Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

tie-down strap in between and can then be easily wound up by the drill.

"Cutting down an old tote, including the plastic, makes for a nice, large drain pan.

"Using hand sanitizer as a tool cleaner works well as the gel stays on a tool longer and gives it time to work rather than liquid that evaporates quickly."

Preston Williams, Victoria, Va.: "I have a test light for the electric fence, but it was so weak that I couldn't see it during the day. So, I found a small LED with a plug for 110-volt AC and a female AC plug. I attached two wires with contacts on the end. When I touch the contact to the wire and the other stuck in the ground, I get a bright flashing light."

Charlie McDermott, Cassadaga, N.Y.:
"I zip-tied a 3-ft. and 1-ft. painter's folding platform on the back rack of my 4-wheeler for hauling firewood. I installed it upside down and put the legs up when hauling."

Richard A. Young, DeFuniak Springs, Fla.: "I replaced the 1/2-in. drain plug on my Cub with a 1/2-in. regular water line shut-off valve. It makes oil changes really easy."

Aaron Williams, Tyler, Texas: "Duct tape, zip ties and JB Weld will fix anything."

Albert Schollenberger, Egg Harbor City, N.J.: "When replacing bearings on a shaft, I put the bearing in the freezer for an hour or two first. It then slides on easily."

Jeff Buckner, Canon City, Colo.: "When I have to mount a gate or door on a wooden post or frame, I first get bigger and/ or longer screws. Next, I apply Liquid Nails to the back of the hinges on both the door or gate and the post or frame. I also run the screws or bolts in and then pull them out, put Liquid Nails on them, and then run them back in. It's similar to using Threadlocker on bolts."



David Peck, Perry, N.Y.: "I've made a couple of mobile workbenches from old gas grills. First, I removed the grill. The cart had a frame and a nice cabinet. I used an old solid-core door on top to make a mobile workbench. I put on tires from Harbor Freight, so it's easy to roll in the yard. The first one I made was open (no cabinet), so I added grid shelving."



Ralph Volkman, Black Creek, Wis.: "When my TurboTorch fell over, the housing broke. I repaired it with a piece of aluminum strap 1/16 in. thick by 1 in. wide

by 13 in lon

"Also, I clean the orifice with a strand of copper wire from a lamp cord."

Glenn Manning, Rochester, Ill.: "When one of my older shop-type vacs (with 2-in. suction and exhaust/blower ports) failed, I cut the cord off and turned it into a 'prefilter' for my better vac.

"Using a 2-in. suction hose (available as an accessory), I connected the exhaust port of the old vac to the suction port of the good vac, then connected the conventional pick-up hose to the suction port of the old vac.

"I keep good filters in both units and most of the crud remains in the old unit as the good unit provides only suction (slightly reduced), not direct pickup."

Mike Brose, Valley Falls, Kan.: "When removing fittings from air compressor systems, let out the air pressure before loosening.

"I use spring hand clamps to hold the hose when filling a sprayer."

Ted Thompson, Thompson, Iowa: "To repair the wobble box on a New Holland 489 haybine, remove the header first. It's not that hard, and it makes the job a lot easier."





Ben Parks III, Austin, Texas: "I'm submitting this as a licensed electrician. When doing a minor remodel and installing lighting outlet boxes in a finished ceiling, be certain that not only is the box where you want it, but also make sure that no structure is in the way. Since the attic is accessible, I measure and mark the box location in the room, then take an awl or small Phillips screwdriver and stick a piece of wire in the ceiling hole. I go to the attic above the room and find the wire so I can be certain the hole is clear of any studs. If a stud is in the way, I know how far to move over before cutting the hole in the ceiling. If I end up not using the pilot hole location, it's easy to patch since it's small."

Dean E. Stevens, Wentworth, N.H.: "I keep a set of cheap wrenches so when I need one with a special angle or bend, I don't destroy one from my good set. You might only need that special angle or bend once."

Darrell Cooper, Chillicothe, Mo.: "Bolting a gauge wheel from a cultivator onto a farm gate makes it a lot easier to open and shut the gate."

David Pichler, Eau Claire, Wis.: "I had an 8.5-hp engine on a walk-behind mower that wouldn't run right unless the choke was half on. So, I drilled out the gas jet. It was too much gas. I bought a new jet, same deal. Then I drilled out less in size, but it was still too much. I finally added wire in the hole and lucked out. It runs perfectly."



Load assist mechanism provides added assistance and stability when moving heavy items.

Hand Truck Helps Move Loads With Ease

The COSCO Load Assist Hand Truck boasts a 55% reduction in pull force, significantly easing strain on the user. With an impressive 800-lb. load capacity, it's designed to handle heavy items with ease.

Its assisted load tilt feature ensures that tilting the load requires minimal effort, enhancing both convenience and safety. Additionally, the hand truck offers safer load control, providing enhanced stability and maneuverability to protect both the user and the cargo.

The angled P-handle is ergonomically designed for easy steering and a comfortable grip, making navigation precise and effortless. It's equipped with guarded flat-free tires that eliminate the need for maintenance.

The patent-pending load assist mechanism

sets this hand truck apart, offering unmatched assistance and efficiency.

"I've never used a hand truck with the assisted hand tilt, and it's a game changer. I've always used the generic, old-school style hand trucks. I decided to try this new style out, and wish I'd tried it sooner. Super smooth operation, easy to lift and put back down, heavyweight. Highly recommend," says a user from Toms River, N.J., online.

Available at Lowes, Northern Tool, Walmart and other retailers for around \$100 to \$125, it includes a limited 5-year warranty.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, COSCO Products, 2525 State St., Columbus, Ind. 47201 (ph 800-628-8321; customer.service@coscoproducts.com; www.coscoproducts.com)



Underbody Light has two swivel points and a magnetic base, making it easy to get hands-free light on repairs.

Battery-Powered Underbody Light

Just when you thought you had all the flashlights you needed, Milwaukee introduced the M12 Underbody Light.

The light features two swivel points that offer 300 degrees of horizontal rotation and up to 180 degrees of vertical rotation. Its 1,200-lumen output provides full coverage for all tasks under the vehicle. It has a strong magnetic base, allowing for easy mounting and better positioning, and includes a 12-in. magnetic storage tray to hold nuts and bolts.

The M12 Underbody Light can run up to 15 hrs. on low or 5 hrs. on high, delivering all-day runtime with one XC 4.0 battery pack.

Guaranteed by a 5-year tool warranty, the LEDs never need to be replaced and are backed by a limited lifetime warranty.

Available at many retailers, like Ace, Home Depot and Northern Tool, we found prices starting around \$200 for the light without batteries or a charger. If you already have Milwaukee tools in your shop, this may be a good fit.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Milwaukee Tool, 13135 West Libson Rd., Brookfield, Wis. 53005 (ph 800-729-3878; www.milwaukeetool.com).