: On 1973 to 1991 GM vehicles equipped with steering column tilt assembly, often the assembly comes loose and wobbles as the vehicle ages. Most people believe the column is worn out but that's not the case. For some reason, GM did not use thread-lock on the four screws on the tilt assembly so they loosen, causing the wobble. This is especially found on lifted trucks where the steering column is used as a grab handle during entry.

To fix the problem, you disassemble the steering column and reinstall the four screws using thread-lock compound. This will permenently solve the problem. *(4-Wheeler Magazine)*

H.L. Baggett, Hollow Road, Tenn.: "I traded for a Snapper SRI30 riding mower with a 12 hp. Briggs & Stratton engine. Unfortunately, it had a lot of problems so I had to do some work on it.

"I cut 2 in. off the forward bottom edge of the deck, giving the blades a more open-angle to cut the grass and weeds. I also welded the deck-lift arm to the deck lift shaft to strengthen it. And I bolted chain in place of the original 'fishing line' dia. decklift attachments at the rear of the deck.

"In addition, I moved the seat back 7 in. to accommodate my girth. I mounted the steel seat on hinges to make it easier to change the air filter. And I replaced the two-piece carb with an old single-piece carb.

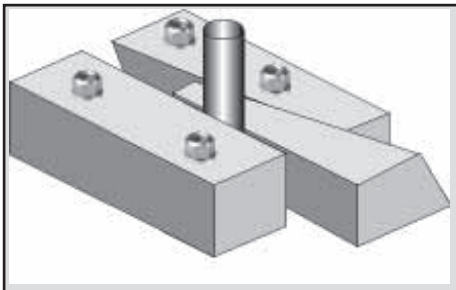
"I put roller thrust bearings on the front spindles, to ease steering between the axle and lower washer on the spindle. Finally, I repainted the tractor.

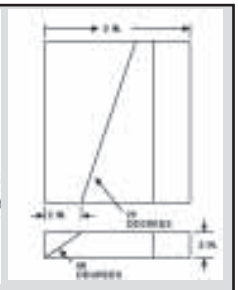
"This mower now cuts 4-ft. tall weeds and brush at 1/4 throttle. In fact, I mowed an acre of 4-ft. high weeds and brush on 1 gal. of gas. Cutting off the front 2 in. on the deck made it much easier for the mower to cut tall stuff."

Steve Nienow, Rochester, Minn.: "I use old, worn-out V-belts to hold ropes, hoes and extension cords on hooks. They grip well and are easy to use by looping them around. Works great."

Lee Dietsch, Hamler, Ohio: Here's a quick and easy way Lee came up with to fix leaks in pipe such as hydraulic lines on heavy equipment and copper plumbing. Great for farmers and excavators and anyone else running heavy equipment where hydraulic lines can get dinged while working. You can make a quick repair and keep working without a lot of downtime.

Here's how it works: Rather than cut the pipe and install a new section or coupler, Lee simply wraps a piece of wire around the pipe over the leak and then solders it in place. He uses steel wire on steel hydraulic lines and copper wire on copper piping. The wire reinforces the pipe and the leak is easy to seal by covering the wire patch with solder.





You can make your own soft-jawed vise out of a single piece of 2 by 8 pine.

Do-It-Yourself Soft-Jawed Vise

Here's an oldie but goodie that we spotted recently in an auto repair magazine.

When you've got a soft part to put into a vise, it's always tricky to keep from bending or crushing whatever you're working on. A good alternative is to make your own soft-jawed vise.

You can make one out of a single piece of 2 by 8 pine and it'll be easier and quicker to use than a conventional vise.

You cut the wood as shown in the diagrams and then bolt the two stationary pieces to the top of your work surface. The third piece simply slides in to wedge itself against the part you want to hold. You can give it a couple taps with a hammer to lock it in place.

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.

Mark Newhall, Editor

Everett W. Gustafson, Brockway, Penn.: "I added a step to my Farmall Cub tractor to make it easier to get on. I used a 2-in. wide piece of strap iron, twisted and bent into the shape of a stirrup. I hooked one end over the right pedal bracket and found a convenient

place to bolt the other end.

"Then, I braced it with a piece of angle iron that runs up under the operating platform."

Don Hofer, Wrentham, Canada: "My uncle Dave built a large table-mounted belt sander for his blacksmith shop. It has a swivel so you can sand sideways on the long plate or small plate by tilting the sander straight

up with the swivel. The sander has a belt tightening device to easily tighten the sandpaper or loosen and release the sandpaper to replace it. The belt is driven by a 5 horsepower motor so it has tremendous power."

Bob Johnson, Irvington, Ky: "To get rid of my old oil without having to go outside in winter, I put a 55-gallon barrel on a stand outside the building and ran a piece of 3/4-in. heater hose from the barrel into the shop through a hole in the outside wall. The hose connects to a 2 1/2-gal. bucket in the shop. Now, I just pour all my old motor oil in the bucket and it drains into the barrel."

Illinois Glove Company: Have you ever looked at the pieces of a project and wondered how you were ever going to keep from losing all the screws and other parts? Now, with Silver Back Magnetic Gloves, you won't have to worry about it. Metal parts will stick to the magnets on the back of each glove.

The magnets are actually strong enough to hold a hammer and the magnetism is permanent.

The gloves have half fingers so you have complete control over small items. They're made of soft and durable suede cowhide which can be cleaned with suede leather cleaner.

You can check out their website at www.silverbackgloves.com to find a retailer nearby that sells them or order them online for $30.00 plus S&H.

Mark Bruellman, Rolfe, Iowa: "Whenever I use the chop saw in my shop, I don't like all the dust and smell it makes. To solve the problem, I placed the chop saw on a workbench in front of a double hung window with a spring in it so it doesn't take much

effort to go up and down. I hooked a rope up to the window and ran it over a pulley, so that whenever I grab the rope it automatically pulls the window up and all the dust shoots out the window. It saves having to reach over the back of the workbench to open the window. A long lag bolt is embedded in the window frame, and I simply push it down to shut the window. If I did a lot of cutting, a vacuum system might work better. But for occasional shop use, this idea works fine."