

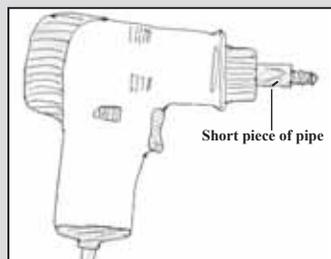
Michael Mayer, Smithshire, Ill.: "I was having trouble pouring tire balancing beads through valve stems into tires. I couldn't pour, push or blow them into the tire until I started holding the side of an electric hair clipper against the metal part of the valve stem to vibrate it. Worked great."

Richard Liberda, Mandan, N. Dak.: "The distributor on my Ford 8N tractor is hard to get at so my son Mike put a regular coil and condenser on the side of the block. He went right through the dead coil. Now, if the coil or condenser burn out, they are right out in the open."

"Mike also fixed my wife's wheelchair. The wiring was shot so I took it to two places in town but they wanted a lot of money to rewire the chair. Mike just cut off the ends of wires where the contacts were worn out and bought new plug ends designed for trailer hookups and put them on the wheelchair to connect the wires. Worked great and they're out of sight."

Dale Schultz, Fremont, Ohio: "I got tired of the coolant in my metal cutoff saw freezing so I decided to give RV anti-freeze a try. The pink stuff really works great with no freezing, no mess, no rust, and not much cost."

"Also, to remove aluminum buildup from an engine cylinder without filing or grinding, use some muriatic acid. Just dab it on with a Q-tip or eyedropper and it will dissolve the aluminum and not harm the sleeve."



Raymond Rodriguez, Waxahachie, Texas: "To avoid hitting electrical wires when drilling into walls, I just slip a small piece of pipe over the drill bit to keep the bit from going in too deep. Just make the

pipe 1/2 to 3/4 in. shorter than the drill bit, depending on the thickness of the drywall. Works good."

"I also came up with a way to use a regular electric drill as an impact wrench. I take a short socket wrench extension and cut off the end that fits over the socket wrench. Then I slip the extension into the drill like a bit, add the right size socket, and I'm ready to go. Works great for light-duty work."

Warren Grant, Albany, Ga.: "Using a small amount of caulking from a tube usually leaves you with a tube full of hard, worthless caulking next time you try to use it. I've tried everything to seal tubes from putting a nail or a screw into the end of the tube to wasting a bunch of tape trying to cover the end. Recently I got the idea of sealing the tube with Gorilla Glue. I made a small dent in the end of the caulking and then put in two drops. The glue immediately starts to expand and hardens within a short period of time, sealing the end completely. All you need to do is use a small pick to get the hardened glue out."



Gary Swensen, Yankton, S. Dak.: "The little screen in the bottom of a funnel came loose and ended up in the bottom of my fuel tank. Instead of throwing the funnel away, I made a big screen from some window screen and a tarp strap. It goes over the whole top of the funnel. It won't win a beauty contest but it keeps my fuel clean and it won't fall out of the funnel."



Older aerosol spray cans work better after Boehler puts them in his sawzall shaker.

"Sawzall" Paint Can Shaker

Gene Boehler made an aerosol paint can "shaker" that makes use of an old cordless Ridgid sawzall, attaching a homemade shaker to the sawzall in place of the blade. A hose clamp attaches the can to the shaker.

The paint can sets inside a 4 1/2-in. length of 3-in. dia. exhaust pipe that Boehler cut in half and welded to a 6-in. long, 1 1/2-in. dia. square tube. A short length of small bar stock is welded on inside the tube and also welded to the sawzall's blade-holding shank.

"It works fast and really shakes up the paint - my aerosol paint cans have never worked better," says Boehler. "I came up with the idea because I wanted to use Rust-Oleum epoxy appliance paint cans to re-finish my old kitchen cabinets, but couldn't get my spray cans to work right without clogging or sputtering. I tried a couple different ways to

shake the cans, but they were slow and didn't work all that well.

"Before welding the exhaust pipe to the square tube, I made allowance for the hose clamp that's used to attach the can to the shaker. I glued on some pieces of soft, thin rubber to help hold the can in place as it's being shaken."

To keep the entire unit stable he welded a small metal plate to the foot of the sawzall. To keep it from shaking his work bench, he bolted it to a 10-in. I-beam that supports the overhead hoist in his shop and is set in 3-ft. deep concrete. "All cans painted beautifully, with no clogs or sputters," says Boehler.

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FARM SHOW®

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

Have you come up with any unusual money-saving repair methods for fixing farm equipment? What maintenance shortcuts have you found? Have you had any equipment recalled by the factory? Name a particularly tough mechanical problem you've had with a piece of equipment and how you solved it.

These are a few of the questions we asked randomly selected FARM SHOW readers. If you have a repair tip, maintenance shortcut, or other mechanical experience you'd like to share, send details to: FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or email us at: editor@farmshow.com. You can also text info to: 952-465-5019.

Mark Newhall, Editor

Joe Pietsch, Warren, Mich.: "Here's how to make a handy siphon. Get a 1/4-in. copper tee, three 1-in. segments of 1/4-in. copper pipe, a rubber squeeze bulb, and a few feet of 1/4-in. rubber hose. Solder the copper tube segments to the tee, attach a section of tube to either end of the tee, and put the rubber bulb on the part of the tee that goes off to the side. To use, put one end of the hose in the fluid, hold the tee and bulb down below the level of the fluid, hold your thumb over the other end of the tubing, and squeeze the bulb. As the bulb expands, it will draw fluid out of the container and it'll keep flowing."

David S. Pepper, Kansas City, Kan.: "A small squirt of starting fluid into the air intake will help start small gas engines that have not been started for a long period of time. The fluid will get you one or two firings which will usually get the engine going."

Harold W. Allen, Taswell, Ind.: "The 113-in. drive belt on my 60-in. Deere lawn mower deck stretched to the point that it was slipping. Rather than replace it, I installed a shorter tension spring on it and got 2 more years of use out of it."

Gary Spohn, Tampa, Kan.: "I mounted a garden hose reel on the top of my portable upright air compressor so I can put 50 ft. of air hose on it. Now I can easily reel and unreel air hose as needed."

Matthew B. Tollett, Asherton, Texas: "A lot of lawn mowers are hard to start. An older and wiser cousin of mine suggested sanding down the flywheel, cleaning the coil, and resetting the coil a bit wider. Presto! It worked!"

"My advice to make your shop more efficient is to put everything on wheels or skids so you can move things around easily."



Steve Shield, West Liberty, Iowa: "I bought a Depstech endoscope on Amazon

for \$38 and can't believe how useful it is. It's a 33-ft. length of tubing with a camera on the end that I've used to inspect dryer vents, plugged drains (it's waterproof), and inside motor cylinders. I've even taped it to the end of a pole and used it to inspect rain gutters without having to climb a ladder. It's wireless and streams to an Android or IOS phone. I wish I would have had this years ago."

Ron Lankford, South Rockwood, Mich.: "Some farm equipment batteries are exposed to the elements, like on my IH 706 tractor. I cover them with rubber using an old tire tube to keep off dust, grease, and sunlight."



Dave Meiners, Edgerton, Minn.: "I used a torch to cut a big notch in the pointed end of my shovel and then used an angle grinder to sharpen it. Makes the tough work of digging a little easier because the shovel can penetrate hard soil with less energy and more balance."



Quinton Parker, Fairbanks, Alaska: He's a diesel mechanic at a shop that works with heavy diesel equipment such as loaders, bull dozers, and semi trucks. "Many of these machines have 35 to 40 gal. of transmission oil capacity. Using a hand pump and a 5-gal.