



Handy step for Bobcat skid loaders bolts to back of bucket, making it easier to enter and exit cab.

Step Kits For Deere Tractors, Skid Loaders

"We wanted to show FARM SHOW readers our new step kits for Deere 7000 and 8000 series tractors," says Neil Herbold, Herbold Metal Werks, Pierson, Iowa. He also makes a handy step for skid loaders.

The Agri-Step fits Deere 7000 and 8000 series tractors and measures 16 in. long by 8 in. wide, which Herbold says is 38 percent larger than the factory steps. The step has a see-through design for better visibility. It attaches using existing bolt holes above the tractor's toolbox (bolts included).

"Some of the newer Deere 7000 and 8000 series tractors are equipped with steps, but many of the older models don't have them," says Herbold. "I built my first step for my dad's tractor and he loved it."

The step sells for \$170 plus S&H.

The step for Bobcat skid loaders measures 12 in. long by 4 1/2 in. wide. It bolts to the back of the bucket with two 1/2-in. bolts (included). Installation requires drilling 2 holes.

"It provides easy entry and exit from your skid loader without the need to step through



Bolt-on step kit for Deere 7000 and 8000 series tractors has a see-through design for better visibility.

or climb over your bucket. It also has a see-through design and should fit any brand of skid loader," says Herbold.

The skid loader step sells for \$75 plus S&H.

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Mini dump bucket hooks up with adapters that slip onto forklift forks. It can be powered by forklift hydraulics or electric hydraulic pump.

Mini Dump Bucket Mounts On Forklift

Three years ago, we featured "The Scoop" made by Jim Potts (Vol. 32, No. 5) for mounting on a tractor 3-pt. hitch. Now he has come out with a model to fit forklifts, ready to hook up to hydraulics or a 12-volt battery.

"This works good for a guy that needs a front-end loader once in a while, but you don't want to tie up a lot of money," says the Lubbock, Texas, entrepreneur.

The Scoop is made of 1/4-in. steel and sells for \$4,000 including delivery. Without the hydraulic pump unit, the cost is \$3,450. Potts typically makes The Scoop 15 in. deep

by 36 in. wide, but says he will customize the size to match the forklift and meet OSHA regulations.

The Scoop hooks up quickly with adapters that slip on to the forklift forks and a safety chain.

Potts has an auto glass business and uses it to fill holes in his parking lot and for other small jobs.

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Round Head Nail For Hanging Stuff

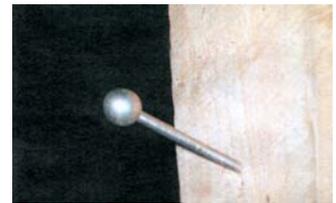
Everyone hangs stuff from nails in the barn or shop. And everyone's probably scraped a shoulder, torn a jacket, or ripped some equipment on the heads of those same nails. That won't happen with the "Barn Nail".

The round-headed nails measure 5 1/2 in. long with 1/4-in. dia. shafts. They're made from solid one-piece steel with a zinc coating. The nails work great for hanging bridles, halter hangers, buckets, jackets, towels and anything else you need to get up on a hook.

The round head design keeps items hanging securely, yet you can remove the item without catching it on anything.

Available in 4 colors: bronze, silver, black, and bright nickel plate.

Sells for \$5 plus \$6 S&H for up to 20 nails.



Round-headed "Barn Nail" won't snag on skin or clothing.

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The trip mechanism on this gopher trap hangs from the tunnel roof, with trap arms to its sides.

"Top Trip" Trap Bags More Gophers

Most gopher traps are set on the bottom of a tunnel, waiting for the gopher to crawl over them to trip the trap. Ken Sprick's trip mechanism hangs from the tunnel roof with trap arms to its sides. A gopher runs through the tunnel and bumps the trip, springing the arms.

"I had gophers in a field of alfalfa and set out 18 traps," says Sprick, recalling why he came up with the idea. "When I checked them later, all 18 had been plugged with dirt."

Initially Sprick, a retired tool designer and machinist, tried to improve existing traps. He soon decided he needed an all-new design.

Sprick's trap looks a bit like a four-legged insect with a long tail. The front legs are slightly shorter than the rear. The main body contains the tensioning spring at one end of a long pin. The four legs are the arms of the trap. They are the only elements of the trap that touch the gopher tunnel floor. The tail of the trap, at the opposite end of the pin from the spring, has a loop for attaching a stake.

Setting aids similar to two beer can openers are used to pry open the arms of the trap for setting. Holding them in one hand, a latch mechanism is slid along the pin to hold the arms open. The trip mechanism is then slid in place to secure the latch.

"I set it so the trap rests on the longer arms while the shorter pair of arms are raised giving the gopher clear passage underneath the trap," explains Sprick. "A small stake through the loop at the end of the pin holds it in place so the trip hangs free and doesn't touch the dirt."

When the gopher crawls between the arms and hits the trip, the arms crush the gopher. Even if a gopher were to push dirt through the trap toward the trip, it would release the arms and trap the gopher.

Sprick uses purchased springs, but makes the rest of the trap from 3/16-in. and some 1/8-in. steel rod. He also designed and fabri-



Trap can also be used to catch rats by placing it inside a piece of pvc pipe.

cated the various hydraulic press jigs needed to bend the rod. The entire trap takes 29 steps to make, including one weld.

"The trap can also be used to catch rats," explains Sprick. "Set it and slip it inside a piece of pvc pipe with wire mesh attached to the end. Extend the looped end of the pin through the mesh with bait between the trip and the wire mesh."

Sprick has sold hundreds of the traps for \$6 each. A set of what he calls "fumble finger" setting aids sell for \$2. At 80 years of age, he says he would prefer to license his design rather than manufacture the trap himself.

Sprick has modified his design slightly to make an easily moveable bird feeder hanger that quickly attaches to trees or posts. The hanger uses the same spring as the trap, but with the longer arms.

"It works great on smaller trees, up to about 10 in. in diameter," says Sprick. "The hanger extends out about a foot from the tree and swivels."

Sprick sells the hanger for \$12 and is open to licensing it as well.

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