Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

Roman Bontrager, Myerstown, Penn.: "Years ago I was was working construction and we removed an x-ray machine from a medical office. The frame and rails attached to the ceiling. I took them down and reinstalled them in my shop. The two crossrails. I mounted a 1/2-ton electric chain hoist to the cross rail carriage, thus allowing me to pick up anything in that 10 by 10-ft. area. Works great for welding projects, lawn tractor maintenance, and other miscellaneous jobs."

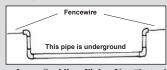


Gary Swensen, Yankton, S. Dak.: "In the winter it can be almost impossible to pump grease when it's cold and the grease gun is left outside. I solve the problem by heating the grease gun up with a torch for a few seconds, which gets the grease flowing like summertime. Just make sure to wear welding gloves since the gun can get really hot."



Michael Myers, Kirbyville, Texas: "I bought an old screw-type bottle jack cheap at a flea market and find that it's real handy to use in my shop. One time I wanted to spread some metal pieces apart but found there wasn't enough room to use a scissor jack. So I made an adapter for my cordless drill by welding a short bolt crossways onto a nut driver that fits into the drill chuck. That way I can just lay the jack on its side and use the drill to operate it.

"I've used the same jack to pull the steering wheel off a tractor."



James Spalding, Finley, Ky.: "Instead of running electric fence wire across a gate opening, I run the wire through a 3/4-in. dia. pvc pipe and then bury the pipe underground. Short elbow sections attached to both ends of the pipe extend up to the surface and keep water out."



Jack Henning, Watertown, S. Dak.: "At 81 years old I'm no longer able to

crank start my 1930 McCormick-Deering 10-20 tractor, so I mounted the starter ring gear off an IH 806 gas tractor on the 10-20's belt pulley. I made a mounting bracket for the ring gear and bolted it to the tractor frame. I made sure to point the 806 tractor's starter toward the tractor seat so the belt pulley turns in the right direction."



Warren Grant, Albany, Ga.: "I've always had trouble pushing new races back into place when a bearing goes bad. To solve the problem, I take a Dremel tool fitted with a small cut-off blade and cut through one side of the old race. It makes the race flexible enough that I can push a new race in and then remove the old one with little effort. Every time I change out a race, I save it so that I'll have various sizes on hand."



David Norman, Bay St. Louis, Miss.: "I keep hydraulic floor jacks in 4 different pickups. I gave each jack an extra 2 in. of lifting height by welding a 4-in. length of 2-in. square tubing onto it. I removed the pin that secures a steel cup to the jack lift arm and welded the tubing on. Then I drilled a hole in the tubing, placed the cup on top of it, and reinserted the pin.

"The extra 2 in. of lift can often eliminate the need to use spacers when changing a flat tire."

Brad Skow, Thor, Iowa: "I precut weedeater string to length and carry it with me in my back pocket. That way I don't have to look for string when I

need it.



Ryan Van Der Bill, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.: "Instead of trying to stuff a tool's electric cord inside the tool case box, just wrap the cord neatly around the outside of the box. You might have to cut a small groove in the plastic where the box folds up in order to run the cord through."



Mobile air splitter is made from a large heavy-gauge pipe with ends welded in place, and holes drilled in the sides to connect air lines.

Mobile Air Splitting Manifold

"One day two of my sons each had projects going outside where they needed compressed air, sharing one large line from the compressor in my shop. When I asked if I could use the hose to air up my trailer tires, they both said 'No!' at the same time," says Gary Swensen, Yankton, S. Dak.

"So that's when I got the idea for a mobile air splitter that we could carry outside and connect air lines for multiple projects. One large line goes in the end of the splitter and 6 lines out are fitted with quick couplers.

"This kind of manifold needs to be built

extremely heavy-duty. I used a large piece of heavy-gauge pipe with ends welded in place and holes drilled in the sides for the pipe fittings. I added a handle to make it easy to carry and added a couple small legs to hold it off the ground. No more sharing and swearing, and no need to run separate air lines for each project."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gary Swensen, 1408 Sunrise Drive, Yankton, S. Dak. 57078 (ph 605 660-3489; g_swensen@ msn.com).

Wheel Guards For Welders, Toolboxes Push Debris Away

"Our new Path Pro wheel guards snap onto the wheels found on welder carts and rolling toolboxes. They push small obstacles such as cords and welding leads out of the way, to keep the cart or toolbox from getting hung up on debris as you move around your shop," says Bryan Dubas, Fullerton, Neb.

The polypropylene wheel guards are designed for use on solid level surfaces. They come in 2 halves that bolt together using 2 pre-drilled holes. To install them you just lift the wheel up and snap the guard onto the bottom.

Wheel guards are available in diameters from 4 to 10 in. and widths from 1 to 3 in. Prices range from \$15.99 plus shipping for a pair of 4 by 1-in. wheel guards, to \$49.99 plus shipping for a welder set that includes two 4 by 1 1/2-in. and two 10 by 2 1/2-in. guards.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The Caster Master, 101 Broadway St., Fullerton,



Path Pro wheel guards snap onto cart wheels to push small obstacles out of the way.

Neb. 68638 (ph 308 550-0151; info@ thecastermaster.com; www.thecastermaster.com).

Broken Items Become A Handy Tool Cart

"My tools were never where I wanted them and I got tired of running back and forth," says Patrick Binns, who built a tool cart using parts from broken items.

The cart's bicycle tires roll easily over all types of terrain. Binns mounted the tires to a frame built mostly from a couple of broken pallets.

To make it a true DIY project, Canadianstyle, Binns used broken hockey sticks, two for handles and a third attached vertically to the front to create a support leg.

Binns says the cart has been useful for all types of projects in his shop and around his rural Prince Edward Island property. At 3 ft. long and 2 ft. wide, it holds everything from socket sets, grease guns and a bucket of bolts to work on machinery, as well as a hammer, drill and other tools for carpentry work.



Tool cart rides on bicycle tires mounted to a frame built from broken pallets, with hockey sticks for handles.

N

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Patrick Binns, Murray River, P.E.I. Canada (patbinns7@gmail.com).

1-800-834-9665 • editor@farmshow.com • www.bestfarmbuys.com • www.farmshow.com • vol. 42, no. 3 • FARM SHOW • 33