

4-Door Cab For 4-Seat Gator

Curtis Industries can dress up Deere's 4-passenger Gator, which comes equipped with ROPS and can be outfitted with doors, windows and soft top from Deere. However, Curtis thinks they have a better idea with their commercial steel and acrylic cab.

"Take one look at this new cab, and you'll see the high level of craftsmanship and innovative design," says Michael Alexander, Curtis Industries.

The new, all-steel cab's lockable doors can be removed in seconds. The venting windshield, dual sliding rear windows and dual sliding front door windows let plenty of air in during the summer.

Other standard features include the all-steel roof and large acrylic panels mounted on the lower halves of the doors for added visibility. The acoustical headliner keeps noise levels down.

Options include a 20,000-btu heater, switch panel, flasher kit and more. The heater is engineered to mount discreetly in the Gator XUV. The switch panel includes 3 illuminated switches, an adjustable swivel dome light and a plug for the windshield wiper. The flasher kit includes four 3-LED, 4-way amber-light flashers.

A 5-LED flat work light kit with brackets, switch and wiring is also available. Other Curtis cab accessories can also be added, including mirrors, wiper kits, strobe lights, radio, backup alarms and horn kits.

The new cab is available on eBay for \$5,399.99.

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Curtis Industries recently introduced this commercial steel and acrylic cab for Deere's 4-door, 4-passenger Gator. Cab's lockable doors can be removed in seconds.

"Made It Myself" Cab Built For Comfort

"When it's below zero it's nice to be hot while plowing snow," laughs Joe March of Friendship, Maine. Though the past winter was brutal, the 70-year-old was quite comfortable thanks to the cab he built for his L2800 Kubota tractor.

"My plan was to get as much visibility as possible and have heat, defrost and ventilation," he explains.

He first checked out homemade cabs in past issues of FARM SHOW and then researched on the internet. He picked up a couple of good ideas such as installing a roomy entry door with a right-hand hinge and left-hand knob, and using loose pin hinges to have the option to remove the door in the summer.

"The hardest part was the design, fit and mounting to the tractor," March says. "Lucky for me my hired man has a fertile brain and skinny hands. We used a piece of aluminum quarter-round rod to bend the form around the fenders, then using it to scribe a cut line on plywood for a good fit."

To maximize visibility and make the most of a \$325 4-by 8-ft. sheet of polycarbonate,

he first made cardboard templates.

"Leave the protective backing on while cutting and fitting," he advises. "The poly cuts well with a sharp fine-tooth skill saw or saber saw."

He also suggests drilling oversize holes in the poly, using a bead of silicone and rubber washer, and not over tightening the screws.

He sealed the gap between tractor and cab with foam tape and enlarged existing holes on the loader frame, fenders and factory crossbar behind the seat to bolt the cab down.

"I was careful not to drill, weld or bolt to the ROPS structure so as not to compromise its integrity in any way," March says.

Total cost for the cab was less than \$900, plus parts he had on hand, but March didn't skip on quality where it was needed. He purchased 3/4-in. one-side sanded exterior plywood (\$50/sheet) and protected it with good silicone adhesive and two coats of quality oil primer topped with three coats of high-visibility orange oil paint. He installed a tiny \$225 2-speed hot water heater. Though it was small, it was still a tight spot to install



Joe March built this cab for his Kubota L2800 tractor. "My plan was to get as much visibility as possible and have heat, defrost and ventilation," he says.

it under the loader's hydraulic valve.

"I installed all switches with fuses as well as a 40-amp inline fuse at the battery for safety," March says. "The factory flashing lights are visible and I put on a slow moving vehicle sign as well as 2-year-old strobe lights that I had off a fire truck for safety."

The only place he skimmed a bit was installing a \$29 hand-powered windshield wiper instead of a \$135 electric wiper.

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Photo shows electric switch box with pilot light switches, 2-speed heater switch, and fuse box. Lower left photo shows interior light, fan, screened roof vent, and insulated roof.



A 12-volt fan keeps Howard Aul cool inside his Kubota 4-WD diesel tractor. Fan mounts on a length of tubing that also supports a pair of electric horns.

Kubota Sun Shade Fitted With Fan, Horns

"My Kubota BX25D 4-WD diesel tractor came equipped with a sun shade. But here in Florida we often need more than shade to keep cool. So I mounted a small 12-volt fan under the sun shade and just above the seat," says Howard Aul, Saint Augustine, Fla.

The fan runs off the tractor's battery and mounts on one end of a length of 1-in. tubing that bolts to the bottom of the fiberglass sun shade. A pair of electric horns are attached to the other end of the tubing.

"I'm a disabled vet and it's hard for me to

get in and out of the tractor cab, so if I want my son to get something out of the way for me, I just toot the horn and he comes over," says Aul.

He welded a small metal plate onto each end of the tubing, one for the horn and the other for the fan. Then he drilled holes in the plates to bolt on the fan and air horns.

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Homemade canopy is made from plywood, with pine 1 by 4's around the sides. It bolts onto Kubota tractor's rollbar.

Tractor Canopy Made Out Of Wood

Jerry Webb, Effingham, Ill., decided he'd like to have a canopy on top of his 1995 Kubota B8200 compact tractor. However, he didn't want to pay the \$350 or so that Kubota wanted for one so he made his own out of wood. It's bolted to the tractor's rollbar and is painted Kubota orange.

"It looks as nice as a factory-made model and cost less than \$50 to build," says Webb. "It works great to keep the sun off me and makes an ideal weather top in any season."

The canopy is made from plywood with pine 1 by 4's around the sides. Angle iron brackets were used to bolt the canopy onto the rollbar. The underside of the canopy is painted white while the rest is Kubota orange. After the photo was taken, Webb added a big rear view mirror off a Ford truck to the canopy.

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