

only to find that the grease inside has turned to concrete.

"I learned a method for cleaning out solidified grease from Robert Jensen, a service technician in Baker, Idaho. All



you need is a heavy-duty engine degreaser and a rust buster product such as PB Blaster. First, remove the grease zerk and spray the engine degreaser into the grease cavity. Give the degreaser a few minutes to begin to dissolve the solidified grease, then apply again. Repeat the process until the degreaser flows back out clean.

"After you reinstall the grease fitting, be sure to load the grease cavity with high-quality grease until grease begins to ooze out of both sides. If it doesn't come out all the way around, you may still have solidified grease inside. Inject PB Blaster into the cavity and cycle the unit several times until you begin to see penetrating oil begin to weep from the seized pin and bushing. Then fill the cavity with grease."

Doug Clark, Ilderton, Ontario: "In FARM SHOW'S Vol. 40, No. 1, Gary Holland suggested placing a strong magnet on a drill press in order to gradually magnetize a drill bit so the shavings will stick to it instead of flying around. If you want to instantly magnetize a drill bit or any tool, such as a screwdriver or allen wrench, here's how to do it.

"Just wrap as much coated wire as you can around the tool, leaving the wire bare at each end. Attach one end to the positive clamp on a 12-volt battery charger and quickly strike the other wire against the negative clamp.

"With just a brief instant of direct current, any insulated coil of wire will set up a magnetic field in the center that will magnetize almost any high grade steel, and the magnetic field will stay with the tool for years.

"If you don't have access to a battery charger, you can hold one end of the wire to the positive cable on a vehicle's battery and quickly strike the other end to a grounded part of the vehicle away from the battery."

Jeff Lang, Newport News, Va.: "I've had great success using recreational vehicle antifreeze to winterize the pump on my pressure washer, which is more than 14 years old. I attach one end of a short length of hose to where the water supply line hooks up to the pump, and point the hose upward so I can pour the antifreeze into the pump. I cycle the pump a few times to pull the antifreeze in and keep refilling the hose as necessary until the antifreeze comes out the high pressure side."

Ronald Line, Inwood, Manitoba: "I read in FARM SHOW that a 50-50 mix of automatic transmission fluid and acetone makes a good penetrating oil, and I've found this idea does work (Vol. 34, No. 3). About 4 years ago the transmission on my Chevy 1/2-ton pickup overheated and quit shifting. The oil turned black, but changing it didn't help. I had nothing to lose so I added a half cup of acetone and the transmission started shifting right away.

I repeated the procedure 3 or 4 more times, and now the transmission shifts as good as new.

"I've also successfully used this idea on Dodge vans. Acetone evaporates quickly, so as soon as it frees up the stuck valves it's gone. This idea has saved me a lot of money on transmission repairs."



Tim Glick, Oley, Penn.: "I made a 3/4-in. hex driver to insert into my 3/4-in. socket by cutting a 3-in. section out of a new crowbar. Stores don't carry a hex driver this large. I needed one to remove a pair of hex-shaped oil drain plugs on the front axle differential on my mechanical front-wheel drive tractor. I paid \$12 for the crowbar. Now I've got a new hex driver, and I can use the rest of the crowbar as a prybar."



Mark Diehl, Boltsorter, Sidney, Ohio: "It's the only tool of its kind for sorting out bolts and other threaded fasteners," says Mark Diehl, a tool and die maker who came up with a patent-pending thread identifier that's small enough to fit easily into a toolbox.

The Boltsorter identifies 30 sizes of bolts in inch and metric sizes. You simply lay the end of a bolt into the dies and when you find the one where the bolt fits, that's it. Sells for just \$12.50, including S&H (www.boltsorter.com; ph 937 492-4149).

Wesley Marsh, Tallahassee, Fla.: "I use empty 1-gal. metal cans for all kinds of jobs around the farm such as a dust pan, feed barrel scoop, spreading oil dry, etc. Just cut out one end and part of the side of each can, then turn in the sharp edge about 1/8 in. to eliminate the sharp edge."



Dean Kirtley, 670 County Road 1707, Jacksonville, Texas 75766 (ph 903 830-5189): Dean makes a waterproof, clear plastic document holder that has a metal clipboard with plastic clip to hold documents. The documents are visible without having to open the case. The removable lid is waterproof. It's held tight with 2 bolts and wing nuts that are loosened and moved out of the way for opening and easy removal of documents.

"It works great on tractors, trucks, trailers, boats and shipping containers to hold licenses, warranties, maintenance and repair receipts, load weights and bills of lading," says Dean. "Boaters can put licenses and cell phones in the holder to keep them dry while on the water. The holder can be conveniently mounted on the frame of flatbed trailers, or mounted on back of box trailers."

Sells for \$17.50 including S&H.

Cheap Welding Rod Storage Cabinet

"I have an inventory of almost 400 lbs. of different varieties of welding rod that I picked up about 15 years ago at an auction sale for \$5. However, in our wet climate welding rod usually doesn't stay dry for too long if we leave it sitting around in the shop," says Doug Clark, Liderton, Ontario.

He needed a place to store the rods, so he made a cheap storage cabinet out of an old upright freezer.

"The freezer provides a lot more space than a refrigerator because it has 4 full-sized shelves that are evenly spaced," says Clark. "The shelves are quite strong since they're made up of heavy stainless steel cooling tubes with wire screens on top. Each shelf holds up to 100 lbs. of welding rod while leaving space between the boxes and canisters."

Clark hung a small reading lamp from the bottom shelf and says its low-watt bulb produces enough heat to keep air inside the freezer dry and a bit above room temperature all year long. "The light hangs a few inches above the bottom of the freezer and faces up, which allows heat from the bulb to rise through the spaces between the boxes and canisters."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Doug Clark, Liderton, Ontario Canada (dough-clark@hotmail.com).



Needing a place to keep his welding rods dry, Doug Clark made this cheap storage cabinet out of an old upright freezer.

Gasket Problem With V-10 Truck Engine Solved

Mike Anderson, Chichester, New Hampshire, recently called FARM SHOW to tell us how he saved money repairing the V-10 gas engine on his Ford dump truck.

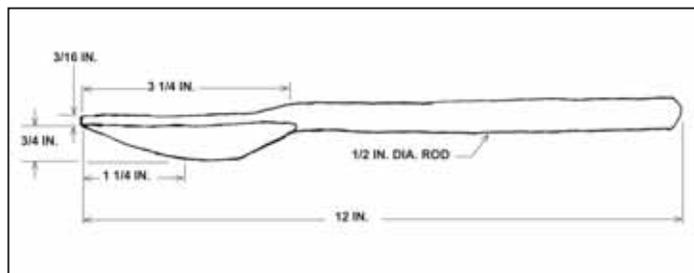
"The problem is that the gasket between the head and exhaust manifold is too thin and has very little 'give' to it," says Anderson. "As a result, in cold weather the exhaust manifold cools quickly and the gasket contracts, causing the bolts in the gasket to break off inside the block. The gasket then has to be replaced at a cost of about \$1,300.

"This problem happened 3 different times on my truck's engine. The last time I asked the dealer to install a different gasket that had more cushion, but he said the company wouldn't approve of that. I said I don't care

what the company says because I can't afford to keep replacing gaskets. I called the company to ask for a different gasket, but they said nothing else on the market would work on my engine."

So 1 1/2 years ago Anderson went to a local hotrod machine shop and paid \$75 for a new Remflex Exhaust gasket (ph 866 641-7325; www.info@remflex.com). "The Remflex gasket is a full 1/8 in. thick, which produces a cushioning effect so it won't warp. And it can withstand engine temperatures up to 3,000 degrees," says Anderson. "Problem solved."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mike Anderson, Chichester, New Hampshire (mdandy@gmail.com).



"I've made many of them for family and friends over the years," says Ralph Curtiss, Jr., about his homemade fence staple puller.

Fence Staple Puller Made To Last

"I'm 75 years old and have used this staple puller for much of my life. It works so well, I don't want the design to be lost so I thought I'd share it with other FARM SHOW readers," says Ralph E. Curtiss Jr., West Grove, Penn.

"The original tool was forged for my father in about 1950 by an African-American blacksmith named Henry Sims in Falls Church, Va. I've never seen another one like

it and it has worked superbly for everyone in our family.

"I have made many of them for family and friends over the years. Anyone with a means of heating metal can forge it from a piece of 1/2-in. steel rod. You can also grind a brick-pointing chisel down into this shape."

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