

Quality is Job 1

"It all starts here at the Design Center."

JACK TELNACK Exec. Director, Design



manufacturing process to see that quality is maintained.

There's a new spirit at Ford Motor Company. And everyone is involved—from the man in the corner office to the people on the assembly line.

This dedication to quality is already paying off. Overall, a 25% year-to-year improvement in quality, as reported by our new car owners.

At Ford Motor Company, Quality is Job 1.

Ford Motor Company's Design Center is where the shapes of tomorrow's new Ford, Lincoln and Mercury vehicles are conceived.

It is also where quality begins. No matter how attractive a new model might look, it must also be engineered so that every part goes together properly on the assembly line.

So our designers are responsible for following their creations right through the



Ford Mercury Lincoln Ford Trucks

Carriera maranese at side exercis





on either half of the grill. And what a

area. Plus an 87 sq. in. warming rack.

grill! A full 373 square inches of cooking

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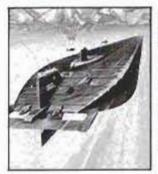
When a big one's on the line, better fish Stren.

You had him. But your line couldn't hold him. And you lost your balance as well as your fish. Head for the tackle shop and pick up some Stren,

the all-purpose line from Du Pont.

Because Stren has the unique balance of properties you need for victory at sea. Stiffness to set the hook. Stretch to absorb the strike. And toughness to beat the fish at his own game, cast after easy cast. So fill your reel with the professional's choice and go after him again.

The best fishing is Stren fishing. @POND



On the cover

A fleet of submarine supertankers, each 1,400 feet long and carrying 60,000 tons of liquid natural gas. has been proposed as an alternative to a far more costly Alaska pipeline. Read how it would work, beginning on page 118.

—PM painting by Ed Valigursky



MARCH 1982

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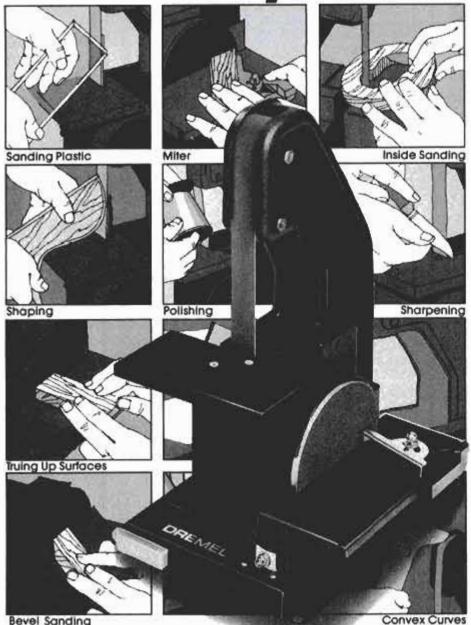
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3" throat depth, easy belt adjustment makes inside sanding simple. Has a platen that provides a rigid sanding surface if you need it but removes for flexible belt sanding.

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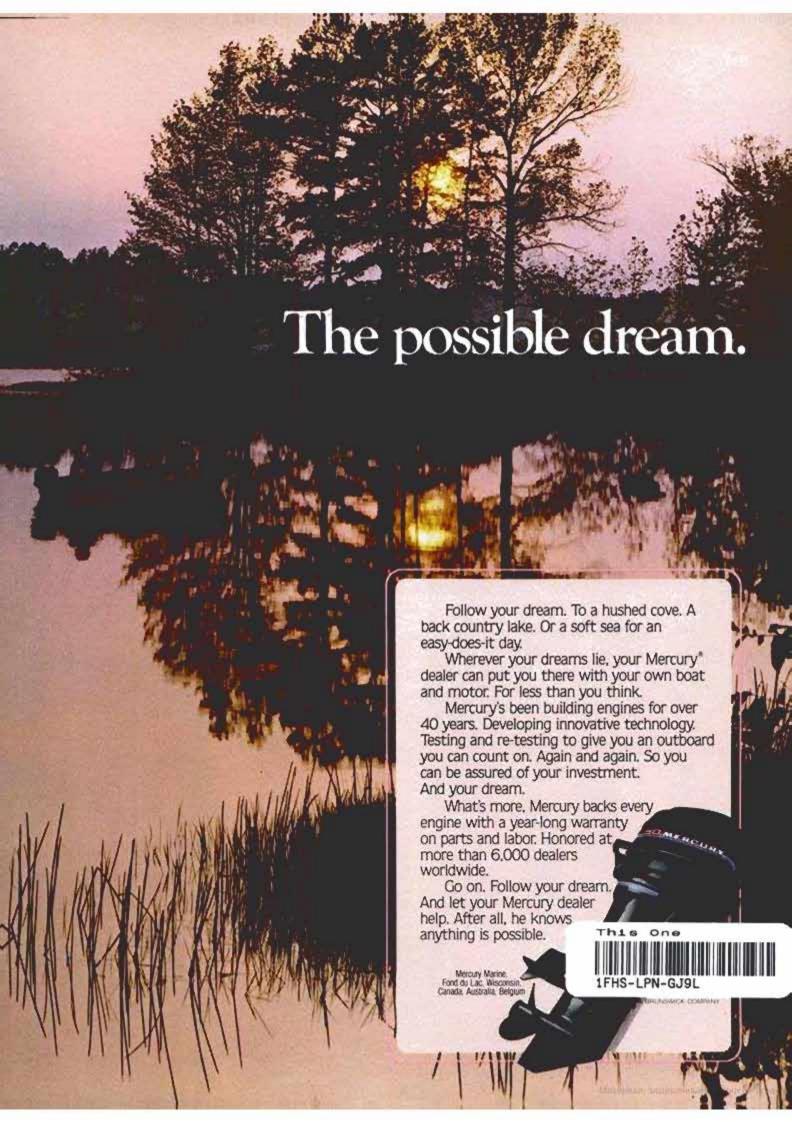
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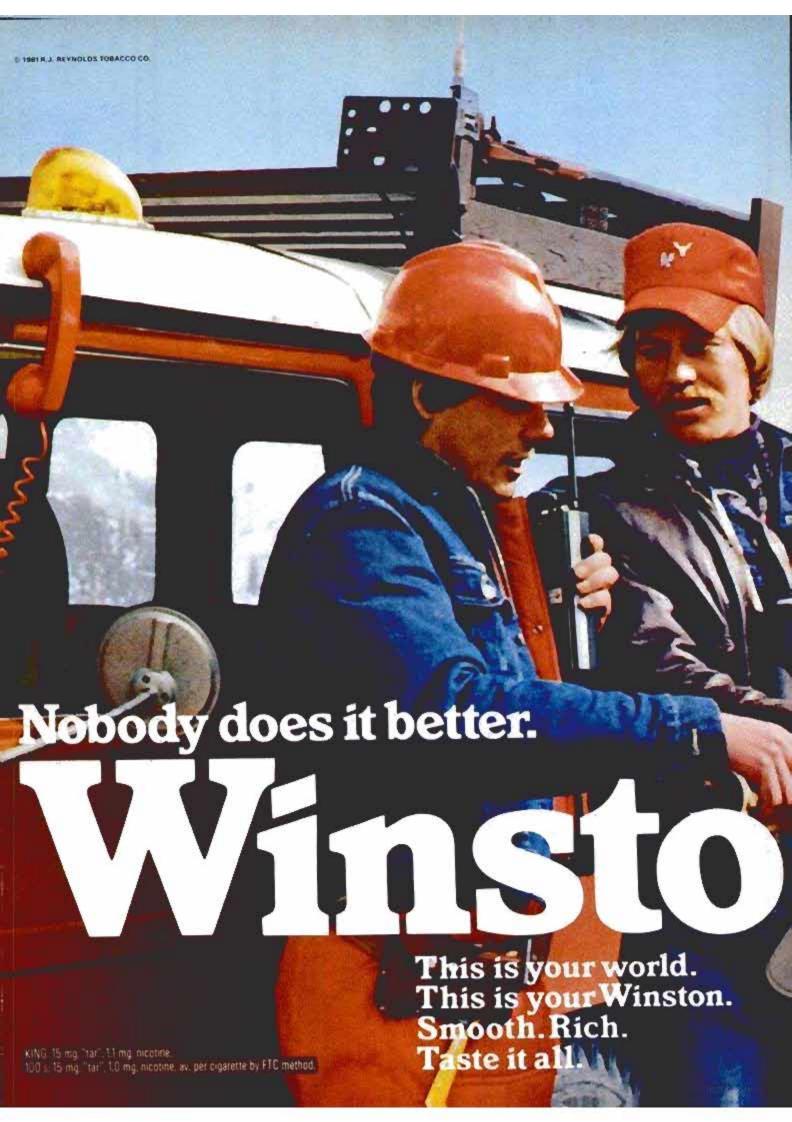
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Good old days in a Cub

A special tribute to John Lancaster for his article on the renowned Piper Cub (The Plane That Taught America to Fly, page 90, Dec. '81). Like probably thousands of older, ground-bound pilots, I dream of the good old days in a J-3 Cub.

I'm sure there would still be a ready market for a simple, forgiving machine without frills that just flies. I don't think hang gliders are the answer.

> T. L. EVANS ABBEVILLE, LA.

A fine article and well-deserved tribute to a famous aircraft. However, the military version you identified in a photo caption as a Piper L-4 is actually the Aeronca L-3, one of the Cub's two main competitors. The third member of the triumvirate, the L-2, was the Taylorcraft in civilian life and was designed by the same C. G. Taylor who designed the original Cub.

COL. ROBERT L. WICK JR. CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE ARLINGTON, TEX.

I question your statement that "four out of every five U.S. military pilots got their primary training in a J-3." I learned in a Taylorcraft, and most primary training was done in the Stearman, in both the Army and Navy.

R. G. SCHIPF MISSOULA, MONT.

The Aerona L-3 and Piper L-4 look almost identical, but we shouldn't have been fooled. It's true that the Stearman was widely used in primary training, but it was considered more advanced than the Cub. Many student pilots received their elementary training in Cubs and Taylorcraft before progressing to the Stearman.

Our figures pertained to the Cub's widespread use in this indoctrination role.

Zapped-again zeppelin

That "born-again zeppelin" (PM Briefs, page 65, Dec. '81) could be destroyed by a World War I Spad and a bagful of rocks. How would CDI's scientists like defending such a machine against modern jet fighters armed with missiles?

As a Boeing 727 captain, I am very much interested in innovation and technical progress. As a taxpayer, I'd hate to see money spent on "born-again" zeppelins.

ALAN L. GROUT KENT, WASH.

We agree it would stand little chance in a close-range fighter attack

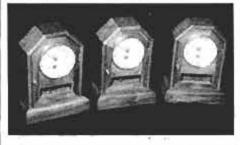
But the CDI scientists see its most important use as a surveillance platform in a peacekeeping role. Even as an airborne aircraft carrier, it wouldn't necessarily be more vulnerable to long-range missile attack than a slow-moving surface ship would be.

Abe would have liked them

Here's a picture (below) of my version of your Lincoln clock reproduction (A Lincoln Legacy: Two Mantel Clocks You Can Build, page 130, Feb. '81). I used the works from an



Reader McLeod's Lincoln clock reproduction (above), photographed with the issue of PM in which the plans appeared. Below: Reader Larzelere's three identical Lincoln clocks made for his three children.



old alarm clock, with a small mirror mounted in the door below the face. I'm very happy with the results.

> MILLAR McLEOD LASALLE, QUE.

I made three identical Lincoln clock reproductions (photo above) from your excellent plans. I presented the clocks to my three children for keepsakes. They have added sentimental meaning for me because I used black walnut for the cases from an old tree in my own back yard.

> WILLIAM E. LARZELERE SENECA FALLS, N.Y.

We're glad you both liked the clock plans. For others who may be interested in the project, photocopies of the article are available for \$1.50 from Popular Mechanics, Box 1014, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y. 10101.

Still a close call

Your article Hit or Miss? The Computers of Air Traffic Control (page 96, Dec. '81) needs correction. The cutover from "Common I" control to TRACON control, at which I was present, occurred on January 10, 1981—over a month before the Argentinian airliner incident and not after it, as stated. Thankfully, we have had no major computer outages since that time.

MAURA E. McGRATH SYSTEM SPECIALIST NEW YORK TRACON

Your December cover was a disservice to this nation's professional airline pilots. The painting of a jumbo jet less than 300 feet above a city portrayed an isolated incident involving a foreign crew acting illegally and confused.

An airliner's pilots are at all times responsible for the operation and navigation of their plane. Air controllers do a fine job of providing separation between airliners, but they do not "fly" the aircraft from the ground. No pilot would allow himself to be "controlled" into the situation you depicted.

BARRY SYRETT FIRST OFFICER, AMERICAN AIRLINES RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CALIF.

It's true that the Argentinian airliner was under TRACON control at the time, but the incident occurred exactly as reported, according to the FAA. The air controllers we talked to agreed that any computer outage at a critical time must be considered "major."

Our cover intended no criticism of anyone. It accurately portrayed a near-crash situation that did occur, regardless of the circumstances. The outstanding safety record of this country's air crews speaks for itself in putting their competence beyond question.



GET UP TO \$9.50 BACK ON MOTORCRAFT PRODUCTS, AND A CHANCE TO WIN A NEW CAR TO USE THEM IN.

Now get up to a total of \$9.50 in refunds on spark plugs, tune-up kits, air filters, oil filters, oil, and wire sets.

And to get even more, enter our "Win the World" Sweepstakes. Grand prize is a 1982 Ford Escort, plus a trip for two to a game of the '82 World Series, and \$5,000 cash. Or win

one of our other world of prizes. A three-day, all-expense-paid trip for two to the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville – plus \$2,000 cash. There's luxury handcrafted luggage. Sport action binoculars. Digital travel clocks.

Refund and sweepstakes offer good through May 31, 1982. Details available from your participating Motorcraft retailer. No purchase is necessary to enter the sweepstakes.

To obtain an official sweepstakes entry form, send a self-addicssed stamped envelope with your request to. Win the World: Sweepstakes, P.O. Brox Blot. Mapic Plain, NY 55548. See official rates on entry form for details on sweepstakes.

Sweepstakes is void in Wisconstrand where probible ited by law. You must be 18 years of age or older to enter. Untres must be received by midnight, May Vi



......详四は 台田原は

PM ELECTRONICS MONITOR

Poet sees red

Dr. Edmund Skellings is the executive director of the International Institute for Creative Communications at Florida International University. He is also the official poet laureate of Florida. And he now holds one of the most unusual patents we've ever heard about.

Dr. Skellings's patent covers color coding on a CRT readout when used to impart information. And that's not as esoteric as it sounds.

Suppose you have a computer program in a classroom that prints out five sentences on the video monitor. All the nouns in each of the sentences are printed in red to draw attention to them; the rest of the words are in white. If that program were offered for sale, it would be a direct infringement of poet Skellings's patent.

"My father was an inventor," Skellings told us, "so I grew up real-

izing things could be patented." So far, Skellings has licensed a number of businesses and programmers to use his method. Chief among the licensees is the Control Data Corp., a big name in big computers.

At first hearing, many of the people to whom we've mentioned Skellings's patent were amazed that such an idea could be patented. But though it may seem a widespread idea, it hadn't been used in computerdom before Skellings.

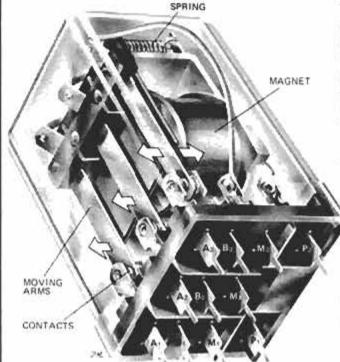
Similar patents do exist for color coding in the print medium. But because print media use primary colors (red, blue and yellow) in additive combinations, while computer screens use different primary colors (red, green and blue) in subtractive combinations, the courts ruled that color coding on computers was different than in print.

How many other ideas could be patented anew once applied to computing?

Disney wins

Law-abiding citizens who own video cassette recorders (VCRs) have been changed, by the magic of Walt Disney's studio (with an assist from Universal Studios), into, if not criminals, at least minor lawbreakers.

The most popular use for a VCR is called "time-shifting." This means that if a movie you want to see is on at 2:00 a.m., you record it automatically and then view it at a reasonable hour the next day. Or, if two great movies are on TV, you record one on the VCR's tuning section,



Clicking with relays A relay, an electrically con-

trolled switch, is one of the handiest devices to have in your electronics "junk box." Contacts on the bottom of the three-pole relay we show here can look confusing, but they're easy to figure out. When switching power is applied at contacts P1 and P2, the magnet is energized. This pulls the moving arms of the relay

from the A1, A2 and A3 contacts to the B1. B2 and B3 contacts (a three-pole relay can switch three inputs simultaneously). The three inputs are connected to terminals M1, M2 and M3. So, with the switching power off, output is at A1, A2 and A3. When the relay is energized, output switches to contacts B1, B2 and

while watching the other movie on your TV screen.

Well, Walt Disney and Universal Studios decided that all this home taping was hurting them in their corporate pocketbooks. Perhaps it was cutting theater attendance (although no one we spoke with could back that up with figures) or perhaps actors were losing out on some royalty payments.

They took Sony-a prime manu-facturer of VCR technology-to court. And the courts decided in favor of the studios.

As of this writing, it's illegal to record movies off the air for your later enjoyment. But then again, according to Sony, the studios have said they won't press charges against individuals. So, you probably don't have to worry about the Disney thought police breaking down your door and axing your VCR to smithereens.

What you might have to worry about, according to Bill Baker, a Sony spokesman, is "a levy on each machine or a fee added to the cost of blank tape." These consumer add-on taxes would pay studios the money they figure they are losing.

Not surprisingly, Sony is appealing this decision. According to Baker. Sony intends to go to the Supreme Court, if necessary.

Meanwhile, what do you do with your VCR until the verdict is in?

"It's a funny situation," Baker

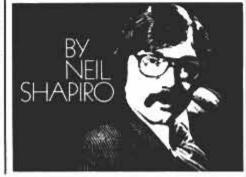
says, "but we're not advising people not to use them (VCRs)."

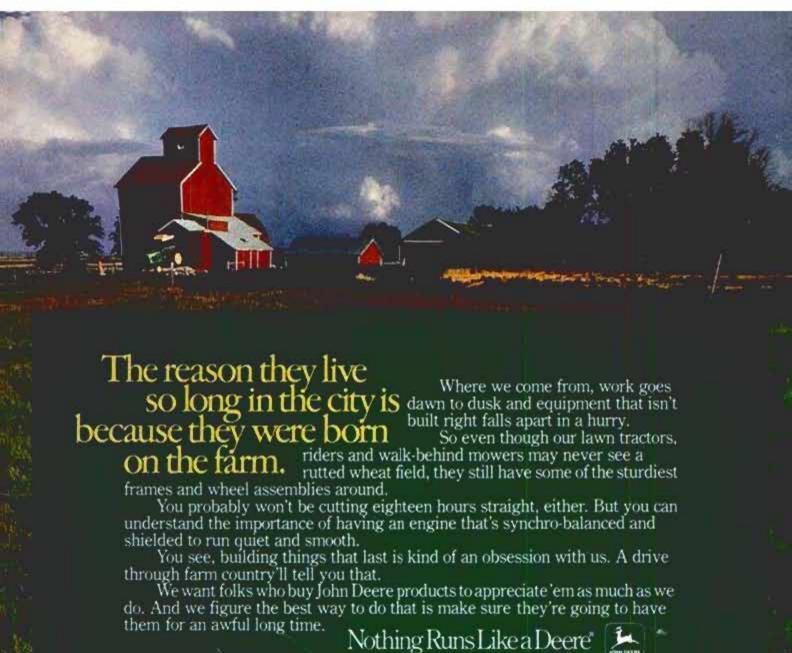
Tonight Casablanca, tomorrow Jailhouse Rock.

Pac-Man loses

As we mention in New Arcade Action at Home (see page 120) companies like Atari are beginning to sue other companies for bringing out arcadestyle games similar in play and appearance to their own, popular arcade games.

Atari's Pac-Man is a happy little hockey-puck-shaped fellow who runs through a maze, gobbling K.C. ghosts. Magnavox's new Munchken home-video game features a whole family of gobbling cuties in a maze. Atari tried for a preliminary injunction to stop Magnavox from selling Munchken. No luck; a Chicago federal court judge told Atari to eat its heart out and denied the injunction. But Atari still in-PM tends to pursue its lawsuit.







Big savings on selected products through May 31 at participating John Deere dealers.

IMPORTSMOTORSPORTS



Peugeot 604 Turbodiesel is supremely comfortable and elegant, but says so quietly.

I slipped into my Saturday best and was ready to roll. It was a two-car weekend: I had the keys to Peugeot's 604 Turbodiesel and Lincoln's '82 Continental, I bounced between the two for the day and by Sunday knew that I'd write my check for \$20,000 for the 604 before I'd part with \$26,000 for the Givenchy Continental. Not that I'm cheap, mind you. It's just that the Peugeot, well . . . fits better. A car's a driving suit and when you slip into it, you want to feel good and look good. The new Continental, despite its more compact size for '82, still feels like a suit of armor. Its inertia takes you where you don't want to go and every move has to be carefully planned in advance. Inside, it's all tucked and puffy.

In the 604, on the other hand, I felt like I was wearing a fine tailored suit: It lets you move with more grace than you thought you had. Even with its relatively tame powerplant, the 604 graciously does your bidding (and the turbodiesel Four can give you almost twice the fuel economy of the 5.0-liter V8 in the Continental). The superb all-independent suspension devours rough roads and takes you around fast curves without rumpling. This Peugeot is tailor-made, though: Fewer than 1,000 will be available this year.

It's up to Detroit to bring us the cars we want in numbers; they're the masters of mass production, and can make all the cars we want, if we want them. American tastes are changing—maturing, if you will. Soon, Detroit might agree . . . and change its idea of how a luxury car should feel and fit.

Rollin' along

While we're figuring out how to get a second decade from our 10-year-old cars, other drivers are in showrooms, creating a sales boom for some models. As 1981 came to a close, the lucky manufacturers were reporting whopping gains in sales of cars from \$20,000 up to prices in six figures. The volume guys are the domestics, of course, with Cadillac, for example, selling over 210,000 cars for the year through November, a 7.8-percent increase over the previous year. But it's the imports that are logging the real big percentage gains. Jaguar is wowing drivers with its XJ6 and XJ-S and appealing to practical instincts with its new 24month, 36,000-mile warranty. With sales of over 4,000 cars, Jag was up some 50 percent and looking at a record '82. Rolls-Royce, too, with an annual sale of around 1,000 cars here in '81, is up roughly 40 percent. The grabber for Rolls has been its new Silver Spirit, identical to the Silver Spur shown here except that it's the shorter-wheelbase "compact" of the line.

One-man car

A quick switch to the other extreme in the world of automobiles brings us back to the Tokyo Motor Show, where this bubble car made its debut. This three-wheeler from Suzuki has front fenders about the size of fender flares on some sporty cars.

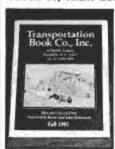


Three-wheel Suzuki is a capsule for one.

Yes, as a car it sure is impractical, but wouldn't you just love one?

Car lit

I can think of a couple of things in life that I spend more time reading, dreaming about and looking at pictures of, than doing. Driving cars is



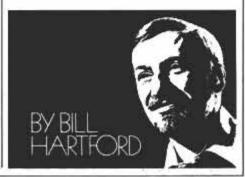
Catalog is for lovers of wheels.

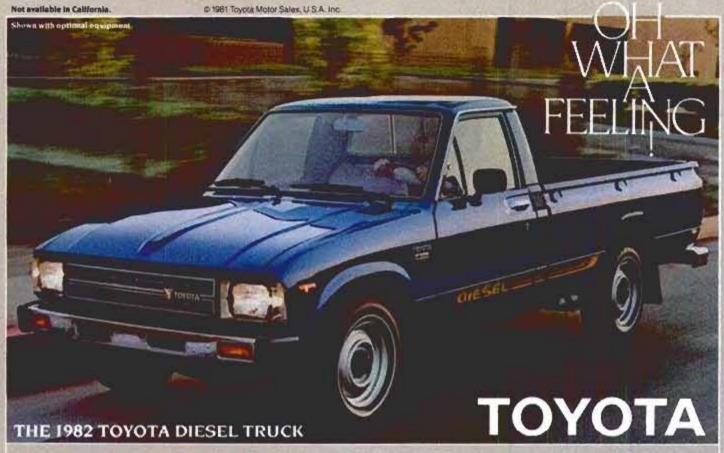
one of them. I'm glad so many artists, writers and photographers have captured so much of the world of cars, and that there's a Transportation Book Co. through whose catalog I can browse for some of the earliest books about

cars (or, motor carriages in turn-ofthe-century volumes), marque histories, racing and more. For the Spring '82 catalog, send \$3 to Transportation Book Co., 64 Eighth Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217.



Rolls-Royce Silver Spur is stretch version of Silver Spirit, the "compact" buyers prefer.





YOU ONLY KNOW IT'S A DIESEL AT THE PUMP.

The Toyota Diesel Truck. It won't remind you it's a diesel when you start it on cold mornings. The dependable Toyota Diesel has two heavy duty batteries for extra cranking power! No other small diesel truck does.

And you won't know it's a diesel by listening as you drive. The Toyota Diesel has a fabric/rubber timing belt and special underhood insulation, so you hardly notice the engine at highway speeds.

The Toyota Diesel also has the

features you want as standard equipment. Like a 5-speed overdrive transmission. A 7-foot cargo bed, not 6-foot like some. And a separate, rugged frame (like an 18-wheeler has) so Toyota's Diesel Truck carries a full 1100 pound payload.

The Toyota Diesel Truck. It's rated at 38 EPA Estimated Highway MPG, 31 EPA Estimated MPG. Remember: use this estimate for comparisons of other small trucks with manual transmissions. Your mileage may be different depending on speed, trip length and weather conditions. Actual highway mileage will probably be less than the EPA "Highway Estimate."

The Toyota Diesel
Truck. Tough. Fuelefficient. Dependable.
You only know it's a
diesel when it
saves you money!

SCIENCE WORLDWIDE

'China Syndrome' facto /

In the high temperatures of a nuclear plant "meltdown" accident, atomic fuels give off vapors that may react with each other, with reactor parts or with water vapor in the cooling system. Do such reactions increase the heat, which may already be about 4,000° F in a meltdown? Do certain atomic fuels cause more dangerous reactions than others?

Nuclear physicists haven't had enough experience with plant meltdowns to give precise answers to these questions. But now, Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico is using existing technology-a steam superheater-in a new way: to safely duplicate early meltdown conditions by producing dense steam inside a metallic cylinder where temperatures approach 2.000° F. Nonradioactive forms of such chemicals as iodine and cesium hydroxide are vaporized with electric heaters and mixed with dense steam inside a sealed chamber. When the steam/vapor mixture is at the proportion chosen by the experimenter, it's released into a "reaction chamber," where it can be observed for a period up to several hours.

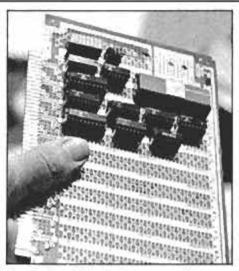


Superheater, being adjusted by Sandla's E. M. Eirick, simulates atomic meltdowns.

This way, the steam can be analyzed by spectroscope to detect changes in the fuel. Also, scientists will be able to study the mixture after the chamber cools down and the steam condenses.

Petit brain monitor

Petit mal epilepsy is generally found in children who have as many as 100 seizures of a few seconds each per



Heart of portable brainwave monitor contains memory circuit to store petit mal patient's response to therapeutic drugs.

day. The telltale signs are frequent, brief losses of contact with the environment. Often, petit mal victims are written off as mere daydreamers.

After the illness is diagnosed, the victim goes through a battery of electroencephalograms (EEGs), taken along with varying dosages of drugs to determine how much anticonvulsive medicine is needed to allow the patient to lead a normal life.

Now, a University of Florida electrical-engineering team has designed a computer program and a compact device to take some of the misery out of postdiagnostic testing. The 4 by 6-inch, 1-pound device is worn on a belt. Two thin wires run from the nickel-cadmium battery-operated belt unit to a pair of sensors taped to the patient's head. The unit stores about as much information as a standard handheld calculator.

At the end of the day of wear, the user connects the device to a telephone with a special jack. Then, the data are transmitted by phone to a hospital computer, which processes the information and prepares a series of EEGs.

By using this device regularly for about two weeks, the young epileptic cuts down the number and duration of clinic visits. And the doctors can monitor the patient's response to drugs in a normal environment.

One potential problem: How does one keep a fairly active child from disconnecting or breaking the device? University of Florida engineering professor Jack Smith sug-

gests a straightforward approach:
"You tell him that the alternative is
a daily, lengthy visit to the clinic.
It's just like wearing glasses."

Old yellow bites dust

Whiter, longer lasting dentures and crowns may sound like a television advertisement, but it's actually the claim for two chemical compounds discovered by a National Bureau of Standards (NBS) chemist.

On loan to the federal agency from the American Dental Assn. as part of a long-term research project, Harold Argentar has found that two compounds—part of a class known as "tertiary aromatic amines"—can harden acrylic dental materials quickly.

The substances provide greater mechanical strength and resistance to wear than previously used compounds. Other materials used to harden dental acrylics tend to yellow them slightly. But Argentar's compound, NBS reports, actually works to whiten the material.

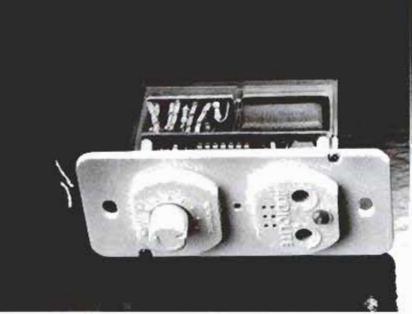
Space shine

Parts are starting to be assembled for the 1985 launch of America's space telescope. Perkin-Elmer has followed a 2½-year program of precision grinding and polishing of the 96-inch-diameter mirror with the application of submicroscopically thin coatings of protective aluminum and magnesium fluoride. (The mirror is smooth to better than one part in 120 million.)

Following completion of the mirror in December 1981, Perkin-Elmer went to work on mounting it on the tubular structure of the mirror housing. The space telescope is due to be shuttled into orbit in 1985.

The scope will give astronomers a glimpse of objects never before seen by earthbound telescopes, which suffer from atmospheric interference.







Wall plate not included

Imagine entering a darkened room that lights up at the sound of your lootsteps. A room that's also 'smart' enough to flick off lights when it's empty.

Imagine too, an intruder attempting to pry open your window at midnight.
Suddenly, room lights are ablaze,
frightening him off—and your home and family remain untouched

And who's your fearless protector? A light switch named AudioLite.

An invention that offers security and remote convenience straight from the pages of science fiction.

A slave to your every move.
AudioLite is also a wall switch you never have to touch—because it's sound activated. It turns on lights the second someone enters a room and turns them off when they leave (works outside tooin driveways, patios, Turn on lights with the snap of your fingers—even the creaking of your footsteps.

porches). How much sound does it take? You can adjust AudioLite's sound sensor to precisely any level. At high sensitivity even the clicking of a key in a lock or the opening of a door will turn on the lights. You can also lower its sensitivity so an extremely loud verbal command or noise will be required. Or choose an infinite number of adjustments in between.

Once activated, lights remain on for the time duration you set, anywhere from 7 seconds to 7 minutes.

Don't worry about lights going off when you need them. Each time AudioLite hears a new sound, it resets and begins counting overkeeping lights on without interruption. For quiet reading, simply use the manual On/Off override. Easily adjustable timer and sensitivity controls are recessed and child proof.

Save money in more ways than you'd think.

Hall lights usually left on for hours are now on only when you need them. Likewise bathrooms, closets, garages and patios. You'll find about half the light usage in such areas is saved-

lowering your utility bill accordingly. Because AudioLite is also a full range dimmer, you use exactly the amount of light you need—as well as extend bulb life by 15 times or more.

And you needn't turn AudioLite off during the day—a daylight-sensitive photocell assures no unnecessary lights get turned on during daytime hours.

Magic that won't fade. From the first snap of your fingers, AudioLite will be a constant source of amazement to you and your friends. And because it's solid state electronicswith few moving parts to wear out—it will outlast conventional light switches by many years. Its microcomputer circuitry is so

reliable there's a one year total replacement warranty: should anything go wrong, the manufacturer will send you a new one, free of charge. After a year, prompt service is available by mail-but it's unlikely you'll ever need it.

AudioLite replaces your present light switch in minutes. All you need is a screwdriver. Works with any incandescent bulb up to 300 watts.

As soon as you try one, you'll want to replace all your conventional wall switches with AudioLite. That's why there's a special price if you order four at a time-\$99. (For one only, the price is \$34.)

However, you may order four on trial. If not perfectly satisfied after trying one, return them all within 30 days for a prompt, courteous refund. You're protected by The Sharper Image guarantee of satisfaction.

Call now toll-free, and protect your home with this newest brainchild of remote control technology. Be among the first to own a light switch with ears, eyes and brains.

ORDER TOLL FREE.

Credit card holders use our toll-free numbers. Or send a check. Order product #SM653 for the package of four: \$99 plus \$4.50 delivery. Order #SM652 for one: \$34 plus \$2.50 delivery. Add 6% sales tax in CA. And please mention this magazine.

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Here are some of the many fringe benefits you get for serving just two days a month and two weeks annual training each year (after an initial training period) in the Guard:

Free air travel: is available to you as a service member anywhere in the continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico, on a space available basis.

Education Assistance: depending on the state in which you serve, you may be eligible for tuition aid, college loan repayment and other types of education assistance. Your local recruiter has complete details.

A bigger pension: you'll earn extra retirement credits, and you can start collecting your pension at age 60.

PX Privileges: up to 48 visits

a year.

Low-cost life insurance: up to \$20,000 in coverage for just pennies

a day.

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*In Hawaii: 737-5255; Puerto Rico: 723-4450; Virgin Islands (5r. Croix): 773-6438; Maryland: 728-3388; in Alaska, consult local phone directory.

The Guard is America at its best.





NOTES FROM THE EDITOR,

- Jan a. Sister -

craftsmanship. It's an appropriate word ... a good, sturdy word that tells us things are done well. Even without such adjectives as "good" and "fine," the word carries its own meaning of a task completed with skill and with care. The creator, the craftsman, began with

know-how and then worked with the aim of doing his best.

There have been times when all of us wondered what ever happened to craftsmanship. Examples of shoddy workmanship abound; they are too much with us to need listing in this space.

At worst, it may have seemed the Earth was being buried in an avalanche of trash.

It's still possible. But as the world moves into the decade of the '80s we are heartened to note a rising demand for quality in American life.

When we own something, we try to own the very best.



Craftsman Joseph lannuzzi (above) in the Everett High School shop with instructor Joseph Bognore. At left: PM's Harry Wicks and the president of Stanley, William L. Butts, admire prize winner.

We are more discriminating in what we choose to eat or drive or live in or put into our homes. There's still bad stuff, of course, but the good, the well-designed, the long-lasting is becoming our first choice.

Here at PM, we've always known that our readers demand our best. When our cover picture has a particular appeal to craftsmen—last November's Scandinavian workbench, for example—you respond with enthusiasm. For one, you buy more magazines at your newsstands. You write letters. And you build it.

Look at the Duncan Phyfe table on page 140. Built by a high-school student, it was the grand prize winner in the 1981 Stanley Tools National Furniture Contest. As the accompanying article explains, such beautiful work is a tradition at that school—Everett (Massachusetts) Vocational High School. (And helping judge the Stanley contest is a tradition at PM. We've had our Home & Shop Editor on the panel for all 16 years of the competition.)

The Stanley contest is just one evidence that craftsmanship still flourishes. Have you been to crafts shows lately? Those we've attended feature exquisitely executed art objects, furniture and the like. An increasing number of home restorations are the work of people who learn what needs to be done—and then do it with care.

It's no surprise. Craftsmanship is part of our heritage. We should expect it. You can continue to expect it from PM.

New from NRI! The first at-home training in videocassette recorder repair with exclusive videotaped lesson

Learn Video/Audio Servicing...includes RCA state-of-the-art VCR, NRI Action Video lessons, plus full training in color TV and audio repair.

Now, you can learn the hottest, most wanted skill in home entertainment electronics... servicing and repairing videocassette recorders and video disc players. Well over 2 million units have already been sold and the demand is just starting! Already, qualified VCR technicians are in short supply...people are waiting up to a month for VCR repair. Good jobs at good pay are going begging. And NRI can get you in on the action with convenient and effective at-home training

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NRI offers you three Master Courses in Video/Audio Servicing, each complete, each with equipment and training for the specialty you want. Each course thoroughly prepares you for color TV plus audio and video equipment. Then, you take the specialized hands-on training on the equipment you select.



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You can get specialized audio experience as you build your own AM/FM stereo system complete with speakers. Or gain real bench experience with hands-on TV training as you build a 25" (diagonal) fully-computerized, programmable color TV and professional test instruments. Or train with your own RCA videocassette recorder and NRI's exclusive Action Video servicing lessons on videotape.

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'82 RVs: A 22-mpg diesel's on the way



Breakthrough improvements in performance are forecast for the new, lighter rigs.

by Bill McKeown RV EDITOR

There's little chance that you've seen the most interesting recreational vehicle to appear this spring—the Centauri—and small possibility that you will. Right now, it's a prototype that's likely to be kept under wraps for perhaps a year. Once in production, we will prepare a full test report if it is nearly as good as predicted.

While all RV makers are trying to move toward lighter, stronger chassis with less wind resistance, longer life, better handling characteristics and less need for fuel to move them, the breakthrough could be from Winnebago, again. The futuristic Centauri could start several trends, once it appears on the market in 1983. Target dates are for a few to be completed late this fall, and full production from the Forest City, Iowa, plant a year from now.

This conversion is based on a Renault van, and the power will come from the two-liter, turbo-charged diesel engine used in Renault's top-of-the-line, Model 30 sedan. The Winnebago Centauri prototype has front-wheel drive and steering more like a compact than a motor home, according to early reports. Unofficial fuel figures for this first-off model started with 20 mpg as the engine was breaking in, and

had passed an amazing (for an RV) 22 mpg after a few thousand miles. In Europe, the Renault 30 with this diesel is reported to have topped 41 mpg at 55 mph and averaged over 30 for highway and city driving combined. The Renault van, called the Traffic in Europe, has only been



Fleetwood's New Pace Arrow, in six models from 26 to 33 feet, has aerodynamic front that's reported to reduce interior noise.

available there. This Winne-Renault RV combo, looking something like PM's motor home of the future (page 72, July '77), will be one to watch.

Other RV manufacturers have also been active, and some expect better sales this year. A number of

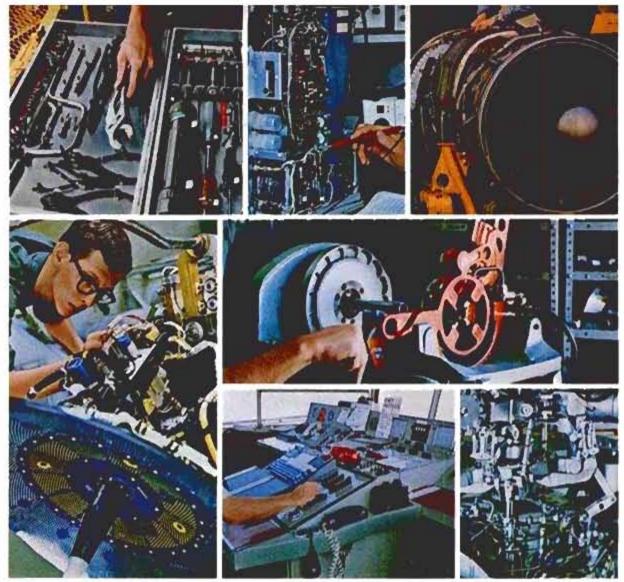
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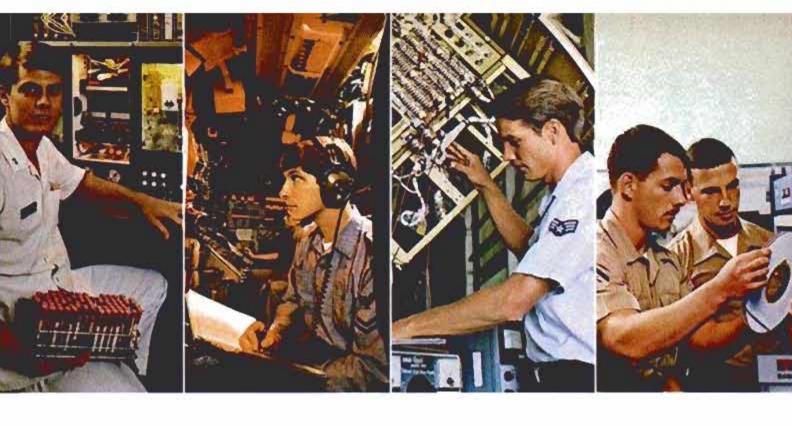
A mini-pickup can go camping with Coleman's Maverick folding camper. It opens to sleep four, with stove, sink, dinette, too.



Park models, as travel trailers like this 35-foot Normandy from Fan Coach are called, feature tip-out rooms and picture windows for extended campground vacations.



You're smart enough to graduate from high school. Are you smart enough to take advantage of these opportunities?



FIND YOUR OPPORTUNITY IN THE IT'S WHERE YOUNG PEOPLE

With school just about over, this is one of the most important times of your life. Should you get a job? Continue school? Do some traveling? Well, the Armed Forces won't claim to have all the answers, but we've got many of them.

BUILD YOUR FUTURE.

The Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines are looking for bright young people with an eye on the future, smart enough to have completed high school. We know how difficult starting out can be. So we've developed some very appealing programs.

Maybe your first interest is employment with a future. Does it always seem the jobs you want require experience? If you qualify, the Armed Forces have hundreds of jobs for you to choose from. And experience is not necessary. Many of these jobs carry over into civilian life. Like communications, data processing, mechanical skills. And you work with the latest and most modern equipment.

ADD TO YOUR EDUCATION.

The Armed Forces can help further a

young person's education. And they offer many ways to accomplish this: for instance, you can be educated while in the Service, receive training for a good job. While on active duty you might even take courses at a nearby university that could lead to a college degree.

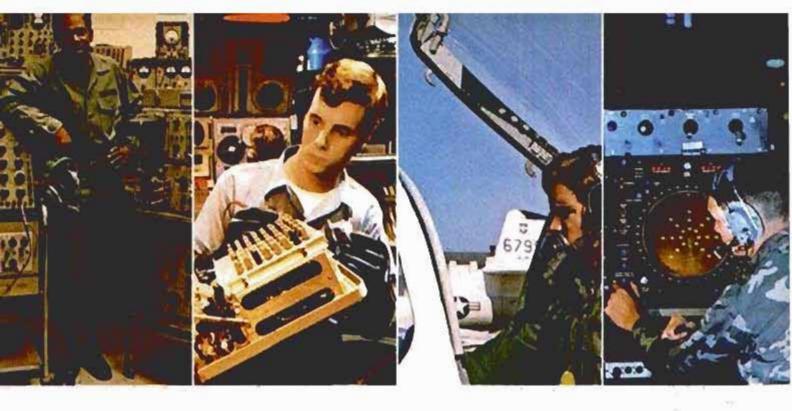
And did you know you could participate in a program that would even pay for a substantial part of your tuition for further education after the Service?

EARN GOOD PAY AND BENEFITS.

In the Armed Forces, you can earn responsibility most large companies would hardly ever entrust to a young person. The benefits are excellent. And the pay is higher than ever. More than \$550 a month to start. And the Services take care of your food, uniforms and housing, as well as your medical needs. You also earn 30 days of vacation with pay each year.

ENJOY ADVENTURE, EXCITEMENT, OPPORTUNITY.

What young person wouldn't be interested



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by the adventure, excitement and challenge of serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines? A place where you not only grow up, but grow better. A place to mature. A place that offers so many opportunities for advancement. A place to decide on what you want to do with your life. And for someone away from home for the first time, a place to have the time of your life, to travel further than you dreamed possible, to meet new and interesting people.

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ARMY. NAVY. AIR FORCE. MARINES. IT'S A GREAT PLACE TO START.

Build PM's Undercover Auto Cop

A burglar alarm in disguise, this project works a double beat as a handy auto voltmeter.

by Jeff Sandler

The Popular Mechanics Undercover Auto Cop is a sophisticated alarm that sends thieves running, and it's also an auto voltmeter which makes sure your car's electrical system is humming along in perfect condition. Easy to build, everything is enclosed in an unobtrusive case you mount under the dash.

Who needs an auto alarm?... You do! Consider this: Somewhere in the country a car is stolen every 16 seconds.

It's easy to see the need for the alarm, but the voltmeter is just as valuable. More importantly, the voltmeter provides the disguise to hide the alarm.

The trap is set

The thief doesn't know it, but he's being set up the moment he opens a door, trunk, or hood—or does anything else that causes electrical current to be drawn from

the battery. Yet for 10 seconds, noth-



This project is more than a voltmeter (above); it's also a very sophisticated car burglar alarm. You can build it from kit or plans.

Curved case (left) places the voltmeter scale in a comfortable reading position right under dash.

ing happens. Then, just about the time he's getting his tools ready to hammer out your ignition lock, there is a blast on the horn. Before he even has time to think what happened, it blasts again, and again, and again. The thief takes to his heels in a big hurry, and is long gone by the time the alarm shuts itself off in three minutes. Then the trap is renewed—because the alarm resets itself.

Carefree security

The alarm is completely automatic and the only attention it requires is that you disarm it within 10 seconds after you enter the car. There aren't any outdoor keyholes, special

procedures, or combinations to remember.

There are two ways to disarm the Auto Cop—to tell it to "clam up, I'm not a thief!" Both ways involve connecting to the CUTOFF point detailed on the schematic and parts overlay (on page 26).

First, you can simply connect a s.p.s.t. switch so that one pole of the switch connects to CUTOFF, the other pole to +12 v.d.c. Hide the switch under the dash and you're set.

Or, get fancy. Any 12-volt input to the CUTOFF point on the circuit board will disarm the Auto Cop. So, use an existing switch on your dashboard. You could run a wire from the 12-volt side of your headlight switch to CUTOFF. Then, flicking your headlamps on would shut up the alarm. Any switch supplying 12 volts could be used.

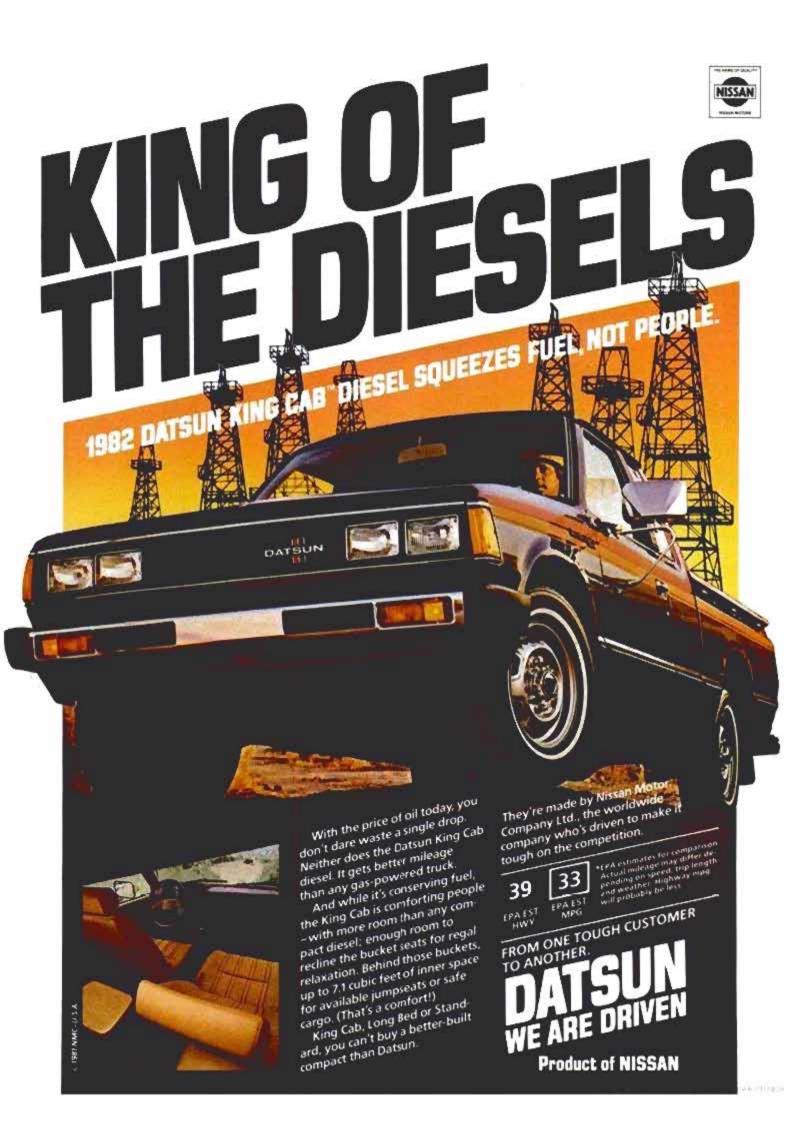
You could also install both an exterior switch and a dashboard control to the CUTOFF connection point.

In this case, you would normally use the dashboard control. But if you wanted to let someone else drive your car—but didn't want to blow Auto Cop's cover—you would flick the hidden exterior switch to the CUTOFF, just leave it there, and the Auto Cop would be disabled.

The only thing you have to be careful of is not to select a control the thief might use inadvertently while in the process of stealing the car.

If you go the switch route, then momentarily closing the switch will disarm the alarm. Incidentally, there's no harm if you should forget to disarm—the horn will sound—but it is cut off immediately by disarming.

The moment you disarm the (Please turn to page 26)



BUILD PM'S AUTO COP

(Continued from page 24)

alarm, the lights come on inside the case so you can read the voltmeter if you're riding at night. The reason they don't come on earlier is they might tip off the thief. The lights go out automatically after you leave the car to avoid draining the battery. However, since the voltmeter draws negligible current, it works all the time.

How it works

Whenever a door, trunk, or hood is opened, a light comes on. This causes a tiny, but sharp, voltage drop which the alarm senses. It begins the timing sequences that will sound the horn for three minutes after a 10-second delay.

If you don't have either hood or trunk lights and still want to protect these areas, you can buy inexpensive kits at any auto-parts store that will add them.

You can make the alarm even more formidable by adding an extra horn relay. Then you can make your headlights flash in sychronization with the honking horn. Actually, you aren't limited to headlights; you can use the relay to pulse whatever you want on and off.

In the circuit, PNP transistor QY senses the tiny voltage drop in the car. Gates ICIA and ICIB and the associated components give the 10-second delay. Gates ICIC and ICID give the three-minute time the horn sounds. Gates IC2A and IC2B oscillate and this is what pulses the horn on and off at ½-second intervals. The remaining gates, IC2C and IC2D, disarm the alarm and make sure it remains disarmed for the time you are driving the car.

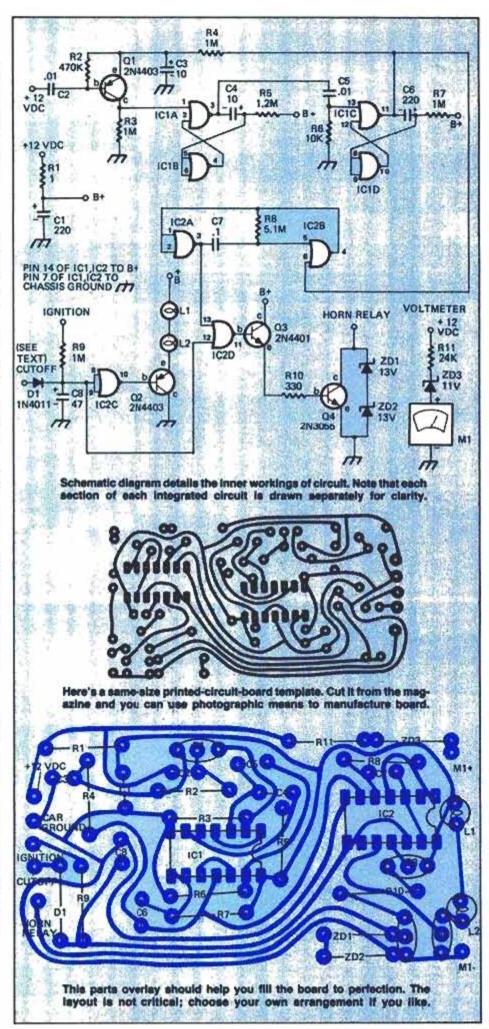
On duty

Assembly is easy if you etch or buy a printed circuit board (see parts list on page 28).

Wire the meter to the board with (Please turn to page 28)



Comparing the board (left) with parts overlay (right) will help you in identifying the Auto Cop's parts. When you build, position lights behind meter so they shine through. Also, don't forget to check for correct polarity of C3, C8, the meter, IC1 and IC2.



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Triple Triple Union Triple Union Strain

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- 1. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.
- To enter, fill in the Official Entry Form, or on a 3" x 5" piece of paper, hand print or type your name, address and zip code. More entry blanks at your Carver Tripp dealer.
- You may enter as often as you wish, but each entry must be mailed in a separate, hand-addressed or types envelope for Carver Tripp "Home Improvement Sweepstakes." P.O. Box 1038, Dept. PM, Ridgely, MD 21660
- 4. Entries must be received by May 1, 1982.
- 5. Winners will be selected in a random drawing on May 24. 1982. from all valid entries received, under the supervision of Marketing Corporation of America, whose decisions are final, and will be notified by mail. All priper will be awarded. Grand Prize winner may elect to receive \$10,000 cash in liou of \$1,000 a year for life. Prizes are non-transferable and no prize substitutions permitted. Only one prize per family. Mechanically reproduced entries are wid. The odds of winning are determined by the number of entries received. Taxes, if any, are the sole responsibility of winners. Winners may be required to execute an affidavit of eligibility and release.
- 6. Sweepstakes open to U.S. residents of 18 years of age or older, except employees of Carver Tripp, its affiliates and subsidiaries, wholesalers and retailers, advertising and fulfillment agencies tand immediate families of any of the proceding). Void wherever prohibited, taxed or restricted by law. All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply.
- For a list of major prize winners, send a separate, stamped, self-addressed envelope to Carver Tripp Winners, P.O. Box 1039, Ridgely, MD 23660.

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"Carver Tripp's finest ______."

BUILD PM'S UNDERCOVER AUTO COP

(Continued from page 26)

an inch of hookup wire. Position the lights behind the meter. On the other end of the board, solder the wires that will hook into your car, and thread the free ends through a hole in the back of the case. Then you snap the cover on, and you're ready to take the Auto Cop out to your car.

There are only five connections that you have to make into the car's wiring: +12 volts, ignition, horn relay, ground and a lead from CUTOFF to an added switch or headlight switch, as discussed earlier. Generally, these are all readily available under the dash, and are very easy to hook into with solderless clamp-on connectors. With them, there's no need to splice into or damage your car's wiring.

The voltmeter section

The auto voltmeter is a very simple circuit, composed of only three parts: a meter (M1), a resistor (R11), and a zener diode (ZD3). The result of this combination displays voltages from 11 to 15 volts. Lower voltages rarely occur and are electronically eliminated by the zener diode.

Car voltage can vary by several volts. Analyze the ups and downs of the voltage, and you can diagnose almost any electrical-system problem you'll run into.

If your electrical system were operating properly, here's what you would see:

When you got in the car, the battery would have no electrical load on it; the voltage should be 12.3 to 12.8. When you crank the car, the tremendous current load drains the battery, and the meter falls to the left side of the scale.

Once the car starts, the alternator rapidly replaces the energy withdrawn from the battery, and the voltage rises to a recharging 13.8 to 14.6.

Yet, the voltage can only remain in this range if the voltage regulator is working properly and the power generated by the alternator is in exact balance with what is being used by the accessories. If not in balance, the difference has to be made up or absorbed by the battery, and the system voltage falls or rises respectively.

Problems to watch for

Here are some common malfunctions and the meter readings they

■ Battery won't hold a charge: After the car is parked overnight, the voltage will fall to less than 12 volts.

Weak battery or bad cables: Normally, if you turned on the lights the voltage would fall ½ volt or so with the engine off. When the battery is weak, it isn't able to hold its voltage as steady and you get more than a one-volt drop.

■ Slipping fan belt: You're riding along the highway and turn on a moderate electrical load (headlights)—and then the voltage falls two or three volts. This is because the alternator is not able to supply the added power demands, due to the belt slipping. If you check the belt and you discover that it's tight, then the problem involves the alternator.

Broken tan belt: Meter falls rapidly below 11.5 volts, especially if there's a heavy electrical load. Stop the car immediately, because without a fan belt, your water pump isn't operating, and your car will overheat rapidly.

■ Defective voltage regulator: Unlike the slipping fan belt or defective alternator, the voltage doesn't vary much, but rather "gravitates" to the wrong levels.

stuck somewhere with a dead battery (voltage off the scale to the left), and someone gives you a jump, you can be sure that the connection is good when your meter comes back up into the 13.8 to 14.6-volt range. After the voltage is up there for a minute or so, and your battery has taken a bit of a charge, try cranking.

PARTS LIST-AUTO COP

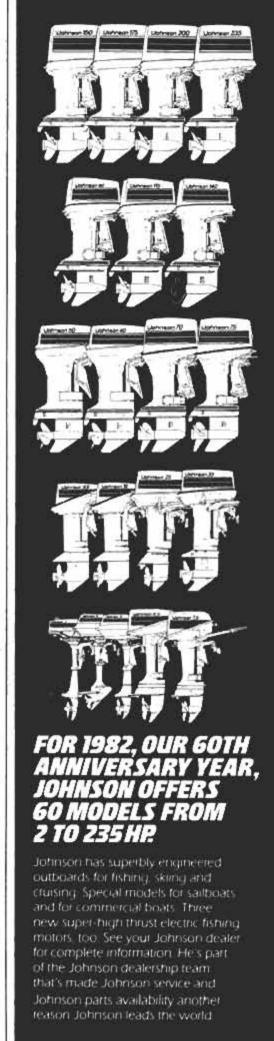
C1, C6—220-uF electrolytic capacitor
C2, C5—.01-uF ceramic disc capacitor
C3, C4—10-uF electrolytic capacitor
C7—.1-uF ceramic disc capacitor
C8—47-uF electrolytic capacitor
D1—1N4011 diode
IC1, IC2—CMOS IC 4001 or equivalent
L1, L2—6-volt light bulb
R1—1-ohm resistor, "4 watt
R2—470K-ohm (470,000) resistor, "4 watt
R3, R4, R7, R9—1M-ohm (1,000,000) resistor, "4 watt
R5—1,2M-ohm (1,200,000) resistor, "4 watt
R6—10K-ohm (1,000,000) resistor, "4 watt
R10—330-ohm resistor, "4 watt
R10—330-ohm resistor, "4 watt
R11—24K-ohm (24,000) resistor, "4 watt

Q1, Q2—2N4403 PNP transistor Q3—2N4401 NPN transistor

Q4—2N3055 NPN transistor ZD1, ZD2—13-volt, 1-watt zener diode ZD3—11-volt, 400-mw. zener diode

M1-200-uA edge meter Misc.: Cabinet, snap-on terminals, wire, solder.

The following are available from Circuit Craft Inc., 10 Idell Rd., Valley Stream, N.Y. 11580; Complete kit including all parts and circuit board. \$19.95; assembled Auto Cop. \$27.95; circuit board alone, \$2.50. Prices include postage and handling.







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HINTS FROM READERS

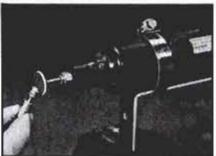
Cork shields socket head



Socket-head screws on machine tools catch and hold debris, making it difficult to use a wrench. To prevent this, insert a cork in the socket. The cork will stay in place, but can be removed as needed.

-Walter E. Burton

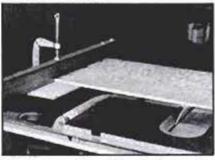
Hand-grinder support



This support for a hand grinder frees your hands to perform other duties. Secure an angle brace in a vise and attach the grinder to the brace with two hose clamps.

-Ken Patterson

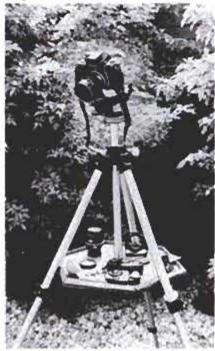
Bench-saw aid



When extending the rip fence of a bench saw beyond the table surface, thin stock can easily slip under the fence. To solve this problem, fasten a piece of scrap wood to the underside of the rip fence with a C-clamp. The wood will extend toward the table and act as a support for the stock being cut.—John F. Dinges

PHOTO

Top-drawer shelf



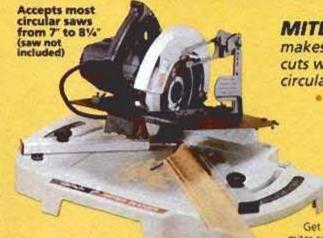
If you use a tripod for outdoor photos, you've probably noted two annoying problems: The tripod is often unstable and there's no place to put lenses and filters. Build a shelf with clip-on sup-ports.—Clint Meier

Hang 'em cheap



Plastic laundry hooks cost less than \$2 per dozen. Use them in place of expensive equipment to air-dry resin-coated prints. You can hang them from towel racks, curtain rods or any other convenient spot.-Kenn Oberrecht

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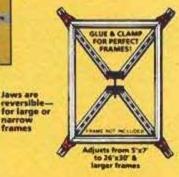


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of all the cars brought in from Japan, the Datsun Maxima most resembles a riddle wrapped in an enigma. Ask anyone knowledgeable about cars and he'll tell you that the Maxima's quality and value stand absolutely unquestioned.

But as good a deal as the Maxima is, it's virtually an insider's secret. To the public at large, the Maxima still remains a mystery. Max who? Who ever heard of it? Very few drivers know a Maxima when they see one, and even fewer give it a serious thought when shopping for a new car.

Which seems a shame, because if it's such a good deal, how come everyone's not rushing out to buy one? I can't explain it, and yet that's



The complex array of gadgets is virtually all standard equipment on the Maxima.

the situation as I see it: the Datsun (Nissan) Maxima, along with perhaps the Toyota Cressida, represents the best kept automotive secret this side of the rising sun: sleepers both.

Well, all that might change soon, because the people who know the Maxima most intimately are about to share its secrets with us. We buttonholed 1,000 Datsun 810 Maxima owners—mostly those with late 1981 models, but also a sprinkling of '82s (no diesels, though)—and asked them to fill out our traditional Owners Report questionnaire.

They replied with considerable en-

A NATIONWIDE SURVEY BASED ON 2,976,621 OWNER-DRIVEN MILES

thusiasm (they're the last to insist that the Maxima be kept a secret), and we thought that for this report we'd forsake the usual format of examining a car's specific details and just let 10 individual Maxima

(Please turn to page 64)

Sears goes nose to nose with the leading competitor.



Us.

The Sears Craftsman 20-HP Full Featured Garden Tractor gives you all this:

- Smooth-operating hydrostatic transmission
- 20-HP twin-cylinder engine
- Hydraulic lift for controlling attachments
- Optional front and rear P.T.O. (Power Take Off)
- Pinion and gear steering; 2 turns lock to lock

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Sears, Roebuck and Co. 1982 Available at most Sears retail stores. Prices apply only to the continental United States. *Based on the average negotiated price for a 19.9-HP tractor in an 8-market survey of 23 dealers. Prices vary by dealer.

Them.

The comparable model of the leading competitor's garden tractor gives you all this:

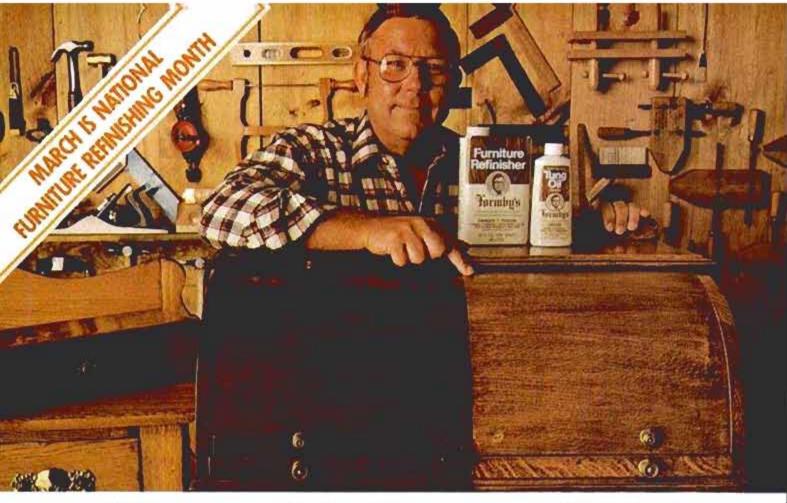
- Smooth-operating hydrostatic transmission
- 19.9-HP twin-cylinder engine
- Hydraulic lift for controlling attachments
- Standard front P.T.O. Optional rear P.T.O. (Power Take Off)
- Power steering; 2¾ turns lock to lock

I want to know more about the complete line of Sears Craftsman Full Featured Garden Tractors. Send me the facts. Mail to: FF Tractor, Sears, Roebuck and Co., Sears Tower, BSC 20-04, Chicago, IL 60684.

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Homer Formby has changed all that.

With Homer Formby's products, you'll never strip again.

Imagine a system so simple, refinishing isn't a drudg-

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Imagine a system so foolproof, even your very first project looks professionally refinished in just half a day.

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quickly, you'll see the old discolored varnish, lacquer and shellac melt away.

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And the Furniture Refinisher does not raise the grain

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After you've refinished, go over the piece one more time with clean Refinisher. By rubbing with the grain, you'll remove any streaks or lap marks.

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brate, many of our dealers have a sale on Formby's Refinisher. So don't delay. Remember, you've got a prize right under your eyes.

For a free copy of Formby's Furniture Fact Book, including tips on refinishing, staining and furniture care, write to Homer Formby, P.O. Box 647,

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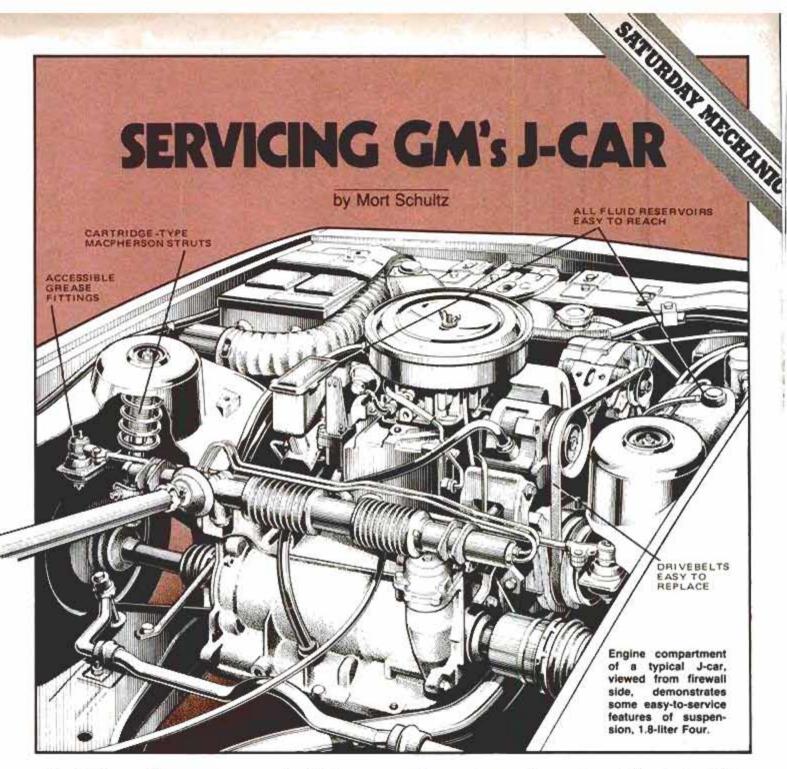






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Are GM's new J-cars as easy to service as GM claims? To find out, we spent a few days at the Service Research Center in Warren, Mich.

As you know, the J-cars are the Chevy Cavalier, Pontiac J-2000, Buick Skyhawk and Olds Firenza. Other than the names and a few trim and optional features, all the J-cars are mechanically identical. They all have the same transversemounted, 1.8-liter, four-cylinder ohv L-4 engine with the two-stage Rochester Varajet carburetor. Almost all specifications are the same.

The only mechanical differences come about because of optional equipment. For example, airconditioning is an option, except on the Cimarron. With the Caddy J, you get air, whether you want it or not. Power steering, too, is an option—but again, not with Cimarron. The only item that is optional in all J models is automatic transaxle.

Now, what about serviceability? The J-car has something to please Saturday mechanics at three levels of expertise, as follows:

 If you're at level 1, where all you want to do is maintain fluid levels, the J-car provides better access to reservoirs than any car we know, including the Chrysler K-car and Ford Escort/Lynx.

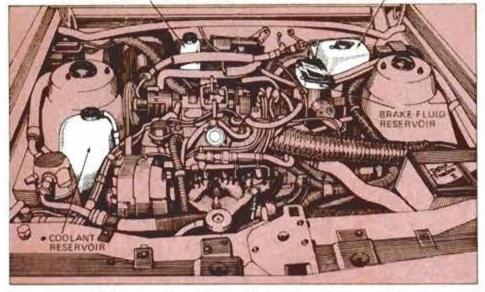
 If you're at level 2, you can change the oil and oil filter, replace sparkplugs, adjust belts, lubricate the chassis and do all other maintenance services. In some respects, the J-car is easier to work on than other makes of front-wheel-drive cars, but in other respects, it's a bit more difficult.

 People on level 3 like challenges, and the J-car gives them some. Making certain repairs could be impossible, unless you know the ins and outs which we'll describe.

Checking fluid levels

To check power steering, brake fluid, coolant and windshield-washer solvent levels, just look through the clear plastic reservoirs holding the fluids. Marks on the reservoirs reveal fluid level.

The power steering setup is unique. The translucent pump reservoir is remote from the pump itself, which is mounted low on the engine. This makes checking and



All fluid reservoirs are made of see-through plastic, easily visible and accessible.

adding fluid child's play. You don't have to use a long filler neck to pour fluid into the reservoir. You don't even need a short-spout funnel, if you pour fluid carefully.

With the J-car, as with other cars, use fluids called for by the manufacturer. For the power steering, use GM power steering fluid No. 1050017, or an equivalent, when replenishing fluid. To replenish brake fluid, use Delco Supreme II, or an equivalent fluid conforming to DOT Standard 3 (marked on the can).

If you have to add coolant, use a mixture (50/50 will suffice in most areas) of water and an ethylene-gly-col-base antifreeze conforming to GM specification 1899M.

Whenever you remove a filler cap from a reservoir, first wipe the area clean to keep dirt from accidentally falling into the fluid.

Lots of dipsticks

The engine-oil dipstick and oil-filler hole in the J-car can't be missed. They're positioned practically in the center of the engine in full view.

When you have to add engine oil, note that the filler hole is canted forward, making it easy to spill oil if you aren't careful. If oil does spill, it will run on sparkplug cables and, possibly, on the exhaust manifold. Be sure to wipe up spills to prevent damage to cables and possible fire.

Replenish oil when the level drops to the ADD mark on the dipstick. Use only oil designated API SF, SF/CC or SF/CD.

The automatic transaxle on J-cars has a dipstick, as you'd expect, but the manual transaxle also has a dipstick, which is, as far as we know, a first.

The reason for the manual-transaxle dipstick is to help J-car owners remember to check the manual transaxle fluid level and to make it easy. It eliminates the need for getting beneath the vehicle and unscrewing a plug on the transaxle case.

Check the fluid level when the transaxle is cold. Use Dexron II automatic transmission fluid in both manual and automatic transies.

Level 2 services

As you'll see when you scan the list of scheduled maintenance services in the J-car owner's manual, intervals between services are getting longer and longer. For example, unless a problem occurs, you can replace sparkplugs, time the ignition, drain and clean the cooling system, replace the positive-crankcase-ventilation (PCV) valve and readjust the exhaust-gas-recirculation (EGR) system every 30,000 miles. Replace the air cleaner and PCV filter every 50,000 miles.

There are other tasks to do more often. They include changing oil and oil filter, lubricating the chassis and checking brakes and tires.

The following level 2 procedures

will be made considerably easier with our tips.

If you change engine oil every 7,500 miles, GM recommends replacing the oil filter every other oil change. However, replace the filter with the oil during the car's first oil change. If you change oil once a year, assuming you drive only 7,500 miles or less in 12 months, GM suggests you replace the filter at the same time. Both oil and filter should be replaced every 3,000 miles or three months, if the car is driven in dusty areas, pulls a trailer, engages in long or frequent periods of idling or is consistently driven four miles or less in freezing weather.

Replacing the oil filter is a pain—especially if you don't have facilities to lift the car. The same wrench (Kent-Moore tool No. J-29142) and procedure I described in Servicing Detroit's Front-Wheel-Drive Generation: The X-Cars, K-Cars and Escort Lynx (page 35, Mar. '81), relative to replacing the oil filter in an X-body car, should be used. The tool is priced at \$4.75. (Kent-Moore tools may be obtained from Kent-Moore Tool Div., 29784 Little Mack, Roseville, Mich. 48066.)

Speaking of tools, GM has carried over its full hood-swing-back feature from the X-body to the J-car. The hood is held straight up at a 90° angle to the engine compartment, making access to any area possible. A special hood prop rod (Kent-Moore tool No. J-29779) is available for \$5.75.

Access to sparkplugs is blocked somewhat by the pipes of the air-injection system. It is difficult to remove these plugs with an ordinary, straight-in sparkplug wrench. Use a 6- or 8-inch extension and 1/4-inch flexible socket.

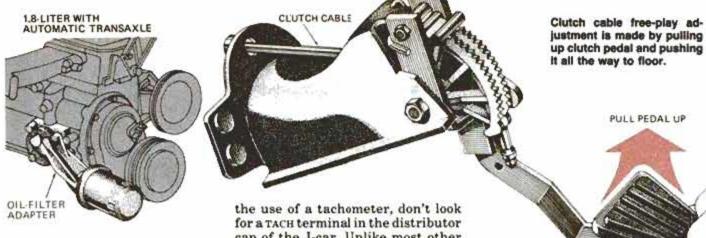
Plugs have tapered seats and don't use gaskets. The normal heat range sparkplug for the J-car is AC R42TS, or equivalent.

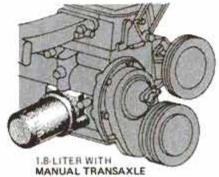
Getting to the distributor holddown nut in order to time ignition is



Reaching sparkplugs is a chore (left). You'll need short extension and flexible adapter.

To replace cartridge on MacPherson strut, cut along score line with a utility knife (near right), and cut open the strut with a pipe cutter. Replacement cartridge and a hardware kit are available from any GM dealers. New cartridge slides in (far right).





Placement of the oil filter in either a manual or automatic transaxle-equipped car is shown above. To replace a filter, you'll need a special oil-filter tool.

made a lot easier with a special distributor wrench (Kent-Moore tool No. 29828). It is priced at \$17.25. The wrench is offset 90° on each end, which allows you to maneuver down the back side of the distributor, near the firewall, where the clamp nut is located.

The timing notch for No. 1 cylinder is located on the front section of the crankshaft pulley. The pointer is on the front cover.

You may spot a second timing mark on the center section of the pulley. This one is 180° from the first one. You can use either mark to adjust timing, which should be done according to instructions on the vehicle emission-control information label.

To make adjustments that require

cap of the J-car. Unlike most other GM cars with High Energy Ignition (HEI) systems, there is no TACH terminal in the cap. Instead, find the harness near the brake booster, and you'll see a white lead sticking up. You should tap your tachometer into this.

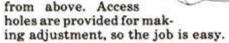
If your J-car is equipped with a tachometer in the instrument panel, but you have to use a remote tach to make an adjustment, you'll find the tach lead in the same spot. However, it is attached to the dash tach connector. You have to disconnect the two to connect a tach to the terminal.

A swing-down fuse block on the left side of the steering column is a great feature. To replace a fuse, turn the cover wingnut 90°. This causes the fuse block to release and drop down vertically, exposing fuses. The connector next to the fuse block triggers the Computer Command Control and allows you to diagnose engine problems.

You can open the radiator drain cock from above to drain coolant.

The J-car could have as many as five belt-driven assemblies, with the actual number dependent on the presence of options. These assemblies are the alternator, water pump, air-injection pump, powersteering pump and airconditioning compressor.

All belts, except the airconditioning compressor belt, are adjusted



PULL PEDAL UP

The alternator and water pump use a common belt. If your car has power steering, it shares a belt with the air-injection pump.

And then there's the belt for the airconditioner compressor. To adjust this belt, you have to get under the car. Use the square access hole to pull back on the compressor and take up tension.

The clutch of a J-car with a manual transaxle is self-adjusting. Pull the clutch pedal up as much as possible. Then, press the pedal slowly toward the floor. This procedure removes play from the clutch cable.

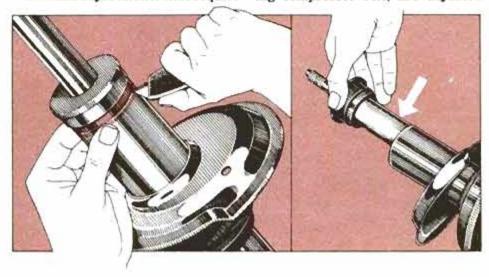
There is no scheduled maintenance requirement for the J-car fuel filter, which is a departure from past GM policy. The filter may be kept in service forever, unless a fuel-starvation condition occurs. Then, the filter should be replaced on the chance that it's clogged.

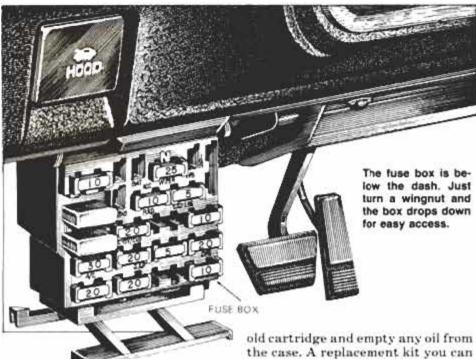
The fuel filter in a J-car is the same type GM has used for many years. It's inside the carburetor fuel inlet.

To make the task as easy as possible, use a flare-nut wrench to break loose and disconnect the fuel line at the fuel-inlet nut. Then, using a regular open-end wrench, remove the fuel-inlet nut.

When the fuel-inlet nut is removed, take the fuel filter out of the carburetor. Keep the spring that's behind the filter in place and install a new filter. Place a new gasket on the fuel-inlet nut and fuel-line connector. Run the engine and check the area for leaks. If gasoline leaks from the fuel-line connector or fuelinlet nut, tighten the part more.

Replacing the carburetor aircleaner assembly is no problem until you have to push tubing back onto air-cleaner housing fittings. Tubing is rigid and resists installation, so let me give you a hint: Withdraw the oil





dipstick, run a clean finger along the dipstick to gather up some oil and rub the oil on the fittings. Tubing will now slide easily onto fittings.

Level 3 maintenance

You will find the following information useful when you're making repairs to those parts of a J-car that will probably need attention during the car's life.

The High Energy Ignition (HEI) system in the J-car has an externally mounted coil. If you have to replace this coil, you will find it under the intake manifold. The job is difficult, so follow this recommended procedure:

- Raise the car—this job is done from underneath.
 - 2. Remove the fuel pump.
- Remove the bracket blocking the coil and remove the hex-head stud to which the bracket is attached.
- Remove the electrical leads from the coil once the coil is unblocked.
- 5. Loosen, but don't remove, the two bolts holding the coil. Both ends of the coil bracket are slotted, so you can slide the coil off the retaining bolts without removing the bolts.

The MacPherson struts may look as if they have to be replaced when they fail, because strut cases look sealed. But looks are deceiving. Only cartridges inside the cases have to be replaced.

When you remove a strut from the car and take off the spring, notice the score line on the top part of the case. If you cut along this line, first with a utility knife and then with a pipe cutter, you'll be able to open the case.

When the case is open, remove the

old cartridge and empty any oil from the case. A replacement kit you can buy from a GM dealer provides a new cartridge, a top nut (which has been threaded at the factory, to screw into the top of the case) and a flaring tool.

Use the flaring tool to straighten the edge of the case, which may have been made uneven by the opening operation. Place the flaring tool in the top of the case and tap it with a hammer until the tool rests evenly in the case. Remove the tool. Install the cartridge. Then, screw the top nut into the case and tighten.

Two different disc-brake assemblies are available for J-cars. They are not interchangeable.

One type of disc is solid, while the other is vented. The vented disc is larger and uses a different caliper than the solid disc. The important point to remember is to replace a solid disc with a solid disc and a vented disc with a vented disc.

Speaking of brakes, the J-car has an electric vacuum pump under the leading edge of the left fender.

The pump provides vacuum to brakes when engine-load conditions cause engine vacuum to drop below 12½ inches of mercury. Thus, ample vacuum is always available to keep braking power at a maximum level.

Noises that the pump makes are normal. These include clicking when the ignition key is turned on, and a 10-second buzzing when the engine vacuum falls and the pump starts operating.

Testing and working on the J-car starter motor is a true delight. It is more readily accessible than starter motors in most cars.

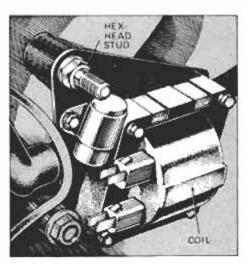
To remove the starter from a Jcar, disconnect the battery negative cable and raise the car. Remove wires and the battery cable from the solenoid. Unscrew the fasteners holding the starter to the rear brace. If the car has airconditioning, loosen the compressor support rod and swing it out of the way. Now, remove the bolts which hold the starter to the engine and take out the starter.

Another job that level 3 Saturday mechanics will find simple to do in the J-car is removing defective valve lifters. This is a dog of a task in most other cars. With the J-car, however, you don't have to remove the intake manifold—or even rocker arms and guides, although doing so makes removing lifters an even easier task.

Once the valve cover is removed, lifters are accessible. They are seated in the block to the side of the cylinder head.

Insert valve lifter remover and installer tool (Kent-Moore tool No. J-29834, which costs \$14) down the valve lifter slot in the cylinder head and push down on the tool. Pushing causes two small arms to extend from the bottom of the tool. These arms grip the valve lifter and allow you to pull the lifter up and out.

To install a valve lifter, coat the end of it with MolyKote. Then, grasp it with the lifter remover and installer tool and push it into the block until it seats properly. Relieve pressure on the tool to release it.

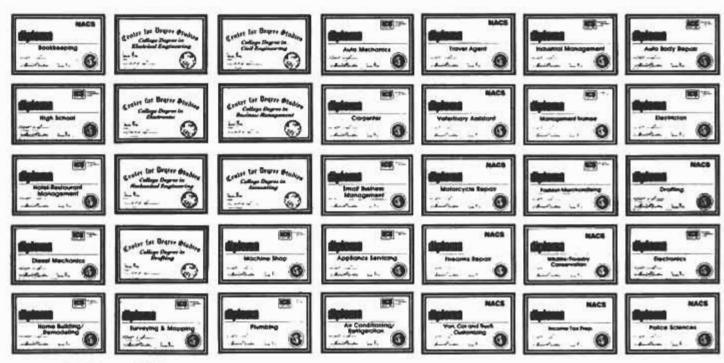


ignition coil becomes accessible after car is jacked up and fuel pump and bracket (attached to hex head stud) are removed.

Here's one final tip that could save you a lot of grief: If you lift the car and intend to remove any heavy rear-end component, support the front end of the vehicle by placing a stand under the radiator car support. The engine-transaxle combination places a great deal of weight up front. If you upset the balance, you could find the car taking a nose dive.

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APPLIANCE CLINIC QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Freezeless valves

I have two Woodford Model 14 freezeless water valves that were installed in my house in 1964. They have developed slight leaks. However, when I tried to change the seat washer, I couldn't remove the stem after removing the packing nut and packing. My local plumbing company, which installed them originally, no longer carries these valves. The company did say, though, that the stems should back out. Is the configuration of these valves different from others?—Dean Beavers, Poulsbo, Wash.

A representative for Woodford assures us that these stems should back out in the same way as their short-stemmed cousins. Don't forget that you're working with a longer stem, and that the stem itself may be twisting slightly. Try putting tension on the wrench and rapping it slightly with a mallet to break the stem's grip.

If you can't locate a supplier of Woodford Model 14 valves, write to the Woodford Manufacturing Co., Box 10328, Des Moines, Iowa 50306, for the name of the dealer nearest

Soggy washer

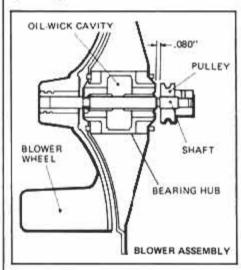
I own a General Electric washer Model WWA5500VBLWH. The washer has two wash cycles: one for permanent press and the other for regular wash. Occasionally, the machine will stop midway through the cycle. On the permanent-press cycle, it stops at the last rinse point and on the regular cycle, it stops at the "soak" point. If the selector knob is moved past these points, the washer completes the cycle. The machine was checked by a GE serviceman and, of course, it worked fine. What could cause an intermittent problem like this?—Jeffrey B. Morgan, Sicklerville, N.J.

Probably the printed-circuit board inside the timer is at fault. We suggest calling back the GE serviceman and having him check terminals five and six on the printed-circuit switches. To replace the circuit board, you must disassemble the entire timer assembly.

If you would like to tackle the job yourself, order the printed-circuit board, as well as the GE step-by-step repair manual for your washer. The repair manual has easy-to-follow instructions, as well as pictures to show you how to disassemble the timer. The part number for the manual is WX10X54 (\$6.95 plus tax). The printed-circuit board is part No. WH11X84 (\$14.45 plus tax). Add \$2.50 for shipping. They both can be ordered from General Electric Co., Box 566, Warehouse Point, Conn. 06088.

Wheel doesn't roll

I own a Sears dryer model No. 110-6118822. The blower wheel freezes and then the belts break. Three belts have broken so far. I used wheel-bearing grease to lubricate the bronze bushing, but with no luck. What could be the problem?—B. LoRusso, Roslyn Heights, N.Y.



Worn bearing surface of the blower assembly allows the lubricant to congeal, causing the blower shaft to slow down. Then the belt becomes heated and eventually breaks.

Your dryer has given you 20 years of service (that particular model is 20 years old.) Sounds as if it's time to replace the blower assembly. It appears that the bearing surface has worn and the lubricant has congealed. This makes a gum which causes the blower shaft to seize or turn slowly, causing the belt to heat and break.

The blower assembly includes a prelubricated bearing, blower shaft and blower wheel. The part is No. 239361; it costs approximately \$15, plus tax, through a Sears service center or your local appliance-parts distributor.

If you have a question about any appliance, send it, along with the model and senal numbers, to Appliance Clinic, Popular Mechanics, 224 West 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019. Sorry, but letters cannot be answered individually, Probems of wide interest will be discussed in this column.

Before installing the new blower assembly, check the distance between the pulley and the bearing hub. The clearance should be .080 in. This clearance will prevent the pulley from coming in contact with the bearing while the blower is on.

Coffeemaker hot line

We recently heard from North American Systems, which makes Mr. Coffee. The manufacturer explained that all Mr. Coffee coffeemakers come with explicit operating instructions. In some instances, it may be economical and practical for readers to make their own repairs; however, it could cause problems they may not be aware of.

There are over 400 authorized service centers throughout the country. North American Systems recommends that you not tamper with the machine, but take it to a service center, instead. If you have any questions, call North American Systems on its toll-free number: 800-321-0370.

Drip dry

We own a Sears Compact Lady Kenmore washer, Model 110-74690600, serial No. J60693237. After the second or third load of clothes, it doesn't spin all the water out. Every successive load gets the same treatment. Sometimes I have to put the machine through the spin cycle two or three times to drain the water. What can we do?—Mrs. Jan Schonely, Gilbertsville, ville, Pa.

Sounds as if your problem may be in one of several areas. There is a possibility that the basket clutch assembly may need adjustment or that the drain pump may be worn or clogged with lint. To get at the clutch or pump, you must raise the entire wraparound cabinet.

I suggest that you have a technician check the machine to determine what parts are at fault.



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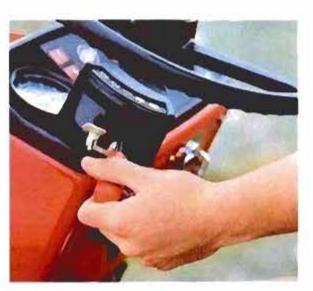
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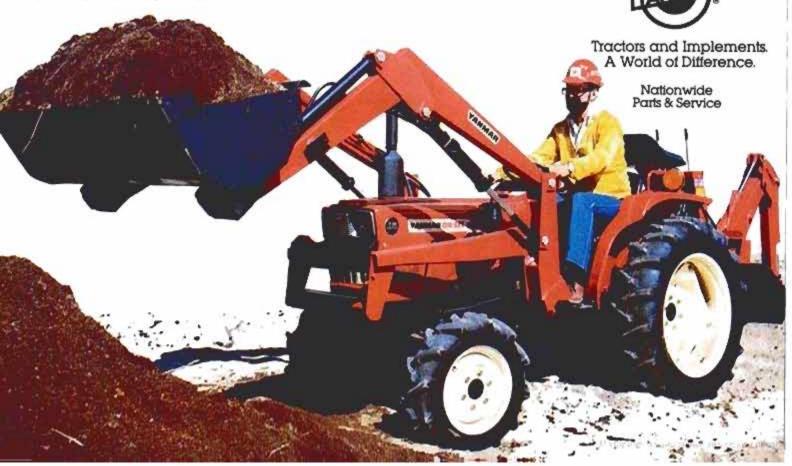
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Braining for Brian

The dealer can't seem to fix a problem I'm having with the Hondamatic transmission in my 1979 Accord. The transmission often slips. In addition, transmission fluid leaks from an undetermined spot. I sure hope you can figure this one out, because it causes the kind of random excitement I don't need.—Brian L. Zwetzig, Los Gatos, Calif.

Don't despair, Brian. Many Honda owners have been, and still are, in the same boat. The most common reason for the slipping problem is the shop manual. Instructions it gives on adjusting the transmission shift cable are incorrect. Honda issued service bulletin 80-006 (March 1980) to straighten out the situation. The bulletin is entitled, "Hondamatic Shift Cable Adjustment."

If you wish to do this job yourself, here's how to go about it:

- 1. Remove the center console.
- 2. Shift the transmission into RE-
- Remove the lock clip and retaining pin from the end of the control cable.
- 4. Check that the hole in the end of the control cable is lined up with the hole in the selector lever. These holes must match up.
- Reinsert the lock clip and retaining pin.
- Notice the locknut holding the cable to the adjusting mechanism. Loosen the locknut and turn the adjusting mechanism one complete turn counterclockwise. This should give the cable 2-mm (Vis-in.) free play.

7. Tighten the locknut securely.

The leaking problem, an unrelated condition, is frequently caused when the driveshaft is removed from the car. Perhaps this was done by someone attempting to repair the transmission. If the shaft isn't inserted all the way so its snap ring engages the groove in the transmission, the shaft will "float" from the transmission and fluid will leak. Other reasons for fluid leaking are a damaged

input shaft seal and a damaged torque converter O-ring.

'Reel' solution

My 1979 Plymouth Horizon has only 19,000 miles, but it uses enough oil to delight a sheik. For example, in 2,400 miles I've had to add six quarts. My dealer told me many Chrysler Corp. and VW owners have the same problem, since Horizon and Omni are equipped with the 1.7-liter VW engine. The solution he offers is to buy oil by the case and add a quart every two weeks. What do you say?—Gary Reel, Canfield, Ohio

It's not a solution. If you want the real McCoy, replace the valve seals in the engine with the new, improved seal issued by Chrysler to stop oil consumption. Tell your dealer he can get a package of the new seals by using part No. 4186331.

Ping-Pong ball

In June, you told Bill Lewis how to fix an oil leak in his 1978 Dodge Colt. I have the same problem with my 1978 Plymouth Sapporo, and I thought I had found the answer when I read your column. The two cars have the same engine. However, my Plymouth dealer says the part num-

ber (MD034007) you gave for the cure-all aluminum check ball to stop the leak is invalid. Could there have been a typographical error?—Robert M. Tubbs, Tupelo, Miss.

Nope. The part number is a good one. However, the information may not yet have trickled down to the dealerships. Chrysler parts depots presently have about 4,890 of the aluminum check balls in stock, so tell your dealer to order the part using the number we gave. You'll get it.

HEI lie

I'm really in a bind. I have a 1978 Chevrolet Malibu with the 305-cu.-in. V8 engine and High Energy Ignition (HEI) system. The car has only 10,000 miles on it, but I've had to replace the module in the ignition system three times. When a module fails, the engine won't start on occasion or, if running, will stall and be hard starting. I live in a rural area, far from help, so I have to carry spare modules for an emergency. These modules cost \$42.50 each, so this nonsense is getting really expensive. Has GM developed a better module that dealers up here don't know about?-Martin Halpert, Ticonderoga, N.Y.

About the same time your letter arrived I received others concerning the same problem. One was from Bernard Shaw of Hillsdale, Mich., who owns a 1978 Chevrolet Impala. Another was from Col. L.J. Evans of Bonita Springs, Fla., who owns a 1978 Cadillac Coupe De Ville.

Every GM car with an HEI system can experience the condition you describe. However, rarely is the module to blame. Tests by GM of modules it receives from the field that are thought to be bad have proven that only one-tenth of one

(Please turn to page 46)

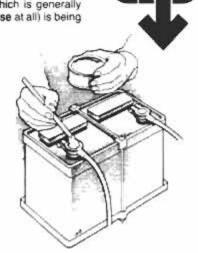
Bear facts

Tom Fudall at Bear sent us this tip concerning coating battery cable terminals to prevent corrosion. Silicone compound, which is generally called "grease" by most people (although it's not a grease at all) is being used by auto manufacturers on parts of electronic

ignition systems to improve insulation and prevent heat damage.

"One very good use for silicone not mentioned before, as far as I know, is as a protective coating for battery cable terminals," Tom says. "After terminals and battery connections have been cleaned and terminals are reattached and tightened, a coating of silicone on terminals will work better to prevent new corrosion than anything else that I have found so far "(Editor's Note: Make sure that you apply a thin coating of silicone to terminals.)

Silicone compounds made by General Electric and Dow Corning are available in most hardware and auto-parts-supply stores. There are different varieties, but GE-623, 527 or 628, or Dow Corning 111 will work.



CAR CLINIC

(Continued from page 45)

percent are actually shot. In most cases, the cause of failure is dirty and/or loose module-to-pickup coil terminal connections. If you get rid of the dirt and tighten connections, you can probably restore the module to perfect condition.

Each GM division has issued a service bulletin explaining how to do this. In the case of Chevrolet, the bulletin is 78-I-59. However, since you are not near a dealer, I'm going to outline how to restore a module.

- Remove the distributor cap and rotor.
- Remove the module from the distributor.
- Using emery cloth or a wire brush, clean the module terminals to get rid of oxide film.
- If there is a connector body on the green and white pickup coil wires, remove it.
- 5. Inspect the pickup coil wire terminals. If terminals are loose where they connect to the wires, recrimp them. If this doesn't tighten things up, use a small soldering iron to melt the existing solder and to add new solder, if necessary. Be careful that heat from the iron doesn't damage

wire insulation and that solder doesn't run under terminals.

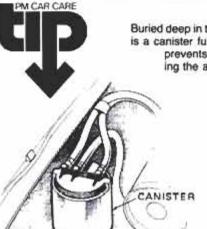
- Using needle-nosed pliers, squeeze the side rails of that part of each pickup coil wire terminal which attaches to the module. This will assure a tight fit when you reconnect the pickup coil wires.
- 7. Before you reinstall the module, apply a thin coat of petroleum jelly to each module terminal. This will help prevent oxidation. Also, apply a thin coat of silicone heat transfer

grease to the base of the module. You can buy silicone heat transfer grease from a GM dealer using AC-Delco part No. D-1920.

8. Reinstall the module and connect leads. Check for good metal-tometal contact between terminals.

Freshi

My 1981 Buick Century is the laughing stock of our car pool. When the boys who ride with me see a pretty girl walking down the avenue, they

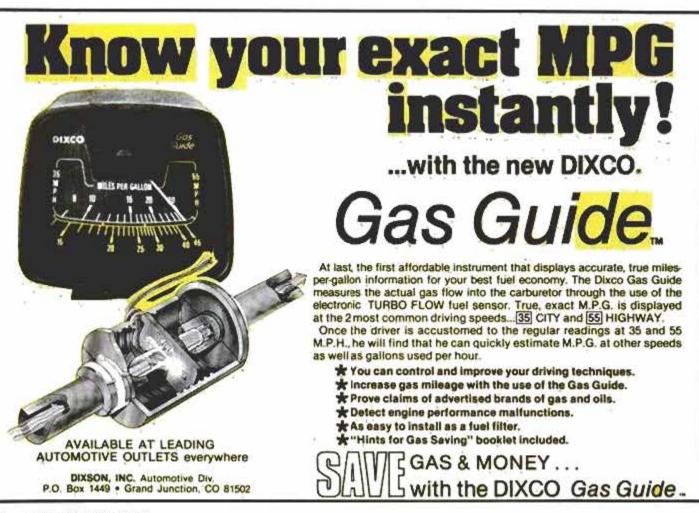


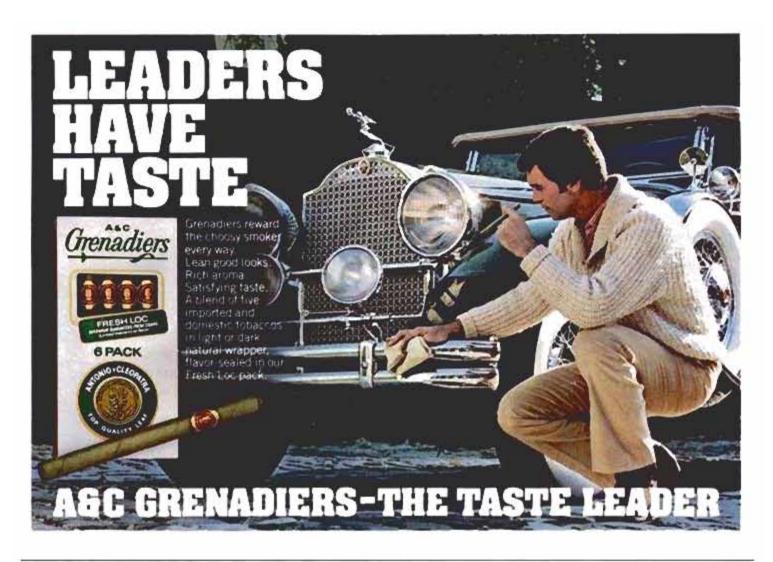
Hey, down there!

Buried deep in the engine compartment of most cars built since 1973 is a canister full of charcoal. It's the heart of a closed system that prevents carburetor and fuel-tank gasoline vapors from entering the atmosphere.

"So what?" you ask. Just that this system can cause problems you won't be able to solve unless you're aware of the system's existence. These conditions include gasoline smell, increased fuel consumption, rough idling, poor low-speed performance and a collapsed fuel tank. If any of these problems crop up, check to see that vacuum hoses attached to the canister are in good condition and that the canister itself hasn't cracked.

If the canister has been neglected, a filter in its base may have to be replaced. If there is no filter, the whole canister may need changing. Normal life of charcoal in a nonfilter canister is 50.000 miles. Other things that can go wrong with this system can usually be uncovered with a pressure test.





tell me to step on the brake pedal. When I do, the car gives out a high-pitched whistle. Help.—Joseph Rossi, Madison, Wis.

The offending member is the highpressure, power-steering pipe between the Hydro-boost unit and the
power-steering gear. The Hydroboost unit uses hydraulic fluid pressure provided by the power-steering
pump to operate both the powerbrake booster and power-steering
gear. Under pressure, some original
equipment Hydro-boost powersteering pipes are leaking (and whistling) at fittings. In some cars, it
occurs when the wheel is turned.

Put a stifle on the whistle by having the Hydro-boost high-pressure hose replaced with a newly designed hose that has part No. 7839511. Regal owners who have the same whistling problem need the same hose as you. Riviera owners use hose No. 7837182. Owners of all other 1981 Buick models having the Hydro-boost unit (this excludes Skylark) need hose 7833357.

Bringing in the heavy artillery

I'm engaged in combat with my Plymouth dealer, and he's about to outflank me unless I get reinforcements. The controversy centers around the tendency my 1981 Reliant has of occasionally jumping out of gear as I ease my foot off the accelerator pedal. My dealer has driven the car several times. He says it doesn't happen for him. Can you help me?—Paul Burdick, Fresno, Calif.

All the help you need is contained in service bulletin 21-09-81 (8/8/81). It says, "The condition (transaxle jumping out of gear) may be experienced intermittently and may not be easily detected on a road test."

To fix the trouble, your dealer should replace the gearshift blocker and gearshift selector with a new, improved gearshift blocker (part No. 4269363) and gearshift selector (part No. 4269080). If the transmission keeps jumping out of third gear, the 3-4 synchronizer assembly must be replaced with a new assembly (part No. 4269388).

Service bulletin 21-09-81 also applies to the 1981 Dodge Aries and Omni, and the 1981 Plymouth Horizon with manual A-460 transaxle.

GOT A PROBLEM WITH YOUR CAR?

Just ask Mort about it. Send your question to the Car Clinic, Popular Mechanics, 224 West 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019. While etters cannot be answered individually, problems that are of general interest will be published in the column.

SERVICE TIPS

- Ford Motor Co. says that clunking noises which occur in 1981 Escort/Lynx models when braking are probably caused by spiral grooves developing on rotor surfaces. Service bulletin 80-25-3 explains how to remove grooves by hand-sanding rotors with garnet 100 A or almost a spiral rotor in the poper. To do the job, raise the front of the car, take off wheels, start the engine and place the transmission into low gear. Hold sandpaper against rotors as they revolve.
- If you have one of 85,659 1979 Toyota Hi-Lux pickup trucks, listen closely. If there's a vibration/shimmy in the front suspension and steering, get the car to a dealer before the condition causes you to lose control. The dealer will install a brand-new steering damper free of charge to eliminate this potentially hazardous condition.
- New exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) valves issued by Chrysler should clear up an engine surge at steady road speeds in second and third gear in your 1981 K-car or Omni/Horizon. The repair applies to cars with 2.2-liter four-cylinder engines and manual transmissions. Ask your dealer to consult service bulletin 25-07-81 (7/13/81).
- At present, the oil filter for the 1.8-liter diesel engine in a Chevy Chevette has no AC part number, only a Chevy number (94217272). Buy filters from a Chevy dealer to get the correct one.

HOMEOWNERS' CLINK IFSTIONS ANSWERED

Water ring stain

I inadvertently left a flower pot on an oiled solid walnut table. The moisture left a dark ring, which appears to be mold, on the table. Light sanding doesn't remove it. Can you recommend a suitable method of removing the discoloration?-M. Dixon, Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.

The experts list several possible remedies: First, try dabbing at the surface with a cloth dipped in nondetergent household ammonia. But be advised that too much rubbing or too much ammonia may harm the finish. Second, place a warm iron on a towel over the discolored spot. Sometimes this will "lift" the moisture. Make sure that the iron doesn't get too hot or doesn't stand in one place

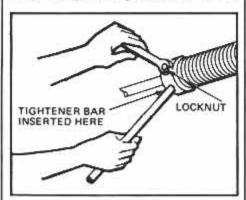
If these simple methods don't work, make a paste of rottenstone and boiled linseed oil; rub it on the spot in the direction of the grain. Wipe off the excess paste with a clean cloth, moistened with linseed oil. Repeat the procedure if required.

More on garage-door adjustment

Below is a revised drawing for adjusting a single-spring torsion assembly on a garage door. (See "Garage-Door Adjustment," Homeown-ers' Clinic, page 42, Dec. '81.)

Never adjust the single-spring torsion assembly until a rod at least 12 in. long is inserted in the hole in the collar; the bar holds the tension prior to releasing the locknut.

To make the adjustment on this type of spring, you must close-and lock-the door. Note: This can be a very dangerous procedure. Make

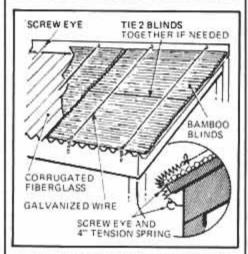


To adjust the torsion spring on a garage door, close and lock the door, Insert a tightener bar to maintain proper spring tension, then loosen the locknut with a wrench, prior to tightening the spring tension. Finally, retighten the locknut.

certain the bar is firmly in place and you're strong enough to hold the bar against the torsion of the spring. If you doubt your ability, let a pro do it; check your classified directory under "Doors, Garage."

Cooling a hot porch

My screened-in porch has a translucent, ribbed fiberglass roof. When the sun is not too hot (late in the evening and early in the morning), we can eat dinner and breakfast out there. We



Bamboo or plastic blinds, stretched over a fiberglass roof, will keep the area under it cooler on warm, sunny days.

would like to use the porch during the middle of the day for lunch, reading or relaxing. Is there any way to stretch canvas under the rafters of the 13 × 18-ft. porch to cool it during the middle of the day, yet be able to remove the canvas for the winter months, when we'd appreciate the warmth? I can't afford a contractor, but I'm pretty handy. Do you have any practical and economical solution?—Clude Allard, Amarillo, Tex.

You should stretch the cover over the roof to shade it. This also prevents the heat from collecting on the roof underside. Either bamboo or plastic porch blinds make excellent sun filters for this purpose (see drawing).

Remove the cord and pulleys from the blinds, as they won't be needed.

Do you have a home maintenance or repair problem? Send it to Homeowners' Clinic, Popular Mechanics, 224 West 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019, Letters cannot be answered individually, but problems of wide interest will be discussed in this column. For more home repair and maintenance help, get PM's Home Care Guide, \$4.95 postpaid. Send order(s) to PM. Box 1014, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y. 10101

To achieve the required length, you may have to tie two blinds together. I've overlapped the edges of the blinds about 8 in. and held them in place against high winds with No. 16 galvanized wire, fastened to screw eyes in both the house and front edge of the roof. I suggest placing the wires about 1 ft. from the edges of the blinds. A 4-in, tension spring will keep the wire taut.

In winter, merely release the tension on the spring, undo the wires and roll up the blinds for storage. You can leave the springs and wires in place until next summer.

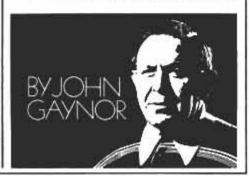
Drinkable gear puller

In "Frozen Faucet Handle" (Homeowners' Clinic, page 46, Oct. '81), we mentioned that gear pullers may be rented to remove faucet handles. Although I haven't tried it, Allan G. Hooper, Butte, Mont., says that a few drops of a cola will dissolve the soap and grease, allowing the handle to be lifted off. Allan also says that many brands of cola also remove rust. Thanks for the tip, Allan. Since I'm counting my calories, I hope that they don't take the "secret ingredient" out of my diet soda.

Molding floor

My house was built on a concrete slab in the days before polyethylene vapor barriers. Although there appears to be good drainage away from the house, moisture accumulates under the rug and mold forms. Can I place the polyethylene on top of the slab to stop mold formation? - J.R. Herzog, Smethport. Pa.

Remove the carpet and pad along with the baseboard. Install a minimum thickness of 4-mil polyethylene on the floor, allowing it to overlap the walls by at least 1 in. When you replace the molding, you'll seal the carpet against moisture. Lap all the polyethylene joints at least 6 in. and take care not to puncture them. FM



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Once your grid is up, Fiberglas panels simply flex into place... as close as 2 inches from your old ceiling! For more information, write B.E.E. Meeks, Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp., Fiberglas Tower, Toledo, Ohio 43659.

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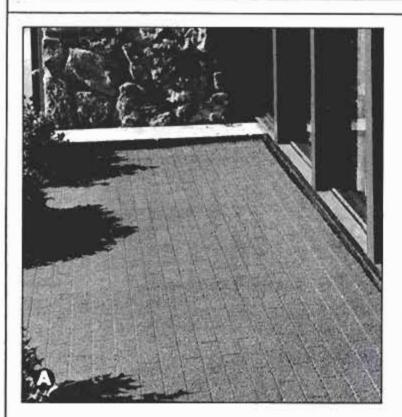
ON TO MARCING

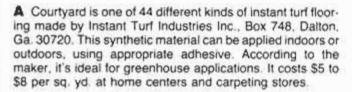
There are times when only the best will do.



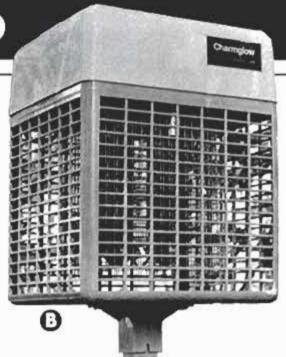
"The Best In The House"

NEW NOW for home and shop





- **B** A new, UL-listed residential bug killer—Model 8305—has been introduced by Charmglow Products, Box 127, Bristol, Wis. 53104. According to the maker, this unit attracts mosquitoes, gnats, moths and other flying pests from a one-acre area, using two 50-watt black-light bulbs; it kills them on a 5.000-volt grid. It measures 12 × 12 × 18 in. and costs \$169.95 at home and garden centers. An optional steel mounting pole is \$29.95.
- C Three new, whole-house attic fans have been introduced by Emerson Environmental Products, 8400 Pershall Rd., Hazelwood, Mo. 63042; a 390-watt, 24-in. fan for a 1,200-sq.-ft, house; a 575-watt, 30-in. unit for a 1,700-sq.-ft, house; and a 650-watt, 36-in. unit for a 2,300-sq.-ft, house. Available at home centers, and designed for do-it-yourself installation, they're \$169.90, \$182.90 and \$201.90, respectively.
- **D** The Corian 821 is a new, top-mounting sink that measures $7\% \times 17\% \times 20\%$ -in, wide. It is available in cameo white, dawn beige and olive mist with faucet holes either 4 or 8 in, apart. Made by DuPont Co., Wilmington, Del. 19898, the unit costs about \$110 at plumbing-supply houses. Two other sinks, Model 810 and Model 820, are available in the same colors, at the same price. Both have oval basins.







Why stay home? 3-Wheel to INDEPENDENCE

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Put mobility and fun in your life with this new electric 3-wheeler. So easy to handle — you control on, oil, forward, reverse, starting, steering, speed and braking with JUST ONE HAND!

With CYCLE CHAIR, you can go where you want, when you want. You won't be stuck at home; you won't be dependent on others. Go to — and through — the store. Visit friends. Make new friends. Ride with others.



CYCLE CHAIR is a very affordable, completely electric, rear drive 3-wheeler. It's a perfect means of getting around for senior citizens, the handicapped, or anyone who reeds safe, reliable transportation!

Owners Love CYCLE CHAIR

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Donald Meikle, 57, Miami FL

"My neurologist was so pleased with my CYCLE CHAIR that he wrote a prescription to my insurance company to cover part of its cost."

Ray D. McMullen, 70, Eugene, OR

"I use it while gardening — the grandchildren love to ride along with grandpa."

Paul Fuhrman, 67, Beaver Springs, PA

"Being handicapped since birth prevented me from riding a bike or walking long distances. Now with CYCLE CHAIR, I can go bicycle riding with my sister instead of staying home. I can even beat her up hills because I don't have to

Maria Weigand, 13, Lebanon, NJ

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HINTS FROM READERS

Gopher be gone



Here's a good way to keep gophers away from your plant's roots. After you dig a hole in the ground, line it with 1-in. chicken wire before positioning the plant.

-Alan W. Farrant

Minimize garbage odor



Minimize the odor of garbage that emanates from a trash can. Pour 1 in. of any brand of commercial cat-box filler, such as Kitty Litter, into the bottom of the can.—S. Parker

Cotter-key substitute

The next time you must secure a shaft, nut or other item onto some piece of machinery, try using a large safety pin. It is far handier than a cotter key and will last longer than several keys, which must be bent every time they're used.—Henry E. Leabo

HINTS FROM READERS

Vinyl gutter corners



Join mitered pieces of vinyl gutter, such as Raingo, with Genova's two-part cement or any other solvent cement.



Custom corner fits a 135° roof angle.

To make a custom gutter corner, miter two pieces of vinyl gutter and solvent-weld them using plenty of solvent cement. Join the pieces and hold them with masking tape. Then connect the corner to adjacent guttering with slipjoints for a customized fit.

-J. Francley

Safety pin holds parts



Add several large-size safety pins to your toolbox or workbench. You can use them to hold washers, rings, nuts and other small items that have holes. Make sure that you don't overload a pin or it will become difficult to open and close.—Walter E. Burton





PM WORKBENCH PM EXAMINES PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Water-base enamel paints



New water-base enamel paint has gloss and hardness which is similar to that of solvent-base oil paint.

A new line of latex, high-gloss enamel paints now offer the gloss and hardness of oil-base products, while still allowing the easy cleanup of water-base paints. They can be used on all interior and exterior surfaces with a drying time similar to oil-base paint.

They dry to the touch in just eight hours, can be recoated the second day and require two days for complete drying. Available in half-pints (\$2.42), quarts (\$7.03) and gallons (\$21.97) at paint stores, they're manufactured by PPG Industries Inc., 1 Gateway Center, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222.—S.W.

Quick-setting wall repair

Dents, holes and cracks in drywall, plaster and masonry (both interior and exterior) can be easily repaired with 3M's wall-repair compound. Its rapid drying time allows painting shortly after application and eliminates the sagging which is so common with slow-drying compounds. It

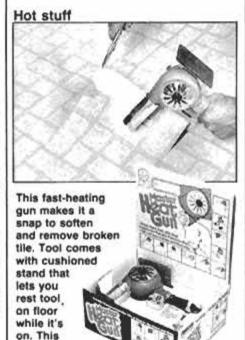


Wall repair compound dries within several hours, allows quick sanding and painting.

can also be feathered to a zero edge, thus making it nearly undetectable after you have finished your painting.

The product is sold in half-pints (\$2.25), pints (\$3.35), quarts (\$4.75) and gallons (\$15.45) at hardware stores and home centers.

-Rosario Capotosto



At some time or other, every serious do-it-yourselfer has a need for a flameless heater. Such a tool can be used to strip paint and varnish, soften floor tiles—or to warm high-pressure plastic laminates for bending to a radius. The model No. 499 Heat Gun from Master Appliance Corp., 2420 18th St., Racine, Wis. 53403, has a die-cast aluminum housing, high-speed universal motor, three-way switch and a heavy-duty 8-ft.-long cord.

The gun performed well on a recent floor installation and a cabinet laminating job, thus earning a permanent spot in my workshop. It costs \$87.50 at hardware stores and home centers.—H.W.

All washed up

frees both hands

for work, when needed.

The biggest gain from putting liquid soap, rather than bar soap on your sink is that you eliminate the messy soap dish immediately. This product, manufactured by Minnetonka Inc., Box 1A, Minnetonka, Minn. 55343, is sold at supermarkets and home centers in two sizes—10½ and

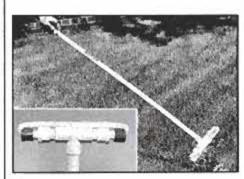


16½ ounces—for \$1.99 and \$2.99, respectively.

The plastic bottles are equipped with handy pump-type dispensers, and the heavy-duty soap is neither harsh nor gritty. It's absolutely perfect for an end-of-shop-session cleanup.—H.W.

A wetter way

The Liquid Hoe provides a novel and convenient way to control weeds. Just fill its handle with herbicide and touch the tool's wick to the plant leaves or weeds you want killed. There is no spray drift or splashing that can damage neighboring plants.



Herbicide applicator is of PVC plastic. Weed killer flows from 50-in.-long hollow handle into 10-in.-wide wick at base.

It's available from Tate Equipment Inc., 624 Ithaca Rd., Horseheads, N.Y. 14845, for \$24.50 postpaid. Included are complete directions on using and mixing herbicides.—Rosario Capotosto

If you've come across a new product with some special features, let us know about it. Write to PM Workbench, Popular Mechanics, 224 West 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019.

Here the lowest. There the lowest. Everywhere the lowest. Who's really the lowest?

ll these different brands of ctgarettes, each claiming to be the lowest in tar.

Just who are you supposed to believe?

Well, we say, why should a tar-conscious smoker have to put up with this kind of confusion?

Why should you have to do research in order to find out if

Box

you can trust the "lowest" tar claims of your cigarette?

So we've done the research for you. We've assembled the tar level numbers of all the leading cigarettes that say they're the lowest.

And the results are right here in the chart below-which can light up the situation before you light up another cigarette.

See for yourself what's what. (And what isn't.)

Numbers don't lie. And they prove there's only one Ultra Lowest Tar™ brand-Nous.



NUMBERS DON'T LIE. NO CIGARETTE. IN ANY SIZE. IS LOWER IN TAR THAN NOW.

	80's box	85's pace	100's me	100's 200
NOW	0.01mg	1mg	0.01mg	2mg
CARLTON	0.01mg	lmg*	lmg	5mg
CAMBRIDGE	0.1mg	1mg	-	4mg
BARCLAY	1mg	1mg	12	3mg

All far numbers are av. per cigarette by FTC method, except the one asterisked (*) which is av. per cigarette by FTC Report May '81

Box 100s

The lowest in tar of all brands.

Warning The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.

BOX, BOX 100's: Less than 0.01 mg, "tar", 0.001 mg. nicotine, SOFT PACK 85's FILTER, MENTHOL: 1 mg. "tar", 0.1 mg. nicotine, SOFT PACK 100's FILTER, MENTHOL: 2 mg. "tar", 0.2 mg, nicotine. av. per cigarette by FTC method.

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Microcomputers includes the NTS/HEATH
H-89 Microcomputer (#1 above). It
features floppy disk storage, "smart" video
terminal, two Z80 microprocessors, 16K
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included.

The NTS/Rockwell AIM 65 Microcomputer (#2) is included in our Microprocessor Technology Course. It's a single board unit featuring an on-board 20 column alphanumeric printer with 20 character display. This 6502-based unit also has 4K RAM memory, expandable, 8K monitor ROM and 8K advanced BASIC interpreter on ROM.

And in NTS's Master Course in Electronics and Industrial Technology, you'll work with the NTS/KIM-1 Microcomputer (#3). This unit features a 6 digit LED display with an on-board 24 key hexadecimal calculator-type keyboard. It's a 6502-based microcomputer with 1K of RAM memory, expandable.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

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DETROIT LISTENING POST

AMC future cars

Like Ford's Escort and Chrysler's K, AMC's Renault-designed, transverse-engine, front-wheel-drive small car (entering production in Kenosha, Wis., this summer for a September introduction, possibly as the Renault American) will be the basis for several models to come, including a slightly larger Concord replacement scheduled for the mid-'80s.

These cars will lean heavily on Renault power train pieces, meaning that AMC's coming 2.5-liter, four-cylinder engine is planned for use exclusively in future rear-drive cars and Jeep vehicles.

On a recent trip to France, we drove the European version of this car, known there as the Renault 9, and found it a boxy but attractive small sedan with good pep, ride, handling and interior packaging. If U.S. emissions gear doesn't rob too much of the power, it should be a winner here, as well.

We drove both the 1200-cc and 1400-cc versions of the 9 and they were both surprisingly equal in performance. The engines in both configurations use the bottom end of the current R5 engine, but the top end has been changed to allow better breathing and more efficient combustion control.

The handling is also quite good and is an excellent middle ground between the traditionally soft and billowy French suspensions and the firmer, more precise suspensions of German cars. In that sense, the 9 feels like the offspring of a mating between an R5 and a Rabbit—and that certainly isn't a bad combination at all.

One unique feature is the Monotrace seat pedestal. This lets the seat move fore and aft and also allows it to be rocked to adjust the seat-bottom angle. The seat runners are very close together, saving a lot of space, and give rear-seat passengers a good amount of room for their feet. It's an excellent engineering solution to an age-old problem—the kind that makes you wonder why no one ever thought of it before.

We also drove a Fuego sport coupe (arriving here next month), turbocharged and diesel versions of the 18 (18i here) and a 30 sedan (Renault's largest car) equipped with a turbocharged diesel. All were impressive, especially the turbo 18, significant



The front-wheel-drive Renault 9 will be built by AMC in Kenosha, Wis., using tooling from French automaker. Car has yet to be named; it is set for September introduction.

since its 1.6-liter blown engine will power a U.S. Fuego Turbo. The 18 diesel is also U.S.-bound, beginning in June.

Renault is No. 1 in auto sales in Europe, and currently the only manufacturer worldwide offering turbocharging on both gas and diesel engines in passenger cars. Certainly the French connection is a godsend for AMC, which plans to offer Renault-built diesels in all its future cars and Jeeps.

Look also for downsized and much lighter Jeeps in about a year—not only CJs, but also new Cherokees and Wagoneers that should achieve as much as 25 mpg in the EPA city test with the new 2.5-liter Four and more efficient drive trains.

'83 Corvette

Detroit spies have unearthed a wealth of details on the longawaited 1983 Corvette.

First, as we've reported here before, the shape is less curvy and "voluptuous," more wedge-shaped and highly aerodynamic, but styling retains a strong Corvette flavor. This means twin air intakes in the low nose, four round taillamps and a subtle, integrated spoiler in back.

Pop-up headlamp units remain, but each houses one large, rectangular lamp instead of twin round ones. There's a gas strut-supported glass hatch for access to a much more useful rear cargo area, and a full-width, removable "Targa" roof panel replaces the old T-hatches. Word is that the entire nose section tilts forward for service (remember Triumph's Spitfire?).

Inside, the new Corvette at long last gets properly contoured, reclining bucket seats, with six-way power

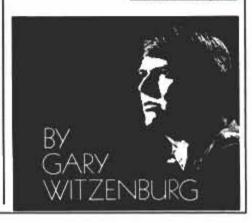
adjusters and, probably, the '82 Camaro's multiadjustable buckets as options. The instrument panel lights up like a video game with LED graphic and digital gauges throughout.

The all-new chassis features traditional upper and lower A-arms, but a very untraditional fiberglass-reinforced plastic transverse leaf spring in front; four trailing links, a transverse link and another plastic leaf in back. Extensive use of lightweight materials includes aluminum hubs, suspension links, A-arms, disc brake calipers (front and rear) and rack-and-pinion steering.

The engine is a refined version of this year's 200-hp, 5.7-liter V8 with dual electronic throttle-body fuel injectors on a cross-ram (Chevy calls it Crossfire) manifold. But unlike this year, a new Doug Nash-designed four-speed manual transmission with electronically-controlled over-drive will be standard, automatic optional.

Wheelbase is 96 inches, down two from the current 98, base curb weight is around the 3,000-pound mark, and speculation is that the

(Please turn to page 62)





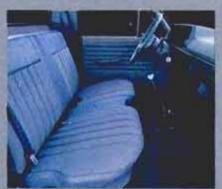
It's hard to believe this is the lowest-priced truck sold in America.

1982 Mazda B2000 Sundowner \$5895

You can believe it. The Mazda B2000 Sundowner is today's lowest-priced truck. Yet it comes with an astounding number of standard features, including a 5-speed and steel-belted radials.

Not one of these features is available on Toyota's or Datsun's lowest-priced truck, each of which costs hundreds more.

Just one look inside the cab and you'll see more of the Mazda B2000's exceptional



value. There you'll find a three-passenger seat detailed in textured vinyl. New instrumentation with electronic check panel. And handsomely trimmed door panels complete with armrests.

You can also believe this

truck is built to haul a heavy payload—1400 pounds of it. Even so, its 2-litre, 4-cylinder engine delivers outstanding fuel economy.

27 .. If you still find it all a IST hwy mpg EST mpg little hard to

believe, we invite you to visit your Mazda dealer for a close-up look at the B2000 Sundowner.

Seeing is believing.

The more you look, the more you like.

Manufacture's suggested retail price for li200 Sundawner Shortbed. Actual prices set by dealers. Taxes, license, freight, options and other dealer charges extra. Prices may change without motice. Acadability at dealers of vehicles with specific fortunes may vary. "TWS2 EPA estimates for comparison purposes for 82:00 Sundawner Shortbest. Your mileage may vary with trapleingth, speed and scenther. Actual highway mileage will probably be less. Calif. Se Est. Itory, inpg. 26 Est. empt.

DETROIT LISTENING POST

(Continued from page 60)

new car should do 0 to 60 in seven seconds or less while returning EPA-rated economy of near 20 mpg. Look for a \$20,000-plus price tag.

Delays, delays, delays

It takes money—a lot of it—to develop new vehicles and put them into production. But, as long as sales are sluggish, Detroit's cash-flow problems will continue to force delays in getting important new products to market. This is why GM says it may take an additional two years to complete its \$40 billion downsizing program that would have replaced its large, rear-drive B-cars with smaller, more fuel-efficient fwd family cars by 1984.

Apparently, the all-new, hightech, fwd luxury C-cars are still on schedule. They'll supersede the Olds 98, Buick Electra and Cadillac de-Ville in spring '83, but the old reardrive B-cars (Impala/Caprice, 88, Le-Sabre) and G-cars (Chevy Malibu and Monte Carlo, Pontiac Bonneville Model G and Grand Prix, Olds Cutlass and Cutlass Supreme and Buick Regal) will be around at least another two or three years. The G wagons, however, will be dropped next year when wagon versions of the new fwd A-cars (Celebrity, 6000, Cutlass Ciera, Century) are introduced.

Unfortunately, the ancient and outclassed (but cheap) subcompact T-cars (Chevette, T1000) will not be replaced until '86 or even '87 as GM continues to concentrate on the midto-upper market and ignores the bottom. Along these lines, there may be stretched A-cars by '84 or '85 if demand seems strong enough.

A decision on whether or not to "go" with the eagerly anticipated mid-engine Pontiac sports (whoops, "economy") P-car should come sometime next month. Word is that design and engineering work are well along, and it all depends on how solvent the company is come spring. We can only hope—and emphasize again how important this exciting little beauty is to the youthful new image Pontiac is trying to achieve. Are you listening, GM?

More delays

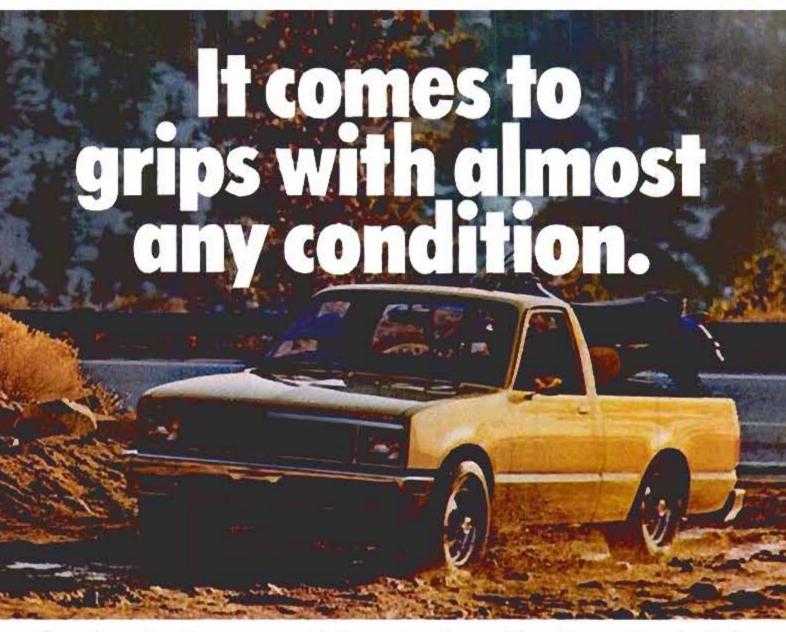
Woe is us, and them, for Chrysler has delayed its turbocharged sport coupes (Porsche-looking competi-tors for Camaro, Firebird, Mustang, Capri, Supra, 200-SX, et. al.) and its wonderful minivan, both fwd Kbased, for about six months. With luck and a more healthy market, these important new entries should hit the showrooms in fall 1983 and early 1984, respectively. Introduction of fwd personal luxury (Cordoba/Mirada replacements) scheduled for spring 1984 is now uncertain. And Ford has put off its downsized, fwd LTD/Marquis replacements originally scheduled for mid-1985 to at least the '86 model year.

More convertibles

With Chrysler now on the market with its LeBaron and Dodge 400 convertibles, with Ford hoping to launch a soft-top Mustang in time for this summer's good weather and GM's Buick Div. rushing a Riviera ragtop into production, both Chevrolet and Pontiac are taking a good, hard look at the apparently revived interest in open-air cars.

Both had convertible J-cars on display at early-winter auto shows to gauge public reaction, and Chevy distributed photos of the top-down Cavalier to the press—emphasizing that it was an idea car only, and that there are no immediate plans to produce it for sale. Except for some really ugly wheel covers trying to look like expensive alloy wheels, it looks pretty good, too!





Goodyear's all-season, all-terrain, all-position Wrangler Radial.

Rain, mud, sun or snow. Wrangler All-Season Radial helps you drive through almost any weather.

Its tread and construction give you the traction characteristics of

a mud-snow tire.

The fact is, Goodyear Wrangler Radials were developed and proved in off-road racing. Through deep mud and sand, over sharp rocks.

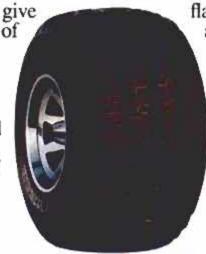
And, unlike some tires of its type, Wrangler Radial has a tread computer-designed for quiet highway driving.

Wrangler Radial also has steel-belted construction. With the greater strength,

flatter footprint, longer tread life, and slightly better fuel economy of radials over bias-ply tires.

So put your truck on the radial that comes to grips with almost any condition. The all-season tire that's identical to the one we race.

Goodyear's all-season, all-terrain, all-position Wrangler Radial.





PM OWNERS REPORT: MAXIMA

(Continued from page 32)

owners express their full opinions. First, then, here are the opinions of a 36-year-old Florida orthodontist. "We shopped around," he says, "and I still feel that the Maxima sedan is the greatest possible small luxury sedan available for a family of five. I particularly like the car's styling, its comfort, roominess, and six-cylinder power. Then, too, it's a bargain when you compare it with some of the German models like BMW and the little Mercedes. We also own a 1979 Datsun 280ZX 2+2, and both these cars show good quality inside and out. The only problem I've encountered with the Maxima in 12,000 miles is a loose ground wire that caused a fuel-injector malfunction.'

Next, we come to the comments of an Iowa college administrator, aged 47. "The things that sold me on the car were a combination of styling, the fact that the Maxima comes fully loaded, Datsun's reputation as the



Even without a hat on, tallish drivers complained about not enough headroom.

manufacturer of good cars, and a

very attractive price.

"I do my own servicing," he continues, "and have had the car back to the dealer only once in 12,300 miles. That was to stop a vibration in the windshield trim. I found service excellent, and the car seems very well put together. Yet it has more plastic than I like, and the trunk carpet is chintzy.

"In terms of praise," he goes on, "I especially like the Maxima's styling. It's the sharpest looking four-door around. Performance and handling come next. The car has excellent road-holding characteristics. Of things Datsun might do differently to improve the car: move the ashtray out from under the air outlet; also the cruise control switch is inconvenient—too low. But I'd have

What the Cimarron should have been

The Maxima is the kind of car that makes me lose all objectivity. So, I'll tell you up front that I think this car is just flat terrific. But, I'm not alone in that sentiment. The owners we surveyed said the same thing and so does anybody who spends five minutes with the car.

From its four-wheel disc brakes to its cloth headliner the car just exudes quality. There's not a screw missing, not a panel out of place not a hint of overspray. Slip behind the wheel and you're met by a wonderfully complex, but well-orchestrated, array of instruments, dials, buttons, and switches. At first, it looks a little overwhelming, but you'll figure things out quickly enough.

Fire up the 2.4 liter, fuel-injected Six, grab first gear and let the torque pull you into traffic. It's no ball of fire off the line, 120 hp pushing 2,800 pounds, but it steps out briskly, thanks to well-spaced gear ratios in the five-

speed manual box. And once you're rolling, just listen to the quiet. And if you get bored with that, crank up the standard equipment brain-blaster stereo and surround yourself with non-distorted decibels.

And when the traffic thins out and the road gets twisty, this luxury car can get down to business. It doesn't have the lithe responses of an Audi or Scirocco, but won't throw you any surprises, either. You'll feel the limits soon enough to take the necessary actions.

For the price, the Maxima is one of the best bargains around. It has set the standard for downsized luxury motoring, something the Cimarron can't hope to claim, and at a price the Cimarron can't hope to beat.

A bad batch of rear-view mirrors and minor fuel-metering problems notwithstanding, the Maxima has created an enviable reputation for itself.—T.A.

no hesitation buying another Maxima; I love mine."

Now from a Texas airline pilot, aged 39. "I needed an economical station wagon and was able to turn a good deal on the Maxima. The airconditioner didn't work when I got the car, and it was very difficult to start when the engine was cold—the fuel-injection system was set too lean [25.3 percent of our respondents mentioned hard starting of a cold engine]. The dealer behaved very courteously, though, and remedied both problems immediately.

"I find the Maxima a very well designed car," the pilot states, "and the only lapse in quality is a delamination of the outside rear-view mirrors [owners reported lots of bad mirrors; moisture apparently gets between the silvering and the glass and separates the twol. I'd like a different ratio for intermediate range in the automatic transmission and perhaps also a different axle ratio to give this wagon more punch off the line. Otherwise, though, it handles and rides well, is very roomy and comfortable, fairly economical, stylish looking, and has good stereo and ventilating systems. I'm sold on this Datsun.'

A 35-year-old Virginia army officer: "The Maxima is absolutely the best car I've ever owned. I'd like to buy American, but I couldn't find anything with the quality, appearance, standard equipment and value for the money.

"Even so," this officer goes on, "the radio went out and took five months to replace. Also, the mirrors turned funny colors and cracked. But overall quality is excellent."

Now from a Rhode Island purchasing manager: "I bought my Maxima because a friend kept telling me about the 85,000 trouble-free miles he'd racked up on his 1977 Datsun 810; also because your West Coast editor had given the 1982 model such a good writeup in Popular Mechanics. Both were right. In 22,100 miles, I've yet to return to the dealer for more than routine service. The Maxima could use more horsepower, though, and more headroom."

A 45-year-old Louisiana vice president told us: "I'd owned a 280ZX, which became too small, yet I liked the car and the service I was getting from my Datsun dealer, so I bought this Maxima and now have 14,000 miles on it. No problems so far. Quality and workmanship are excellent when compared with American cars."



The 2.4-liter, fuel-injected Six is capable of pumping out 120 hp at 5,200 rpm.

These comments from a New York dress manufacturer, aged 44: "I had the big BMW before this and hated it. Nothing but trouble—constantly had mechanical difficulties. So I took the Maxima for a test drive and loved it—liked the looks and feel. The ride is great, handling excellent, gadgets practical, acceleration is fine, and I've had no problems except with the airconditioner compressor, which broke."

A 35-year-old Ohio police detective: "It's the most car for the money. All those options on an American

(Please turn to page 94)



Now...an Extravaganza of quality American-made products at local hardware/home center stores!

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Leaves hands free to do lightweight projects, painting, crafts and soldering. 8" vise jaws open to 3". Pivots, swivels and tilts. Holds irregular and wedge shapes. Vinyl or metal jaw covers and alligator clips.

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High-quality Soldering Iron Kit comes with FREE accessories. Durable and dependable.

Black & Decker: Circular Saw



When you buy the 2-HP Black & Decker 7%" circular saw, with ball-bearing construction, we'll send you a Black & Decker Electric Stapler FREE on proof of purchase.



FREE ELECTRIC STAPLER



VALUE

FREE SAFETY GOGGLES

6 woodworking secrets from master craftsmen

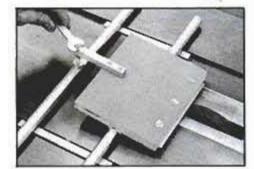
Finding a better way to do it is part of any workworker's fun. Here are a half-dozen super ideas that have worked for others.

Jointer blade sharpening jig

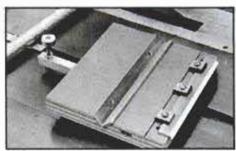
This jig consists of two parts—the base clamped to the saw table and the sliding blade holder. Dimensions are for a Sears 10-in. table saw with \% \times \%-in. miter slots on 9-in. centers.

MATERIALS LIST-SHARPENING JIG

Key	No.	Size and description (use) BASE
A	2	%4"-dia. × 15" steel rod
8	2	1/2 × 1/2 × 7" steel bar
C	4	10-32 × 1" fh machine screw
D	. 1	1/4-20 × 12" hexhead machine screw
1500		SLIDING BLADE HOLDER
E	. 1	3/4 × 6 × 7" plywood
F	1	34 × 34" × 7" aluminum angle
G	4	1/2-4 fit wood screw
H	1	10 × 10 × 410" steel bar
1	1	3/4"-dia. x 1/4" steel or brass rod
J	2	1/4-20 nut
K	1	1/4-20 × 2" threaded rod
1	2	14-20 × 11/4" fti machine screw
M	3	10-24 Teenut
N	3	10-24 × 1° rh machine screw
0	3	Clamping clip (see detail)
P	2	3/16"-dia. × 5/6" steel rod (locator pin)



Adjust angle of the sharpening jig blade holder and lock it in position with nuts.



Holder, lying on its back, shows blade in position, secured with clamps, ready to be sharpened. Use only one grinding wheel with jig for consistent results.

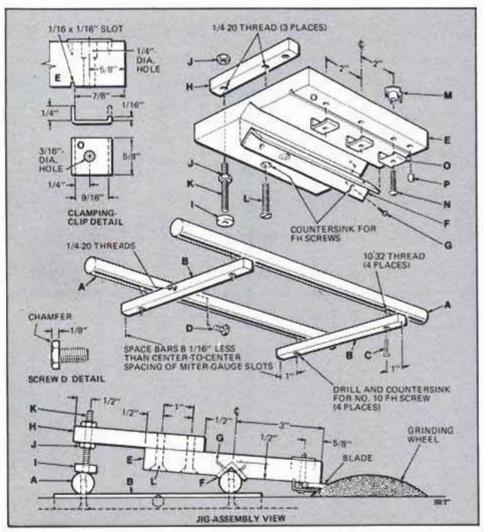
and 6%-in. jointer blades that are % in. thick.

Drill the holes in the base rods and bars carefully to form a parallelogram. This assures alignment of the two round rods even if they're not exactly square with the bars. The spacing of the bars should be ½6 in. less than the center-to-center spacing of the two miter slots in the saw table. Clamp the base into the miter slots with screw D. Cut the head of this screw to a thickness of ½ in. and chamfer it to prevent "traveling." Use a thin open-end wrench to tighten the screw.

The exact dimensions of the clamping clips aren't critical, but choose steel strips that resist bowing, yet are pliable enough to be bent into a "C". The long leg should be longer than the short leg by the thickness of the jointer blade plus the depth of the saw slot. Be sure holes for the Teenuts are located so the blade seats on the locator pins without contacting the screws.

Before grinding, check that the wheel just touches both ends of the blade. If not, file one of the locator pins till it does.—Walter N. Fritts

(Please turn to page 70)



Get into the booming field of solar technology.

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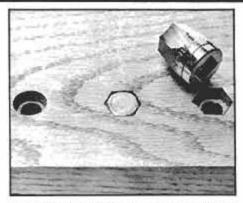
Hexagonal mortising 'chisel'

Hexagonal bolt heads set flush into a piece of woodwork add the professional "touch." But cutting close-fitting hexagonal mortises is painstaking and time consuming.

You can simplify the task by making a hexagonal mortising chisel. Grind a six-point wrench socket to a sharp edge on the outside, parallel to each of the six flats, as shown here.

To make a mortise, counterbore the bolt hole in the work to a depth equal to the thickness of the bolt head, and with a diameter equal to the distance across the chisel. Put a bolt through the socket chisel and the hole. Install the nut and washer below, then line up the chisel with sides tangent all around to the counterbore hole. Finger-tighten the nut, then tighten by wrench, making about 21/2 turns per 1/s-in. of bite.

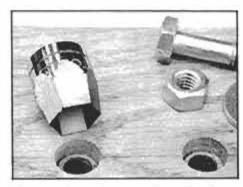
The socket should be a bit smaller than the bolt head. For example: 10mm socket for a 7/10-in, bolt head: 7/10in, socket for a 1/2-in, bolt head and so on.-David W. Carnell



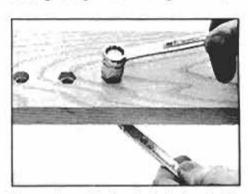
Countersink hole (left) is chiseled easily to hex shape on the right for a proper fit.



Use locking pliers to hold the socket head while grinding it to a hexagonal shape.

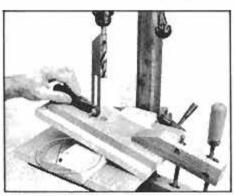


Close-up view of completed socket shows that grinding must bring perimeter down to a fine edge in middle of each side.



To use hex chisel, grip bolt head with altered socket, as shown. Add washer and nut below and tighten with two wrenches.

This is a typical setup for drilling at angles. Plywood under the workpiece is scrap. A handscrew holds the assembly together.



You may verify the angle of the workpiece and the bit with a T-bevel and protractor. Once verified, you can pencil in lines corresponding to frequently drilled angles.

Drilling angled holes

If you don't have a fully equipped drill press with a tilting table, try this technique for drilling at angles.

Using a fairly sophisticated calculator with trigonometric functions. we computed the chart shown below. The formula is based on the relationship of the lengths of two legs of a right triangle and the angle the

longer leg forms with the hypotenuse. Study photos to see how this relationship is used in the setup.

Square up a 1/4-in. piece of plywood about 12 in. on each side. Choose one side as the "working edge," and from this edge, measure a distance equal to the angle you want to bore, as given in the table on this page. At this point, use a carpenter's square to

> scribe a line across the board perfectly parallel to the working edge of the base piece. Along this line, place a 1×4 as shown in the photos. As a 1 × 4 is actually 3/4-in. thick, this is the measurement used to compute the values given in the table. Now, any workpiece clamped across the working edge of the base piece and the near edge of the 1×4 will be at the angle of the hole you wish to bore. Because you're working with angles, a handscrew is almost necessary for clamping your workpiece to the drill-press table and angle assembly. You can also slip a piece of scrap wood under your workpiece to avoid boring into your angle assembly.-Kathleen Mingl

(Please turn to page 76)

	TABLE OF	
COMPLE	TED ANGLES AND	DISTANCES
Degrees	Distance (inches)	Equivalents
5	8.57	89/14
6 7	7.14	79/64
	6.11	77/64
8	5.34	511/32
9	4.74	447/64
10	4.25	41/4
11	3.86	355/64
12	3.53	317/50
13	3 25	31/4
14	3.01	31/64
15	280	251/64
16	2.62	25/8
17	2.45	229/64
18	231	25/16
19	2.18	23/1e
20	206	21/1e
21	1.95	107/64
22	1.86	155/64
23	1.77	149/64
24	1.68	111/16
25	1.61	139/64
26	1 54	135/64
27	1.47	115/52
28	1.41	113/32
29	1.35	111/52
20	1.00	



The new-size Chevy S-10's available 2.8 Liter V6. High quality and power with an economy plus gas mileage ratings even a 4-cylinder 82 Toyota pickup with a 5-speed transmission doesn't beat

FEDERAL

CALIFORNIA

34

34

Use estimated MPG for comparisons Your mileage may differ depending on speed, distance weather Mileage will be less in heavy city traffic Actual highway mileage lower

Some Chevrolet trucks are equipped with engines produced by other GM divisions, subsidiaries. or affiliated companies worldwide See your dealer for details



More leg room than any full-size pickup. More leg and head room than a Toyota or Datsun pickup.

With the available V6, S-10 has twice the towing power of the imports. The optional V6 and optional Heavy-Duty Towing Package let a properly equipped Chevy S-10 haul up to 4,000 lbs...

including trailer and cargo. What's more, a Heavy-Duty Payload Option lets tough Chevy S-10 with V6 haul bigger payloads than many full-size pickups

S-10's newest domestic competition doesn't offer a V6. And neither do the imports.

THERE'S NEVER BEEN



CHEVY IS THE POWER

ALL OUTDOORS

Proving grounds for gear

You'd never spot them if you didn't know where to look. There are no signs, no arrows or billboards, but constructed along a channel behind the tropical resort of Fort Meyers Beach, Fla., are neat waterfront buildings, docks, hoists, and lines of boats on cradles where endurance testing for Sears, Roebuck's outdoor products go on every day of the year.

The mammoth company isn't trying to be especially secretive. Unlike the outboard motor makers with their hidden research and develop-



Unmarked but active, Sears' Florida test center checks gear in tropic conditions.

ment centers where each tries to outsmart the competition, Sears isn't hiding away its newest products. But with a crew of engineers recording nonstop data on the sunlight, heat, humidity, salt spray and immersion that destroy outdoor equipment, plus continuous performance trials offshore and on, this test base isn't set up for tourists.

Yet visitors would be amazed at the ends Sears goes to find out how and when and why a product will quit and fall apart. And this Florida facility is just a small branch of their main test center near Sears' headquarters in Chicago. "When something may be performing in the destructive climate of the tropics,"



Ted Williams, baseball and fishing great, grips test rod in famous batting stance.



New small gasoline and electric outboards are examined after extensive running tests.

Fort Meyers test manager Bob Williams, points out, "it gets sent down here."

The something may be a fishing rod or reel, a Gamefisher boat or trailer, a bicycle, go-cart, moped, lawn mower, boat cover, tackle box, outboard gas or electric motor, Die-Hard deep-cycle battery, marine hardware, mini-bike, above-ground swimming pool or a solar hot-water heater for it. Less obvious items are washing machines that run constantly on corrosive sub-surface water. And then there are 20,000 samples of exterior and marine paint that are analyzed regularly for chalking, flaking, chipping and fading.

Sears has two good reasons to



Will hull float upright when swamped as required? Test-tank sinking gives proof.

safeguard its reputation for quality, the engineers admit. One is that customers become loyal when they get more than their money's worth in performance and dependability. The other is that Sears sells in great quantity, stands behind its products, and couldn't afford the service costs if boats or bicycles, fishing reels or life jackets came flooding back to be fixed. And indoors and out, operating safety is a very basic requirement.

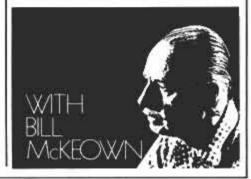
As a result, gasoline outboards are randomly selected and then sent out for 150 to 200 hours of starting, stop-

ping, idling, trolling, mid-range and full-throttle running. Gamefisher 1.75- and 3-hp models get special testing of their new centrifugal automatic clutch that allows moving from start and idle speeds to running forward by increasing the throttle without any need to shift gears. Electric motors get a 100hour workout mounted in a center well of a 14-foot skiff that mounts linear and force gauges to measure the true thrust at various voltage levels. Sears has found the demand is for an electric with twist-grip tiller throttle, rather than a foot control.

Laboratory machines check the durability and operation of fishing reel gears and the critical smoothness of their drags, but the true test comes in the powerful hands of baseball and fishing perfectionist Ted Williams. For over 20 years, he has been design consultant and field tester of outdoor equipment for Sears, with help from top year-around fishing guides he has selected in the Florida Keys. The reputation Sears fishing tackle has earned is the result.

Some test results have been unusual. The tropic engineers discovered that a back-yard swimming pool, erected on a base of sand and lined with plastic, could have jungle grass piercing through the plastic and growing in the bottom water of the pool in several days. Heavy vinyl now cures that problem. And the greatest test for your boat? Strain gauges mounted all over a hull proved that the worst beating occurs ashore, as the craft bounces down the highway on an improperly fitted and adjusted trailer. Now trailers, and all other products sold, have benefited from tests before they reach the market.

Recently Sears has also introduced "flip books" at local stores to show the suitable tackle and gear that can be selected to match regional conditions afloat and afield.







Most guys go through job after job before they finally land one they can build into a career. In today's high-tech Navy, you can start with a job important enough to become a career.

Learning a valuable career skill is an important part of your Navy Adventure. And it starts when you choose the kind of job or technical training that's right for you. The Navy offers training in fields like electronics, computers, aviation mechanics—over 60 career areas in all.

Then the Navy gives you the training and experience you need to master the career skill you chose. In the Navy you use the most up-to-date equipment and methods in your field. Inschool training and on-the-job experience can give you a level of technical skill and professionalism second to none.

Becoming the best at the job you want to do is important to your future, and important to the Navy. Because today's Navy depends on modern equipment and the men and women who operate and maintain it.

And the modern Navy pays you like the skilled professional you are. You'll earn over \$550 a month, right away, with special pay for sea duty, and other benefits like food and housing, medical and dental care. That's good starting pay for any job, and in the Navy that job can be the start of a career.

Navy. It's Not Just A Job, It's An Adventure.

THE PM GARAGE

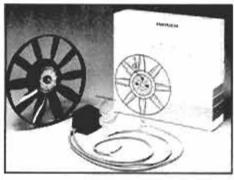
CAPSULE REPORTS ON NEW AUTO PRODUCTS

Electric fan

Engine-driven cooling fans are going the way of the dinosaur. Virtually every new front-wheel-drive car on the market comes with an electric fan, activated by a thermostatic sensor.

Hayden Inc. now has a kit that will retrofit the more efficient electric fan to your belt-driven fan system.

Engine performance and fuel



Electric fan replaces belt-driven fan; it reduces engine drag and boosts mileage.

economy should improve due to the reduced drag placed on the engine. Prices range from \$104 to \$122, depending upon applications. For more information contact Hayden Inc., 1531 Pomona Rd., Corona, Calif. 91720.—M.L.

Fast drain

Remote oil-drain pumps have been common on boat engines for years. Only recently has a system for automobiles been introduced.

Dev/Tec's Qwik-Drain system uses



Remote electric pump drains the engine crankcase with the simple push of a button.

a drain-pan fitting (which replaces your drain plug), an electric pump and intake and discharge hoses. Once the system is bolted in, all you do to change oil is press the button on the pump. Oil and sludge is pumped from the oilpan and out the discharge hose.

Prices range from \$66 to \$78 from Dev/Tec Research Inc., East 5805 Sharp, Spokane, Wash. 99206.

-Ralph deMasi

Oil absorber

Oil drips in the driveway are easily dealt with thanks to Mechanic's Brand Oil Absorber.

Besides keeping oil puddles under control, this sprinkle-it-on and sweep-it-up product has other household uses.

The manufacturer claims the product will absorb spills from carpets, serve as liner for the bottom of garbage cans and also act as a soil conditioner.



Oil absorber keeps your garage floor clean of the nuisance of dripping grease and oil.

The five-pound bag I tested cost \$1.50 at my local auto-parts store.

Now if I'd only get the leaky transmission in my van fixed, I wouldn't have to worry about oil puddles.

-Joel Breault

Foam filler

If you've got a rust hole to fill, Polycel 500 is the fastest and neatest way to do it.

Just spray it in, wait for it to expand and harden, then trim, sand and finish it. I've also used it to insulate, soundproof and eliminate vibrations in hollow body panels; it works really well in those applications.

The cost is \$9.95 for a 14-oz. can, and it's available at most auto-



Spray-on foam expands and hardens to fill in rust holes and it insulates, as well.

parts stores. To obtain additional information, contact W. R. Grace & Co., 62 Whittemore Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02140.

-T.A.

Z-clocks

Datsun Z-car owners don't have much reason to complain about their cars—except maybe for the factorysupplied clocks. Those clocks have been known to fail with surprising regularity.

Now there's a replacement clock



Replacement clock fits in Z-car's clock housing, looks like original equipment.

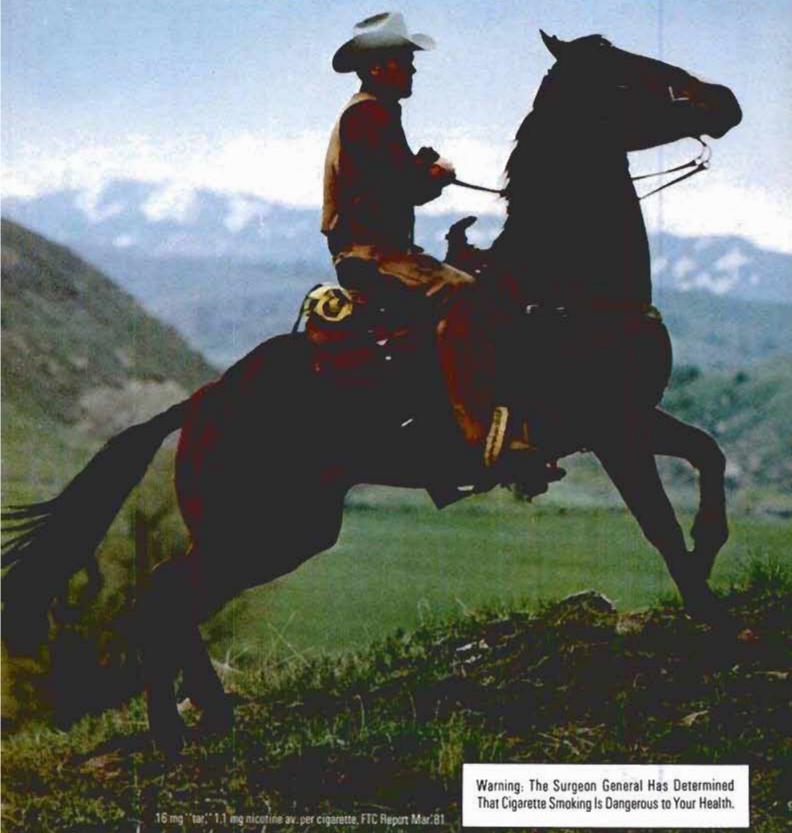
that's specifically engineered to fit in a Z-car's clock housing and looks like original equipment. It features LCD readout, quartz timing, elapsed time and date.

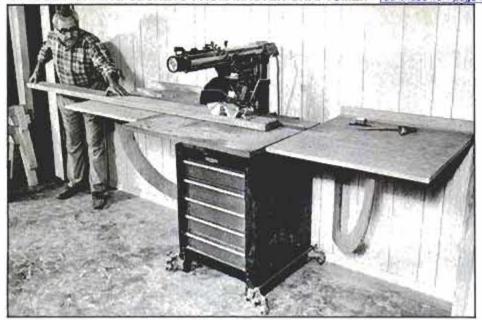
The price is \$69.95, plus \$2.50 handling charge, from Z-Time, Box 22559, San Diego, Calif. 92122.

-Joel Breault



AT DOTO





These drop-leaf tables keep work safely supported when sawing large boards alone.



Woodworkers spend a lot of time working alone in their shops. For many, such solitude is part of the enjoyment of shopwork. Being alone, however, is often a disadvantage when using power tools. Safety precautions require that you maintain as much free space around a power tool in operation as possible, In addition, workpieces must always be supported adequately.

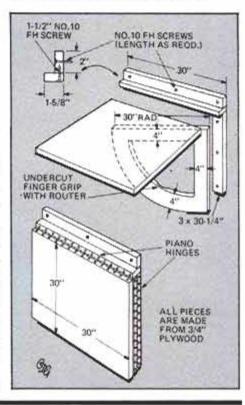
The drop-leaf tables shown here are accessories to my radial-arm saw which help solve the problem of working alone. Not only do these tables support long workpieces, but their drop-leaf design allows me to use the spaces adjacent to the saw for storage when the saw is not in use.

The tables are easy to build (see the drawing at right). The only critical consideration is clearance left by the support for the table hinge knuckle on the underneath side, if you need it. To obtain clearance, just drop the support and its hinge down on the wall-mounted support. Then add a furring strip in the middle of the underneath side of the table—where it will contact the support.

-Rosario Capotosto



When not in use, return tables to vertical position against wall; use the spaces flanking saw to store mobile power tools.

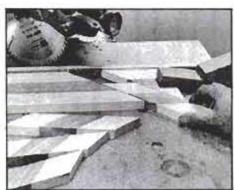




Turn this handsome vase from glued-up blocks using techniques explained here.

Turning squares

Here's a technique for gluing up wood to get a continuous checkerboard pattern. Select two types of wood with similar hardnesses (we used mahogany and poplar). Edgeglue three strips of stock. The width of each should be equal to one-half the thickness of the desired turning

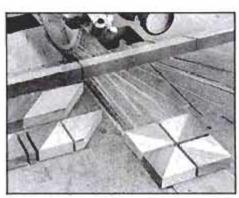


Make 45° cuts across edge-glued stock. Use a stop to maintain the identical width in the diagonally cut pieces so that there will be equal squareness in each one.

blank. Set your radial-arm saw to 45° and make miter cuts to get diagonal strips of the same width.

When all the angled strips are cut, reset the saw to 90° to make right-angle cuts. Cut each strip into two squares (or whatever your key dimension is). Do this by aligning the joint line between the light and dark

(Please turn to page 93)



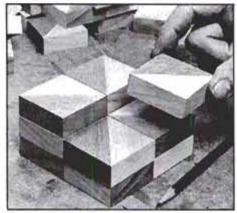
Reset your saw for 90°. Cut two squares from each diagonal plece, as shown at left. Now, begin stacking the square pleces according to the basic pettern at right.

6 WOODWORKING SECRETS

(Continued from page 76)

wood to the kerf in the fence. Always make the cut in the waste area.

When all the two-color squares are cut, stack them carefully into four columns. Make sure that the colors alternate at the hub. Identify pieces by numbers and letters. One slip in gluing can ruin the project.—John Opfer Jr. and Rosario Capotosto



Continue stacking the squares, alternating each square in relation to the one below. Before gluing, you may want to number each square to avoid confusion.

Grinder/sander

This handy shop and household grinder is easy to make, although it requires some welding. A glance at

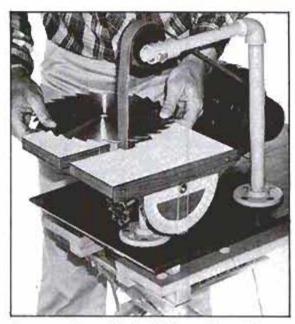
the drawing below will tell you that you probably already have most of the odds and ends you'll need to put it together.

A hinge-mounted motor supplies the belt tension. The motor may be \(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4} \) or \(\frac{1}{3} \) hp with motor direction to carry the abrasive belt down through the tabletop. Crown-turn the idler pulleys \(\frac{1}{3} \) in. higher at center than at the edges. The drive pulley may be epoxied or otherwise fastened to the motor shaft.

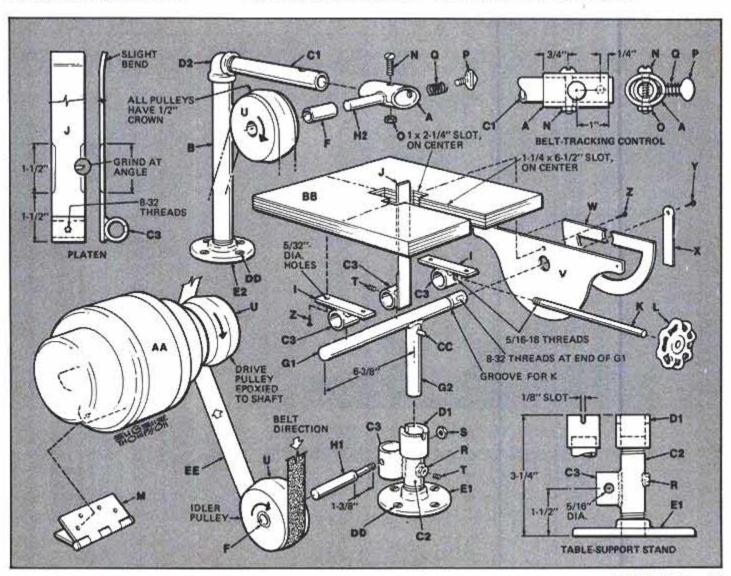
Obtain the flattened shape of the belt-tracking device (A) by pressing it in a heavy-duty vise. Use a scrap section of 1/2-in. pipe inside as a pressing guide. Use a 1/4-in. wing bolt threaded through this section to bear against pipe C1 and provide

sensitive and positive belt tracking. It will track the belt precisely over the platen or to either side. Thus, different sections of the belt may be

(Please turn to page 166)



Sharpen table-saw blades, kitchen cutlery, scissors, rotary mower blades and many other cutting instruments with this abrasive belt grinder.



PM OWNERS REPORT: MAXIMA

(Continued from page 64)

car would cost thousands more. Workmanship and past experience with Datsuns were major factors in my decision to buy the Maxima."

By way of contrast and balance, an Arizona retiree doesn't think all that much of his car. "Quality is better than most U.S. cars, but the Maxima needs better rear shocks. My car bottomed out over bumps, so I replaced the shocks, which helped some. The car should also give better gas mileage. It's not what's advertised. I'm getting 22/25 mpg and am disappointed. The outside mirrors have been replaced three times—the silvering keeps separating from the glass.

"What I do like are the sensor panel on the dashboard, the voice that reminds me to turn off the lights and take my keys, the tape deck, remote levers for hatch and fuel door, the rear washer/defroster and the delayed inside lights."

And finally, a 35-year-old hotel administrator from North Carolina: "The only complaint I can think of—and I have to try hard—is that the speedometer seems to be about 7 mph fast at 60 mph. Other than that, though, the dealer's a doll and the car's comfortable, spacious, good on gas and easy to handle. All that for an amazingly reasonable price. Who can ask for more?"

SUMMARY OF 1981 DATSUN 810 MAXIMA OWNERS REPORTS*

Total miles driven	2,976,621	Specific dislikes: No complaints	17.8
Average miles per gallor	,	Not enough headroom	
In town	21.1	expectation . Cold starts . Engine needs more power .	
Body style choices:		What changes would you like?	
Basic 810 sedan		More headroom	21.5
810 Maxima sedan		No changes.	
Maxima wagon	1-11- 20.2	More legroom	
		Better fuel mileage	
Why did you choose the		More powerful engine	6.5
Styling		Five-speed transmission	6.5
Economy		Reposition power-window	211
Price		switches	6.5
Quality	11.7	Workmanship opinion:	
Comfort	10.8	Excellent	54.2
		Good	
Specific likes:		Average	
Styling		Poor	2.5
Handling			
Economy		Comfort opinion (front seats): Excellent	52.3
Performance		Good	
Pierrormanos	11111	0000	37.4

Average	8.9
Comfort opinion (rear seats): Excellent Good Average Poor	24.8% 46.5 18.7 10.0
Had any mechanical trouble? No	64.2% 35.8
What type of trouble? Hard cold starting Airconditioner failure Electrical	25.3% 16.9 9.6
Dealer repairs satisfactory? Yes	
Dealer service opinion: Excellent Good Average Poor	30.9% 38.6 19.7 10.8

Number of vehicles owned: 810 Maxima only. Two cars. Three cars.	26.3% 54.2 17.4
Makes of other cars owned: Datsun Ford Chevrolet Oldsmobile Cadillac.	30.1% 11.0 10.4 9.8 8.1
Age distribution of owners: 15-29 years 30-49 years 50-plus	10.5%
Would you buy another Datau uct? Yes	
Would you buy another 810 Mar Yes	86.6%

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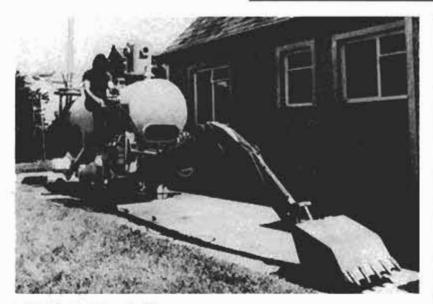






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BRIEFS



PM's Whatsit

You'll note here Mr. Charles Force, from the small Cornish coastal town of Trancreek, England, astride his own creation, which is complete save for the tires. Can you divine what the six-ton apparatus is all about? If not, turn the page.

PM follow-up: Rocks and radioactivity

In a November 1980 PM article (What Everyone Should Know About Radiation, page 90) that put radiation hazards into perspective, terrestrial background radiation—from radioactive elements in rocks, soil, water, and so forth—was shown to account for 57 millirems of human exposure per year, about 28 percent of the total dose we receive from all sources. Much of this is attributable to radon gas, a naturally radioactive element usually associated with rocks like granite.

Unusually high concentrations of radon have been recorded on both coasts, in Maine and California, with interesting results.

At the University of Southern California, Dr. Charles Sammis is literally squeezing rocks in hydraulic presses to attempt to judge the effectiveness of radon release as a true earthquake precursor—a tool for accurate short-term prediction. It's long been suspected that radon is a warning signal of impending earthquake, and its high concentrations have been noted in soil and ground water testing sites spanning two-thirds the length of California.

A continent away, high concentrations of radon were found in up to 20 percent of wells studied in several locations by a University of Maine civil engineering professor. This prompted Dr. Jerry Lowry to submit a report to the state government detailing ways radon can be removed from well water. Radon can be transmitted through water pipes into the home, affecting air quality, says Lowry.

A commercial water-softening unit with the normal resin replaced with granular activated carbon (GAC method) will remove 80 percent or more of radon from water passed through it, according to tests funded by the Environmental Protection Agency. On a higher cost scale, a diffused aeration process in which clean air bubbles strip the gas from water in a tank is even more effective, but requires a compressor and more extensive installation.

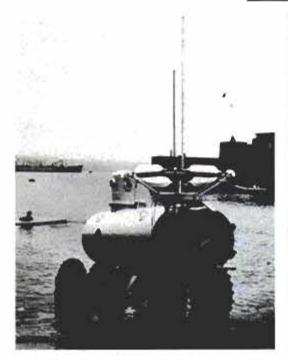
Barreling right along

Moving full, 450-pound oil drums around is nobody's idea of fun, but here's an interesting aid. The circular steel frame is fitted with three nylon casters, each near a built-in jacking point; a special handle rotates the jacking block 90° and lifts the drum off the ground, ready to be wheeled away. Manufacturer is Tecalemit Garage Equipment Co. Ltd., Roborough Plymouth, Devon PL6 7BW, England. Unit is called the Portadrum.





BRIEFS

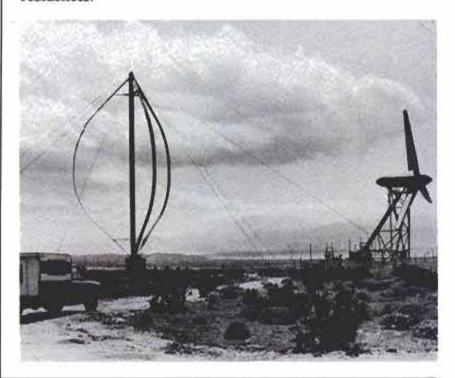


Whatsit revealed

Charlie calls it his "underwater motorcar," and he plans to go off and hunt treasure in it, hence the automatic digger on the front end. The float device protruding on top takes up to 200 feet of intake/exhaust (it's diesel-powered) hose to the surface; underwater endurance is up to 48 hours. Its main attribute? Underwater, it only weighs 1.5 tons.

Head to head

If you're driving on Interstate 10 near Palm Springs, Calif., you'd better be ready for this: Two wind machines are squared off in a mighty trial. The propeller type is 191 feet tall and hits a peak output of 3,000 kw of electricity in a 40-mph wind. Its rival, a Darrieus rotor, stands 123 feet high and puts out 500 kw in 35-mph winds. It's estimated that the larger machine could produce electricity to serve as many as 1,000 residences.



The trouble with transistors

Nearly 20 years ago, the first Telstar satellite went into orbit and promptly began to malfunction as though its semiconductor components were wearing out. Bell Labs scientists eventually figured out that the satellite was being affected by the Van Allen Belt, an intense band of high-energy particles trapped in the Earth's magnetic field at a height of 600 to 40,000 miles.

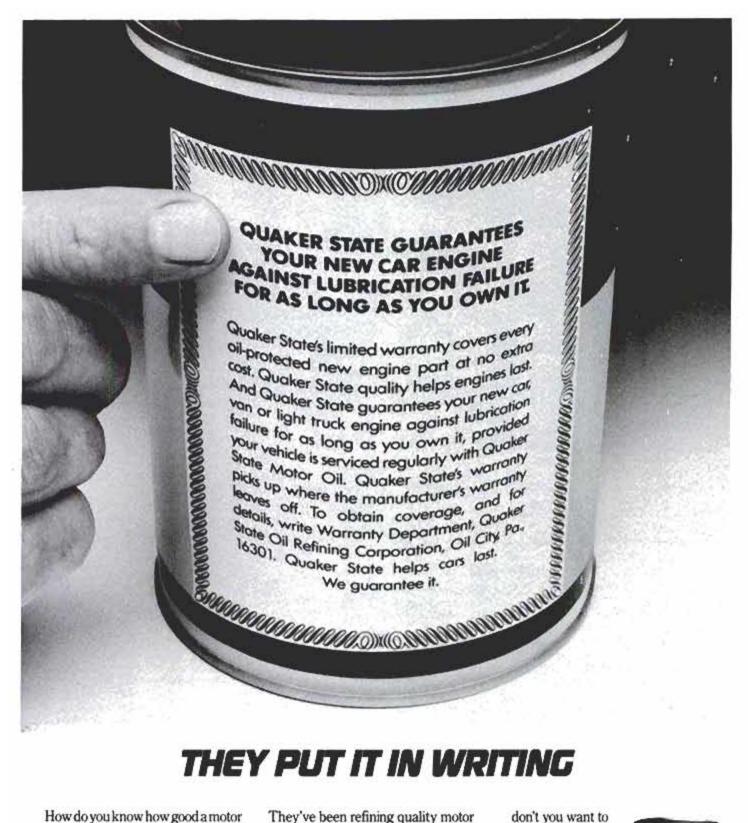
The satellite's transistors were actually being done in by radiation.

Since then, further research has shown that semiconductor materials can be both temporarily and permanently damaged by many kinds of radiation gamma rays, X-rays and even the cosmic radiation that bombards us constantly. Recent studies by Dr. Mayrant Simons at North Carolina's Research Triangle Institute have indicated that both gallium arsenide and silicon dioxide can be altered by radiation. The former is a promising new semiconductor material; the latter is often found as an insulator in microcircuitry.

Among the implications: worldwide data-processing chaos as the result of a large-scale release of nuclear radiation, whether intentional or accidental. Newer, more extensive integrated circuits are becoming increasingly vulnerable to damage from a single subatomic particle.

"If it were hit in just the right way," says Simons, "a memory cell of a very large-scale integrated array could have its stored data bit altered by a single highenergy particle."

Research continues into both the cataclysmic implications and possible shortfalls in the useful life of semiconductor devices exposed to plain, everyday radiation. Meanwhile, if you've saved an old tube radio around the house somewhere, that's the one to put in your fallout shelter.



THEY PUT IT IN WRITING

How do you know how good a motor oil is? Once you put it in your engine, you can't touch it, you can't see it, you can't watch it work. Yet, you depend on its quality everytime you drive your car. Quaker State knows about quality.



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Warranty right on the can. How can Quaker State offer a guarantee like this? Simple. They've been helping cars stay on the road 100,000 miles and more for years. They've got the record to prove it.

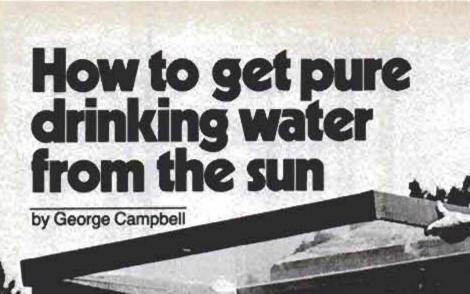
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STAYIN'ON THE ROAD WITH QUAKER STATE



Here is an economical solution for people all over the country who are alarmed by the deteriorating quality of their domestic water.

This solar still, operating on the simple principles of evaporation and condensation, will remove all impurities from about one gallon of water a day.

Tap water enters the float-controlled supply tank, then flows to the evaporation pans. The sun heats the water to 150°F, or more. The resulting water vapor condenses on the glass top of the still, flows down the glass, then drips off a bead of silicone (see drawing) into a collecting trough. From there it goes to the storage tank, where it is aerated to counter the flat taste of distilled water. The process is automatic and needs little maintenance.

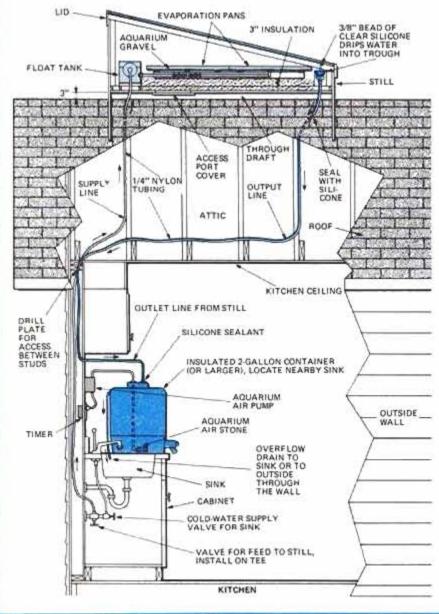
Build the still box first. It should face south and receive full sun. If it's necessary to mount the unit on the sloped surface of the roof, cut the back end (CC) 21 in. high and the front (BB) 6 in. high, plus whatever is required so that the pan supports will be level.

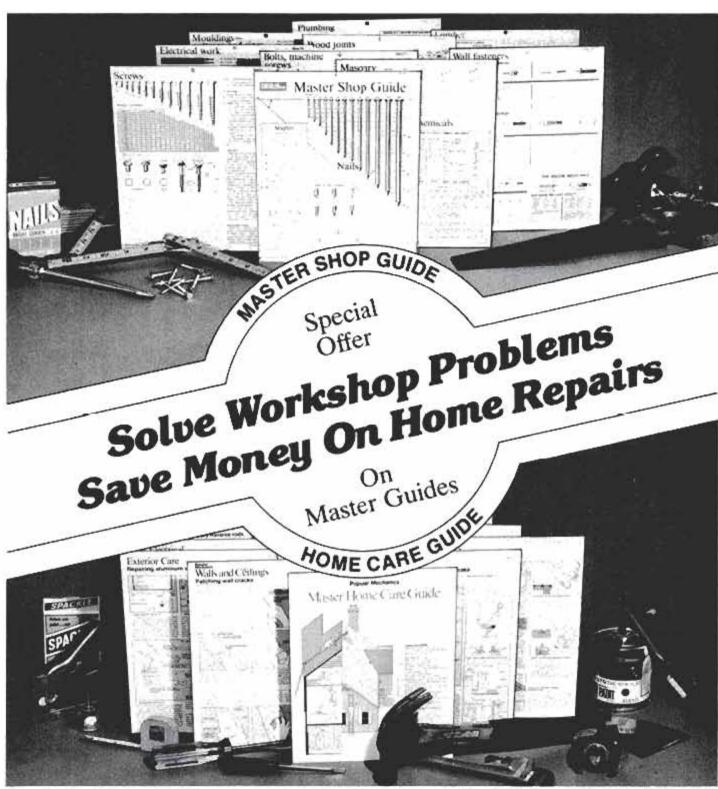
Bore holes for the supply and return lines in the plywood bottom (AA). Also bore two 1-in.-dia. weep holes, one at each end. Screen these to keep out insects.

Next, build the frame for the still's lid and a platform for the supply tank. Prime all wood components with top-quality wood primer, then apply two coats of high-quality exte-

(Please turn to page 106)

Heat from sun evaporates water from pans in still. Vapor then condenses on glass top, flows down incline and is collected.





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PM LOOKS AT

A SUPER PLANER AT HOME WORKSHOP PRICE



RC-33 planer from Rockwell surfaces stock up to 5.9 × 13 inches. And it's portable.

Trying out the newest tools is the fun part of my job. Thus, when the chance to work with Rockwell's RC-33 planer came along, I jumped at the opportunity.

There are several important points about this tool that make it particularly worthwhile:

Capacity: The planer can accept wood stock almost 6 in. thick by a full 13 in. wide.

■ Weight: Since it's less than 300 pounds, the tool is portable. Custom builders, for example, can haul the planer to remote job sites, because two men can heft it.

■ Price: Though it cuts with a tenacity similar to that of the heavy-weight I ordinarily use in my shop, this beauty is reasonably priced at under \$1,500.

Admittedly, this tool—and that price—are not for the once-in-a-while woodworker. But serious woodworking hobbyists, craftsmen and builders will recognize that a big-job planer, with Rockwell quality, is a buy at that price.

The big news is that this tool features a table that stays put. Unlike its predecessors, when you turn the elevation crank on the RC-33, the



Elevation crank is in extremely handy location for quick depth-of-cut changes. The scale (arrow) gives both metric and inch readings. Unlike its predecessors, this planer features a fixed table.

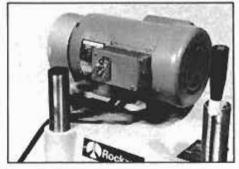


Once you've positioned the cutterhead for correct depth of cut, head is locked in position using this control knob.

head, containing in-and-out feed rollers and cutter knives, moves up or down while the table remains stationary.

What I like about this feature is that you can keep a roller table at a constant height to support long workpieces as they leave the table. No more raising or lowering the table each time the depth of cut is changed on the planer.

I didn't perform any clinical tests with the planer: I'm not interested in how much stock can be removed in a given time period. What counts is how the tool performs under job conditions—in this case, building



On-off switch faces operator; it's in full view and easy to reach throughout cutting.

PM projects in my workshop. The tool was used under the same set of circumstances that PM readers would use it.

What does matter is that the tool always removed the exact amount of material that I wanted planed. And because of the tool's ability to remove a scant amount, it's even possible to feed in a 1/2-in.-thick piece of stock and plane off an infinitesimal amount.

Though I didn't clock the tool, it did perform these tasks in a hurry. In fact, the planer works almost as fast when set to remove the maximum amount of stock (¾16 in.) as it does for minimal cuts.

Though ruggedly built with castiron construction, the tool handles as easily as if it were a lightweight. That's because the cutterhead and



You will need an outlet with this configuration in order to power the tool. The 2-hpmotor model requires 230 volts.

feed rolls raise and lower on four columns. As you turn the elevating handle, it turns four screws, one inside each column. Each revolution of the handwheel equals .155 in.

An extra you might want to buy is the steel stand (No. 50-315) shown. It's priced at \$62.40. Not shown, but also handy, are the shavings hood for use with a dust-collection system (\$89) and the retractable casters (\$48.85).—Harry Wicks, Home and Shop Editor

SPECIFICATIONS-PLANER

Model: RC-33 13-in, planer Motor: 2-hp, 230-v., single-phase (3-hp, 220-440 three-phase also available)

Capacity: 5.9 in. thick by 13 in. wide Depth of cut: 3he in. maximum Length of unbutted stock: 10 in. minimum

Cutterhead: 3 knives, 2.95-in. dia.: 4,500 rpm; 13,500 cuts per minute

Feed rolls (in and out feed): 2-in. dia., solid Table: 27 in. wide by 27 in. deep by 26 in. high Weight: 260 lbs., Model 22-650; 295 lbs., Models 22-651, 22-655.

Price: \$1,500 Availability: At Bookwall di

Availability: At Rockwell distributors

Manufacturer: Rockwell International, Power Tool Div., 400

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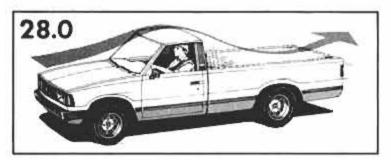
How to improve your pickup's mileage

lawn, and drive to the town dump. If it's more than a couple of miles away, you won't have to unload when you get there, because the box will have been scrubbed clean by the swirling of the air as you drive along. Logically, you'd figure that this swirling air must be creating aerodynamic drag at the same time it's depositing leaves all over the neighbors' yards. As we found out from some careful testing, that's an understatement.

In point of fact, the open bed of a pickup truck is about as unstreamlined as it's possible to be. What happens is this: The air flows up and over the hood and cab with just as good laminar adhesion as on any car. But once past the cab, there's nothing to which the air can cleave. So it begins to tumble and swirl. By the time it reaches the tailgate, it simply backs up like water behind a dam. It takes a lot of horsepower—and therefore, gasoline—to



Driving with an empty bed is similar to towing a parachute behind you. It causes air drag and robs your car of good mileage.



With a tonnesu cover, mileage improved by 9 percent. However, there's still some turbulence present behind the cab.



With a cap installed, the mileage improved by 13 percent. The air flows smoothly over the entire vehicle, thereby reducing drag.

force that air over the spillway. How much gasoline? Well, we wanted to find out for ourselves, so we started with a 1981 Isuzu pickup, long-wheelbase with a 7.5-foot bed. Other than fat tires, which lower the mileage slightly from stock, the running gear is just the way Isuzu built it. At a constant 60 mph, with an open, empty bed, our test pickup averaged precisely 25.70 mpg.

The first step was to install a tonneau cover. Now most pickup tonneaus snap onto studs screwed into the bodywork. The snaps rust, the holes in the truck rust and the tonneau—because the snaps are spaced every foot or so along the edges—eventually rips around the snaps. It also tends to sag, because fasteners every foot aren't close enough to pull it taut.

One solution is a tonneau made by Bestop (Box 318, Boulder, Colo. 80306). Their idea is absurdly simple. Instead of snaps, they use Velcro strips the full length of each side and across the back, which attach to Velcro on the underside of the tonneau cover. The self-sticking Velcro installs in a second along the edge of the bed, and can be removed without damage to the paint. It holds the tonneau down firmly along every inch of edge, can't rust or rip and releases with a gentle tug.

The Bestop tonneau is held across the front edge of an aluminum extrusion which needs three screws to hold it down, but that's still better than the dozens of holes required by the conventional tonneau. There are also two buckle straps, so the nylon-reinforced tonneau can be neatly rolled up and stored behind the cab, along the front edge of the bed.

Fitted with the Bestop tonneau cover, our Isuzu averaged an even 28.0 mpg at a constant 60 mph. That's an improvement of 2.3 mpg, or 8.95 percent. Bestop asks \$99.95 for the tonneau on our Longbed, and \$84.95 for a Shortbed. If you drive 10,000 miles per year in a truck which is as economical as our Isuzu, you'd save 32 gallons of gas each year by installing a tonneau. And if you're paying \$1.50 per gallon, you'd pay for the Longbed version in two years, the Shortbed version in 21 months.

We can't come up with a reason not to install a Bestop tonneau. The initial price is low, and it pays for itself in less than 20,000 miles of driving. It keeps anything in your pickup bed dry and hidden from prying eyes, yet it rolls up out of the way in a jiffy. It seems to be pretty durable, and an occasional squirting with Armorall is enough to make it shine.

Simply keeping the airflow from backing up behind the tailgate was enough to improve fuel economy 9 percent, but the airflow was still tumbling and swirling behind the cab. To really improve laminar adhesion all the way to the end of the vehicle for the most effective streamlining, we decided to see if a cap would do anything to improve mileage.

But not just any cap. It had to fit as tightly as possible behind the cab so that the airflow wouldn't

(Please turn to page 104)

WHAT DO YOU **SCORE ON THIS WOODWORKER'S** TEST?

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So grab a pen or pencil and get started!

Circle A.Bor C for each question:

How much experience have you had in woodworking, home repair and/or home maintenance?

(A) Little or no experience

(B) Some experience

(C) Quite a bit of experience

Which phrase best describes

your workshop?
(A) A selection of hand tools and

portable power tools
(B) A table saw or radial arm saw. along with hand tools and portable power tools

(C) A good selection of sta-tionary and portable power tools, along with hand tools

3 How involved do you want to become with woodworking, home repair and/or home maintenance?

Not very involved

Moderately involved

(C) Heavily involved

What's the likelihood that you'll buy some kind of woodworking tools within the next year?

A) Not likely (B) Somewnar III (C) Highly likely Somewhat likely

5 Which best describes you? (A) I do home repairs and maintenance only when it can't be done any other way

(B) I do some woodworking and a variety of home repairs and

maintenance

(C) I'm primarily interested in fine craftsmanship woodworking





How to find your score:

It's easy! Give yourself nine points for each (A) you circled, six for each (B) and three for each (C). Then enter your total on the coupor, fill in the special blank about Question #5 and enter your name and address. Mail the

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IMPROVE PICKUP'S MILEAGE

(Continued from page 102)

be disturbed as it went from the cab roof to the cap roof. It had to follow the cab contours as closely as possible, so there wouldn't be a windcatching edge sticking out on the sides. It had to have as smooth a surface as possible and be lightweight.

After examining several models, we decided on a Topper, from Brahma of Texas (601 Parkway Dr., Grand Prairie, Tex. 75051). Molded of Rovel-capped ABS, our Longbed Topper weighs less than 100 pounds-half as much as a comparable fiberglass cap. It fits as tightly around the cab as possible and has a pleasantly aerodynamic look. It also comes with built-in sliding win-dows-complete with inside bug screens-and a locking rear liftgate. All windows are tempered safety glass, and all hardware is aluminum.

Perhaps best of all, the Topper is light enough that two people can easily lift it on and off the truck. It rides on a band of self-adhesive foam weatherstripping, and it can be clamped or screwed to the bed. For our extra-long version, we used three clamps along each side, and one in the front.

Does the Topper improve fuel economy? Yes. From our open-bed baseline of 25.7 mpg, the Isuzu improved to an impressive 29.15 mpg with the Topper installed. That's a gain of 3.45 mpg, or 13.44 percent. Obviously, the improved laminar adhesion more than offsets the slightly increased weight.

Is it worth the expense? Well, that depends. If you went out and bought a camper top just to improve fuel economy, it would take you quite a while to get your money back. Our Brahma, for example, costs \$549, plus \$30 for the opera windows and \$45 for the sliding side windows. That totals \$624. Figured against our driving average of 10,000 miles per year, you'd save 46 gallons of gas each year. At \$1.50 per gallon, it would take you exactly nine years to pay for a Brahma Topper with the gas you'd save. Of course, the camper top field is huge and we haven't tested every top on the market. Payback periods vary on weight, price. design and mileage improvement.

On the other hand, if you want a cap for your truck because of the convenience and versatility it offers. but have been putting it off because you're afraid it might cut gas mileage, it doesn't. A cap definitely will improve fuel economy, and by a significant amount.

Obviously, if you can spend less for the Topper—and Brahmas are widely discounted by local dealers-or if you drive more than the national average-your payback period will be correspondingly quicker. And you'll get back most of the initial cost when you sell the truck, in any

The lesson is simple: well-designed tops and tonneau covers are cost-effective improvements you can make to a pickup truck.

Of course, many more modifications can be made to a pickup to improve mileage. In upcoming issues, the High-Mileage Files will test the value of water injection systems, alternate tire and wheel combinations, combustion catalysts, carburetors, manifolds, camshafts and a host of other devices.

The response to this series has been tremendous. Unfortunately, we don't have answers for all your questions. Testing mileage is timeconsuming and right now we're only equipped to handle one item per month. Address letters to High-Mileage Files, Popular Mechanics, 224 West 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019.

> Produced by the PM Auto Dept. Text: Rich Taylor



You might expect the president of Buck Knives to say that! But Chuck Buck backs it up with very convincing facts when he talks about his new Mustang (left) and its slightly smaller brother, the Colt.

"Nobody can match the new non-rusting springs our engineers created just for this new series," he points out with obvious pride.

Bolsters are heavier and are made of stainless steel, as are the liners. Handle inserts are handsome birchwood, chemically treated for long-lasting natural woodgrain beauty.

"Best of all," Buck says, "all three blades are hollowground, made of high-chrome, high-carbon steel that really holds an edge."

The Mustang is 3%" long, closed; the Colt, 3%". Finally, shaking his head, Chuck Buck admits, "The only way you can appreciate them is to see them, heft them, check their blades."

Ask your favorite dealer to let you heft these two new beauties ... from Buck, of course!

Knife Know-How booklet, write Dept. PM-382, P.O. Box 1267, El Cajon, CA 92022



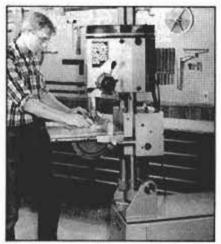
Famous for holding an edge!

PM LOOKS AT

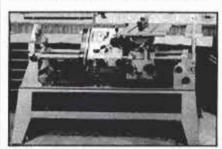
he Super Shop is a well-made multipurpose tool. Its 15amp., 21/2-hp motor produces speeds from 30 to 7,200 rpm, while converting normal household current (a.c.) to direct current (d.c.). Direct current-long preferred in industry-is more efficient.

With the head and carriage mounted on geared ways, the business end of the machine can be moved either manually or electrically by means of a small independent motor. Changeover is easier because a fast-acting collet and draw rod replace the conventional Allen-setscrew method of securing tools to the arbor.

The machine weighs pounds and costs about \$3,000. For complete information write to Super Shop, 11000 Hampshire Ave. S., Bloomington, Minn. 55438.—David Warren



Head moves easily from vertical to horizontal because torsion spring in pivot end counterbalances weight of head.



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Make box for still of exterior-grade plywood. Use resorcinol glue at joints. Cut Vnotch (see drawing) to suit roof pitch.

DRINKING WATER FROM THE SUN

(Continued from page 98)

rior latex enamel. A dark color will improve efficiency. Be sure no exposed wood remains. Install fiberglass insulation after paint is dry.

Give the evaporation pans two coats of rust-resistant paint—such as Versaflex or Rust-O-Crylic enamels. These are nontoxic and adhere to galvanized surfaces. Plumb the system as shown in the drawings. A handsaw can be used to cut the trough in half (after assembly).

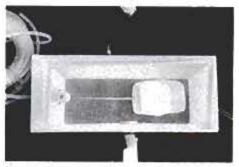


Use ½-in. PVC pipe to make feeder lines from the supply tank to the black evaporation pans. Use brass drains in the pans.

With help, take the unit up on the roof and position it where it will receive full sun, then make final connections.

If it's installed on a roof slope, attach a 2×4 cleat to the roof at the lower end of the still. Use lagscrews in the rafters and apply ample sealant at the holes. Run braided guy wires from the sides of the still to the eave. These will anchor the still. Install turnbuckles, but do not tighten yet.

Run the supply-line tubing to a convenient water supply and con-

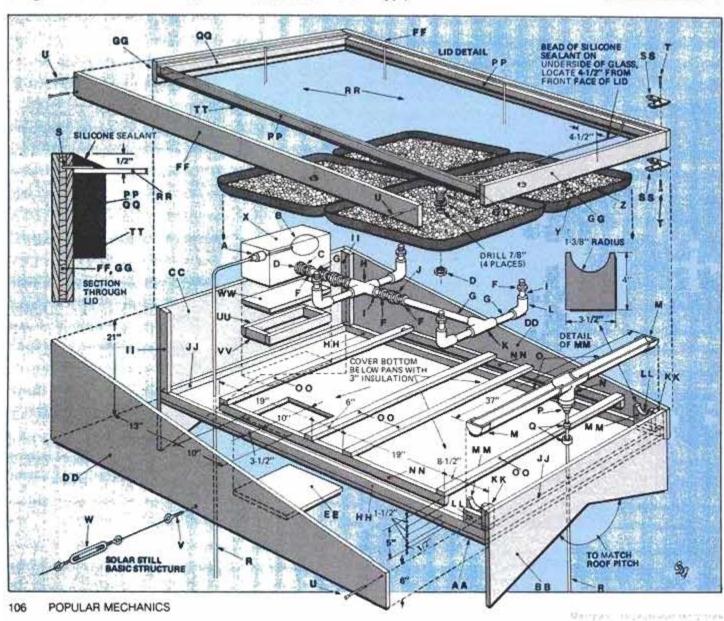


Supply tank, with float valve (Bobby Valve), controls water level in the still and is connected to cold-water supply.

nect through a valve. The output line should not be connected to the storage tank at this time.

Lay a small piece of screen over the openings in the evaporation pans, then spread a layer of black aquarium gravel over the surface of the pans. Since the evaporation of the water will deposit light-colored minerals in the pans, stir the black gravel periodically. This exposes a new surface and maintains the still's efficiency.

To prevent the growth of microor-(Please turn to page 170)



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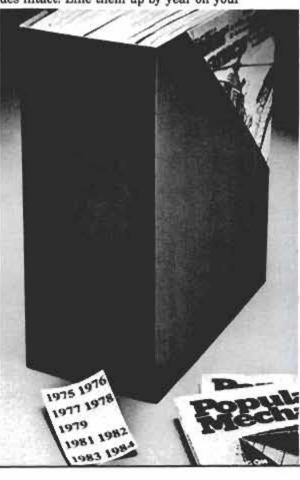
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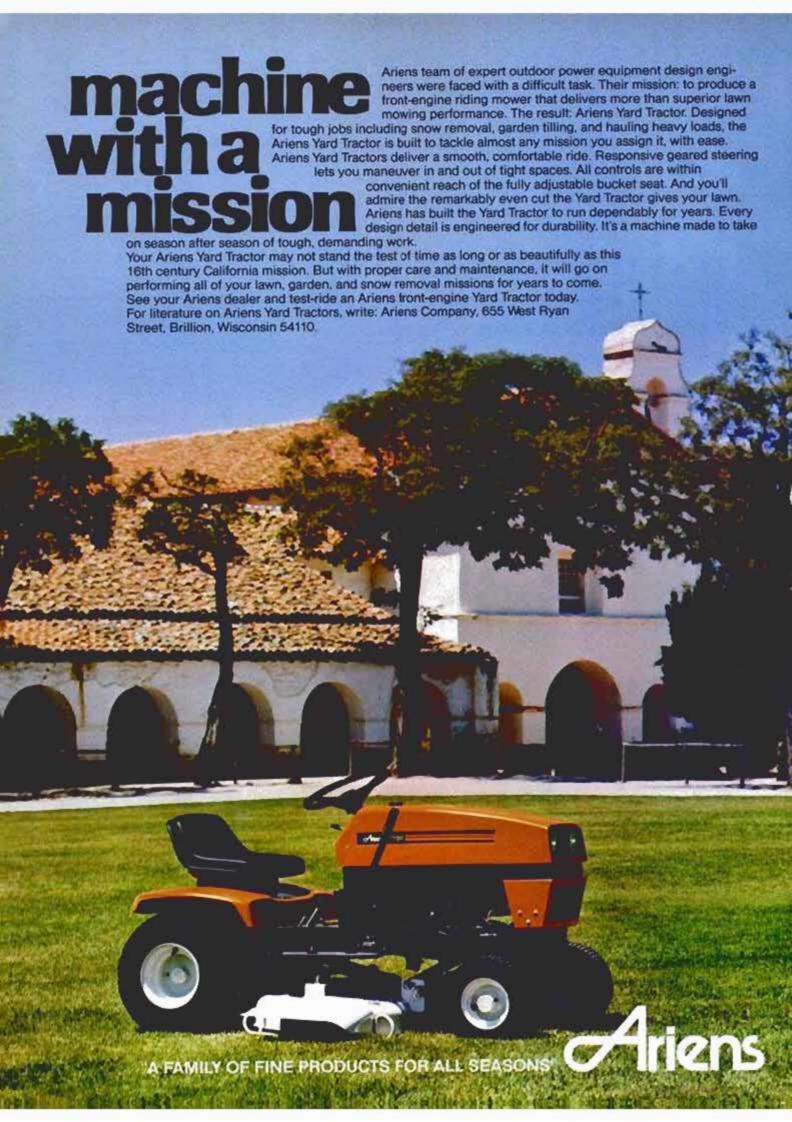
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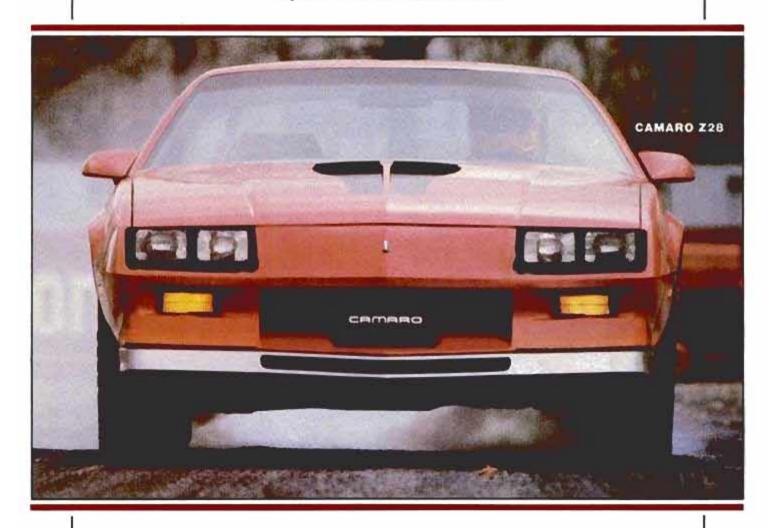


Popular Mechanics

DETROIT PUTS MUSCLE BACK IN

Z28, Capri RS, Charger 2.2, TC3 Turismo, Regal Turbo: Performance is back with a vengeance.

by Joe Oldham EXECUTIVE EDITOR



he trouble with all of us Americans is that we don't like to wait around. We're impatient. We want to get on with it. Now. And we're competitive, too. If we can get on with it quicker than the next guy, so much the better.

Since Henry Ford dropped the first high-performance engine into a car in 1903, cars have been a favorite way for Americans to express impatience. Who hasn't jammed his



cars of the 1960s-existed for one reason: to blow the doors off anyone who came up against you at a stoplight.

With the combined blitz of the insurance, safety, emissions and energy crowd, muscle cars and performance just about dried up and went away during the '70s. There were some vestiges left-Pontiac's Firebird Trans Am and Chevrolet's Corvette, to name a couple. But they were few and far between and the companies who made them seemed almost embarrassed to have them in their showroom lineup. It was almost antiso-

cial to drive one of these cars. However, performance-oriented buyers didn't all go away. In fact, they held steady. The Trans Am became the biggest seller in the Firebird lineup despite the tripling of gas prices. The Corvette has sold out every year for

the past decade. Some of the





Muscle cars exist for one reason: to blow the doors off anyone who comes up against you at a stoplight.

automakers noticed. Chevrolet brought back a Z28 version of the Camaro in 1977. Buick introduced a turbocharged V6 engine in many of its car lines. Pontiac added a turbo to its Trans Am. And cars like the Datsun 280ZX Turbo, Mazda RX-7, and other performance-oriented imports continued to sell in droves.

And now it's 1982 and guess what? Performance is back. And back big.

Robert D. Lund, General Motors vice president and general manager of Chevrolet, perhaps said it best at a recent press conference.

"Now that fuel economy is a given, we're going to start building some real performance cars again, cars with excitement, cars with pizazz."

In case you haven't heard, the '82 Camaro will be the pace car at the Indy 500 this year. And Chevy is looking for other venues to hype the performance virtues of its cars. Last year, Ford cranked up something called Special Vehicle Operations and imported Michael Kranefuss, Ford's European racing chief, to run it. Already, Ford Motorsports is making its presence felt in many areas of performance.

Chrysler, despite all its woes, continues its Direct Connection highperformance parts program, has already come up with several real performance packages for its cars and will have more in the future. Quiet, stolid Buick has a very active racing parts program going and a couple of real surprises under the hood for anyone willing to look past the velour casket-option interiors of its cars.

Yes, performance is back. Which is good news for anyone who enjoys driving a car with some real punch under his right foot. Performance still isn't up to the tarmac-tearing levels of the late '60s when you could fry rear tires at will. But when was the last time you drove a truly exciting car that could burn rubber off the line and chirp the tires shifting into second gear? The cars in this test all could do that. And if you don't think it's a lot of fun to drive cars like this, then you'd better go back to that Isuzu diesel automatic you've been thinking about.

An added ingredient is tight, responsive, superb handling—something almost totally missing from the '60s muscle cars.

To get a handle on what's being offered down at your friendly new car dealerships, we rounded up a bunch of the new '82 performance cars and headed out to Milan Dragway in Milan, Mich., for a day of tireshredding evaluation. The cars we requested from the manufacturers were a Chevrolet Z28 Camaro, a Mercury Capri RS 302HO, a Dodge Charger 2.2, a Plymouth TC3 Turismo, a Buick Regal Turbo Sport Coupe and a Pontiac Firebird Trans

Am. All but the Trans Am showed up. And after a day of thoroughly wringing out all these cars, we can tell you categorically that the fun is back in Detroit.

This wasn't a head-to-head test. We didn't formally pit one car against another, simply because the cars are different in concept from one another and would normally appeal to different buyers in different market segments. For instance, we can't see someone interested in a TC3 Turismo also considering a Buick Regal Turbo. But the thread of continuity here is that all these cars are advertised and hyped by their manufacturers as performance cars and, as such, they had to stand up to our rather rigorous scrutiny. And of course, the inevitable comparisons do crop up.

We've written about the features of these cars in our new-car reports in previous issues so we won't repeat all the details here. What we really wanted to be able to report was how quick they are.

Mercury Capri RS 302HO

We haven't formally tested a new '82 Corvette with its fuel-injected 350 engine as yet. But except for that one question mark, there's no doubt that any Capri (or its brother, the Ford Mustang) equipped with the new-for-'82 High Output 302 engine is the quickest car made in



America this year. Acceleration of this car is, in a word, thrilling. Here's one car sold in 1982 that really does have the performance feel of a 1960s muscle car.

From a dead stop, dropping the clutch and flooring the throttle will produce wheelspin-lots of wheelspin. The wheelspin will not stop until you lift your right foot. At the same time you are experiencing this wheelspin, you'll be pinned back in your bucket seat, your eyelids peeled back from the G forces acting on your body. Some respite comes when you slamshift the four-speed into second gear. But the wheelspin will be there again if you make the gear change with any alacrity at all. And prepare to be pinned back again as soon as the tires bite. Top end in this car is just a headlong charge through the timing lights, with the engine screaming, the exhaust blasting, and your adrenaline pumping for all it's worth.

The engine is what makes this car. It's the same old 302 that has been around for a generation. But Ford engineers Larry Kobernik and Dan Rivard breathed new life into it this year with some new components that truly make a difference that you can feel when you punch it. A large-capacity dual-snorkeled air cleaner, a larger 368 cu.-ft.-perminute two-barrel carb, different valve-train pieces including a hotter camshaft with greater lift and duration, a big hairy free-flow exhaust system, a four-speed stick shift, and 3.08 rear axle ratio complete the HO package. With these changes, the engine is rated 157 hp at 4,200 rpm

and 240 ft.-lb. of torque at 2,400 rpm.

All this hardware translates into a car that will rush you up to 60 mph from a standing start in just 7.43 seconds. And that's with a driver and 225-pound yours truly aboard. Lop off the heavyweight timekeeper and you should be able to hit 60 in seven seconds flat. That, sports fans, is hauling the ashes.

Our standard quarter-mile clockings resulted in a best run of 15.94 seconds elapsed time at 86.70 mph. The limiting factor on all our acceleration runs was not engine power. It was controlling the wheelspin that resulted every time we punched open the throttle. The 195/65R390 Michelin TRX tires (a standard part of the Capri's RS package) are great for over-the-road handling, but didn't prove to be the hot ticket for traction under hard acceleration. Once they broke loose, there was hardly any chance of recovery. With better gripping tires, we have no qualms about predicting 15-secondflat quarter-mile ETs for this car with no other changes.

The RS package also includes special springs, shocks, stabilizer bars, axle location links to control unwanted movement of the rear axle, and special trim and ornamentation. This special equipment allowed our test RS to acquit itself nicely on our standard 1,000-foot slalom course, a test designed to give us a good idea of transient response in a car. A real-world example of a transient response might be an emergency evasive maneuver to avoid a collision. The Capri blasted through the

gates in 12.61 seconds on one run and backed it up with a 12.66. Quick, but not the best time of the day. In addition, the Capri exhibited quite a bit of body roll during its transients while negotiating the pylons. Our test driver, Detroit Editor Gary Witzenburg, reported that the Capri took a lot of work to get it to go that quickly through the course. He thought the steering was too slow, too, which didn't help.

The Capri RS 302HO is somewhat of a throwback, a '60s muscle car taken to a higher level of engineering development. It's a guts car with lots of tactile feel coming through the seat at you. Most women won't like this car. Most men will.

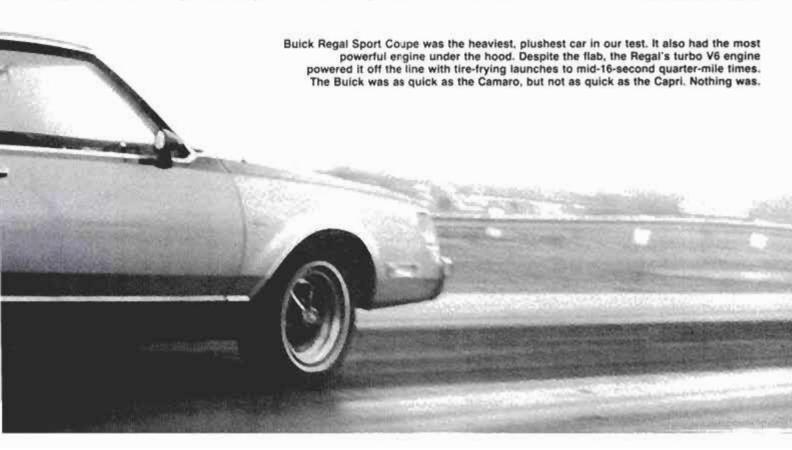
Chevrolet Camaro Z28

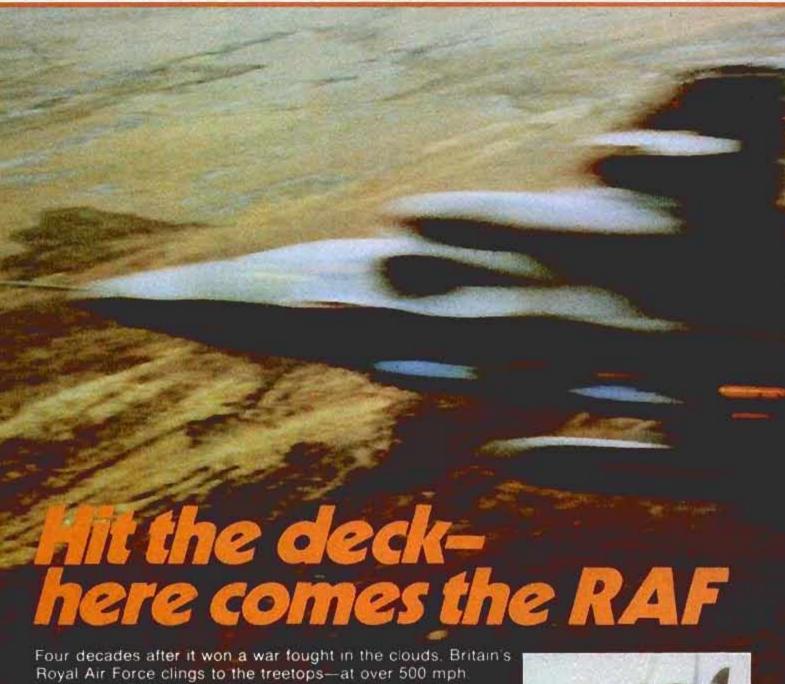
In last month's issue, we reported on the Camaro's world-class handling. But how does the Camaro's hairiest version, the twin crossram, fuel-injected 305 Z28, perform in a straight line?

Quite frankly, when we first drove the car at GM's Desert Proving Grounds last month in Mesa, Ariz., we thought it was a stone.

For a car to look like that, but perform rather lethargically, was an inexcusable error, in our opinion. Yes, the car could smoke its tires at will. But once the rear tires bit into the pavement and the wheelspin stopped, the car just didn't have that pin-you-to-the seat acceleration we thought it would. The reason was torque—or lack of it. The Camaro's 305-cu.-in. V8, coupled to a 2.94 rear axle ratio, simply did not

(Please turn to page 154)





by Edwin Kiester Jr.

The plane comes screaming over the landscape, barely clearing the treetops and church steeples, hurtling along at almost 600 mph. Approaching a wooded ridge, the pilot rolls the jet over on its back without changing altitude and skims the ridge upside down. Then, he banks and parallels the peak a few feet from angry rocks and trees. Sheep scatter in a pasture below and motorists duck instinctively as the plane roars over a highway. The travelers' startled looks melt into

smiles as they catch sight of the insignia that for 40 years has symbolized dash and daring—the red, white and blue bull's-eye of Great Britain's Royal Air Force.

In the darkest days of World War II, the outnumbered pilots of the RAF flew into history by holding off the Nazi bombers in the Battle of Britain. Today, flying another generation of planes designed for what could be a far different kind of war, the RAF maintains that proud tradition. Modern aerial warfare relies







Greatest low-level menace—birds

when it comes to combat, RAF pilots debate the greatest threat to low-level operations in terms of light flak or small-arms fire. But everybody agrees on the number one peacetime hazard: birdstrike. An island nation, Britain has its share of fair-sized seabirds, which don't recognize any higher



Low-level view from Hawk's rear seat.

airspace jurisdiction. "When you hit a seaguil, even a small one, at 600 miles per hour," says Air Commodore John Walker of the RAF, "you might as well be running into a cannon shell."

The problem is not endemic to Great Britain; tactical air forces around the world face a potential bird hazard every day. The U.S. Air Force counted more than 3,500 reports of birdstrike in a two-year period from 1978 to 1980, and the leader of its Thuncerbirds aerobatic team was killed last September when his T-38 collided with seagulls while taking off from a lakefront airport in Cleveland.

A great majority of bird hits take place at an altitude below 1,000 feet. The RAF has restricted its own aerobatic team to a minimum altitude of 250 feet during public performances, primarily to lessen the odds of a birdstrike.

Keeping grassy areas unmowed near runways can lessen the possibility that seagulls will loiter around airfields. But so far, nobody has fgured out how to dodge both enemy radar and birds at low level with 100-percent success.

Hawk gives advanced flight trainees a full aerobatic workout—plus spins (below).





Forty years later: Iron Cross files formation with British bull's-eye in joint Luftwaffe/RAF training program for new Tornado pilots.

primarily on electronic sensing and automatic weaponry, but the RAF's battle tactics still stress eyeball-to-eyeball flying skill. In the RAF view, a war in the 1980s would be fought right on the rooftops of Europe. Flying very low and very fast, RAF attack squadrons would duck under the enemy radar cover, and blur past missile defenses before they could react, to hit enemy targets.

"If the RAF is to be successful in a war role," declares an official briefing statement, "tactics demand that our operations be kept fast and low."

"The philosophy is this," says Graham Hammond of RAF Strike Command headquarters, still housed in the rural countryside bunker where Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris once directed forays against Germany. "If you fly high enough, long enough, the enemy will always get you."

Indeed, the bulk of British combat air strength is designed to operate a few aircraft-lengths above the terrain. In the division of missions within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), strategic (nuclear) strikes are the responsibility of the United States, while attack bombing, interception, maritime patrol and troop support are divided among the individual Allied air units, all integrated within a NATO command. RAF units are stationed primarily at forward positions in Germany, on antisubmarine patrol in Norway and at a string of bases in northeastern England and Scotland for aerial defense of the home islands and to back up forward units.

Apart from transports and other noncombatant craft, Phantom and Lightning fighters are the only planes intended for high-altitude use. Low-level aircraft include the long-range delta-winged Vulcan bomber; the shorter range Buccaneer, used for both land and sea tar-

gets; the single-seat Anglo-French Jaguar, a ground-support aircraft that, despite its relatively small size, can pack four tons of weapons; and the world's first operational vertical takeoff jet, the Harrier, which can operate from an urban tennis court.

The RAF is now phasing in an even newer low-level aircraft, the swing-wing Panavia Tornado, which will be used both as an attack bomber and a fighter. Modeled somewhat after the U.S. F-111, the Tornado is a joint project of the British, German and Italian air forces. The Tornado, like the F-111, carries terrain-following radar (TFR), allowing it to hug the ground with radar guidance, and full, all-weather attack capability. The first pilots from the three countries are now in training at a combined base in Leicestershire, and the first units will become operational later this year. By 1985,

the three countries will have 800 operational Tornadoes.

Officially, the RAF defines flying low and fast in terms of airspeed of Mach 0.8 (over 575 mph) and an altitude of 200 feet. Hair-raising as this sounds, pilots often regard these figures as a minimum, rather than a maximum.

"Operationally, we fly as low as we dare and as fast as we dare," says Air Commodore John R. Walker, air officer in charge of the Central Tactics and Trials Organization of Strike Command, whose office is charged with developing RAF combat plans. "As you increase altitude, the radar acquires you earlier, and the missile defenses pick you up quicker," Walker adds. "Thirty miles east of Hanover at 20,000 feet, you are vulnerable to many types of defense systems. But when you get down to 150 feet at 600 knots, the

(Please turn to page 146)



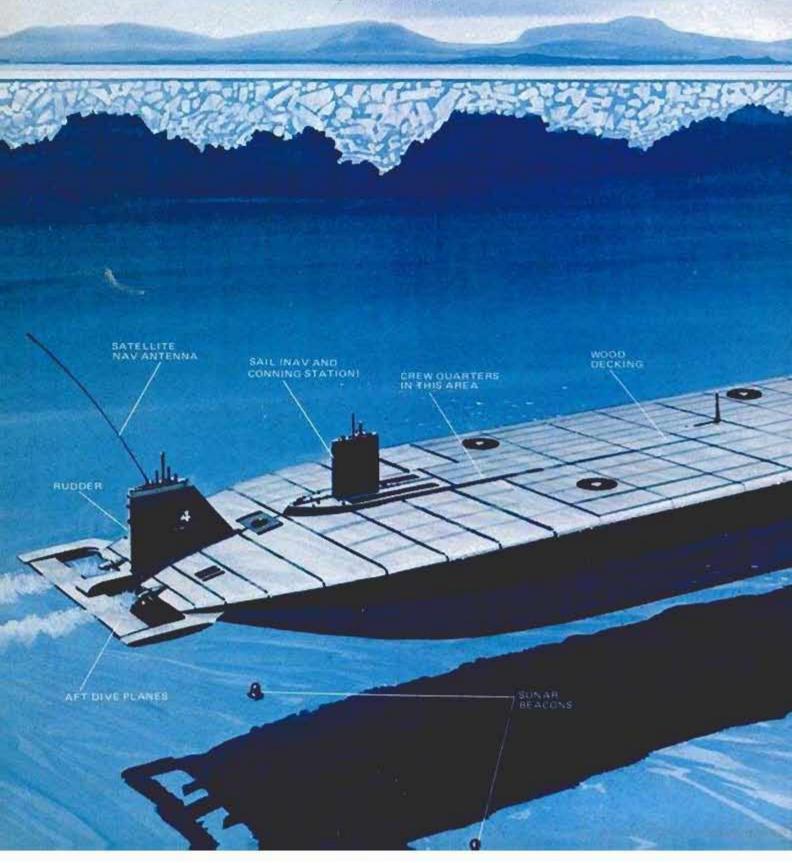
Low-flying RAF F-4 is practice target for British Army's latest ground-to-air system.

117



Can a steam-powered submarine, over a quarter-mile long, safely carry 60,000 tons of volatile liquid natural gas from Alaska to Europe at a profit? Its designers are betting it can.

by Robin Nelson

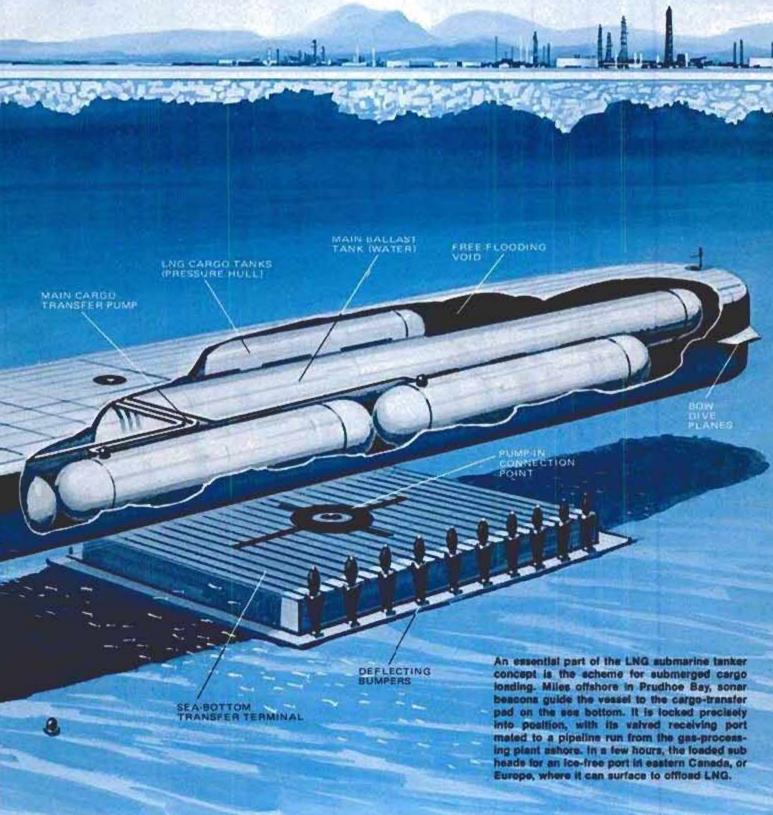


ike science fiction? Imagine a submarine with a hull 90 feet deep, and 140 feet wide for most of its length, which is, maybe, a little more than a quarter of a mile. Go completely wild and deck it with oak beams 10 by 10, sheathed in plywood. Then fill it with enough natural gas—compressed into a liquid for cryogenic storage at under

-260°F.—to incinerate a medium-sized city in one instantaneous fireball. Like it so far? Then put in a methanefired boiler, or even a nuclear reactor, to charge a turbine with enough superheated steam to drive two massive screws. Now, navigate the whole thing from Alaska to eastern Canada or Europe under the Polar icecap!

If you find it hard to take, even as sci-fi, you'll be happy to know that it's an entirely down-to-earth, dead-serious proposal from a group of marine architects, engineers and planners who already have produced fleets of both nuclear submarines and liquid natural gas (LNG) ships—many in service for more

(Please turn to page 182)





New arcade action at home Video mania is sweeping the quarter after quarter into coin slots. Here's how to bring all that excitement into your home.

by Neil Shapiro ELECTHONICS EDITOR

ast year, more than 20 billion quarters were fed into the insatiable coin slots in this country's video arcades. The fast-moving, complicated, highly detailed games are better—and more popular—than ever before.

Most dyed-in-the-wool video connoisseurs scoff at the idea of home-video games—they just don't offer all the action and color of their expensive, arcade counterparts. But lately, things have been changing, thanks to the advent of the affordable home computer.

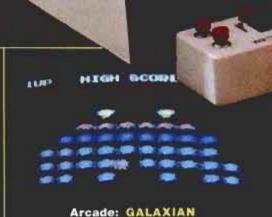
Many arcade games-from Space Invaders to Defender-

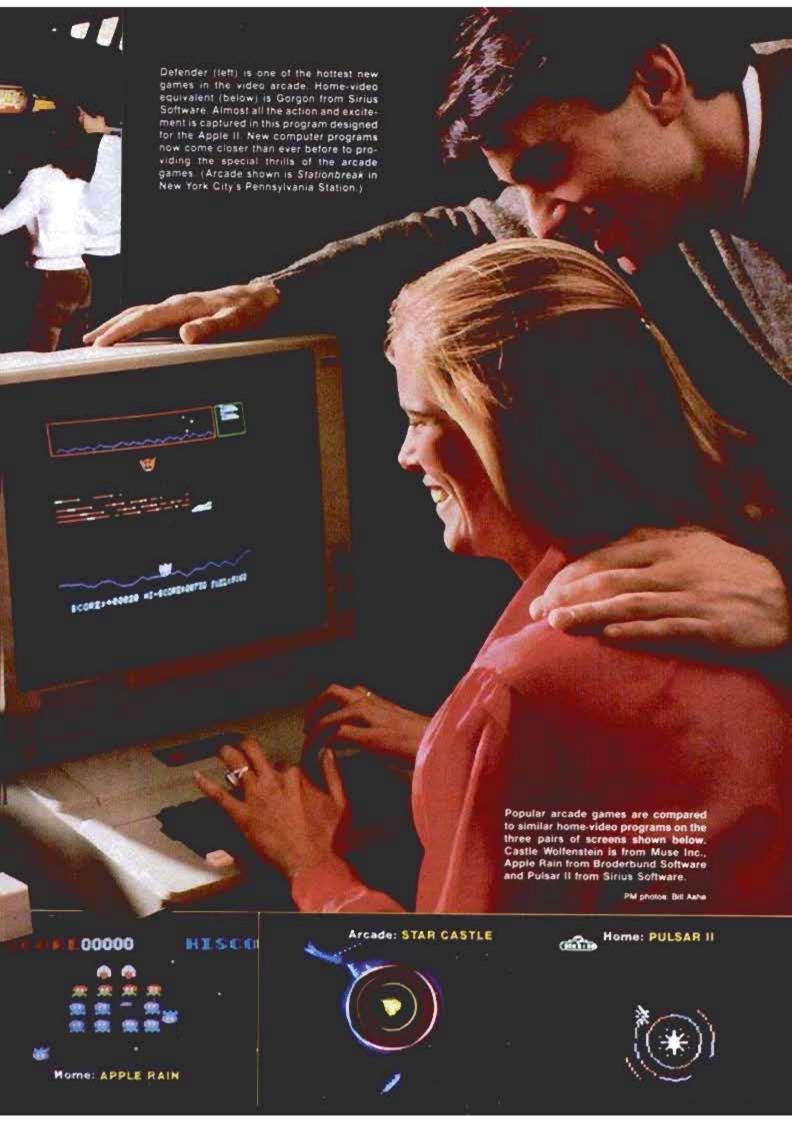
Arcade: BERZERK

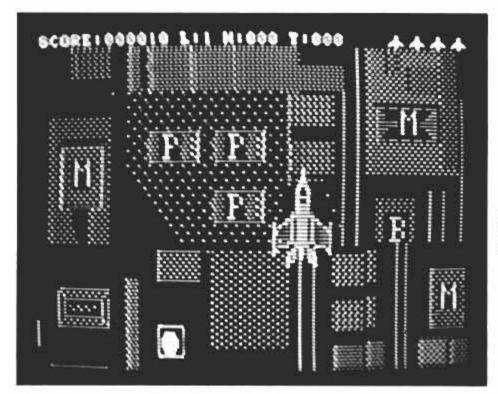


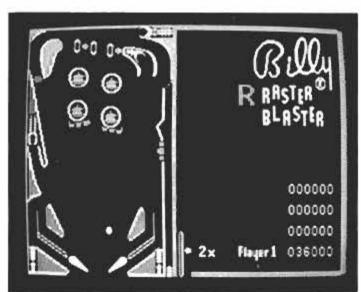
Home: CASTLE WOLFENSTEIN











PHANTOMS 5—You are the bombardier in a jet aircraft in this simulation. Bomba drop in long arcs as the ground whizzes by below. Avoid antiaircraft fire and you have a three-dimensional dogfight (Sirius Software).

RASTER BLASTER
—In this full-circle
switch, video games
now mimic their pinball ancestors. This
game has flippers,
bumpers, rollovers,
targets, sound effects, color—plus
realistic animation
(Budge Co.).

have similar home models available as programs for the Apple II computer (and some on the Atari 800). These programs cost from \$20 to \$40 apiece. But, once you own them, they can be reused as often as you wish. Equipment costs are steep at first glance. A typical Apple II setup may run \$1,500 for the basic machine and a disc drive. But the video-arcade units cost tens of thousands of dollars each. So a \$2,000 investment can simulate more than a million dollars worth of arcade equipment—minus the coin slots!

Detail and action

Take a look at any arcade game's screen up close and then compare it to most home-video games. The difference is usually apparent.

The video-arcade game's picture is made up of very tiny picture dots which are called "pixels." The homevideo screen uses larger dots that result in more blocklike artwork. Further, the picture on the arcadegame screen is brighter and faster moving.

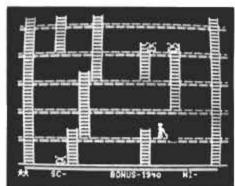
Most home-video games don't come close to duplicating arcade games in visual style or gaming technique. They just don't play the same.

Enter the computer

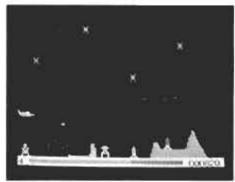
A typical arcade-game console costs from \$15,000 to over \$25,000. It contains a color video monitor, user controls and a computer. An arcade game is a very sophisticated computer.

But it's had its wings clipped.

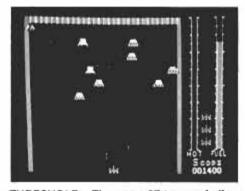
A computer operates on a program—a set of instructions which (Please turn to page 156)



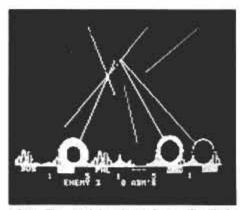
APPLE PANIC—This hilarious video game puts you in control of a little man surrounded by apple-shaped creatures that you try to exterminate (Broderbund).



PEGASUS II—Drop bombs, fire machine guns and try to elude defenders in this high-action game. Terrain can be changed. It's like arcade's Scramble (On-line Inc.).

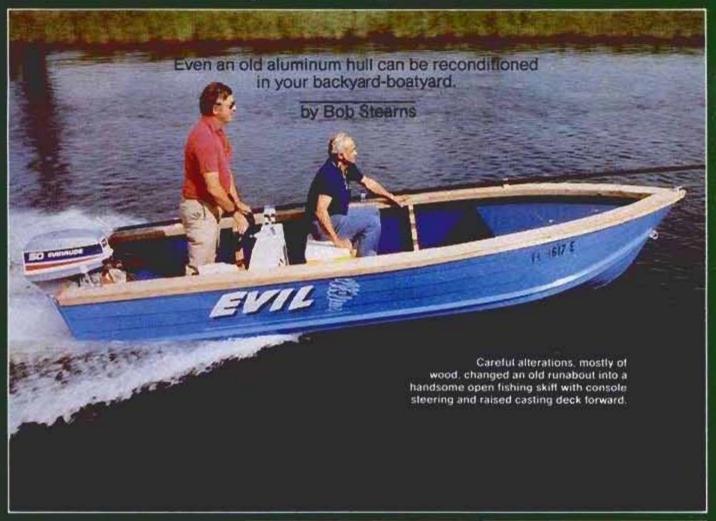


THRESHOLD—There are 27 types of alien attackers in this game—but you probably won't "live" to see them all. It features excellent animation (On-Line Inc.).



ABM—The Initials stand for antiballistic missile and it's up to you to shoot down incoming ICBMs. It's like the arcade game Missile Command (Muse Software).

From banged up to beautiful

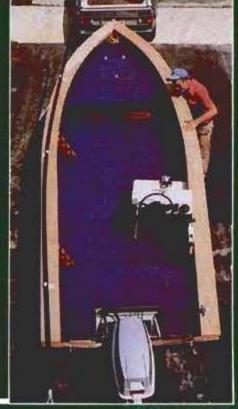


way to get around the cost of today's top-quality new ones, but working with a metal hull may scare you off. Fortunately, it scares a lot of would-be owners and you may find a good bargain as a result. Even a boat that looks far gone can be brought back to life, and you may find that many woodworking skills will help you rejuvenate a craft made of aluminum.

Ned Segar, a custom-fishingrod builder in Miami, needed a first-class fishing machine to test some of his rods but didn't want to sink a lot of money in it. First he searched through local boatyards, but finally found just what he was looking for—a 16foot aluminum hull that was still sound—in the back yard of a



With old foredeck removed to strip craft to bare hull (above), new decking and gunwales returned stiffness and strength to the boat. Attwood marine hardware, Teleflex steering, Soldek carpet add to new look.



(Please turn to page 194)

NEW SURVIVAL GEAR FOR

The most up-to-date outdoor equipment is capable of double

by Angus Laidlaw

A hurricane, blizzard, power failure or other disaster can take away civilization all of a sudden, even today, and put us in a life-ordeath situation. Emergencies often arise with little warning, but fortunately there are a number of new ways to prepare for them in advance. Products developed for everything from backpacking to space exploration are being adapted for household use, as homeowners store away supplies to see them through anything from a blackout to an earthquake.

Basic needs may include food, water, shelter and protection, communication and sanitary facilities. Most modern homes already have some survival gear on hand, although you don't call it that. Bathtubs, buckets and plastic garbage cans can be washed out and used for emergency water storage. Refrigerators and food freezers keep their

cool much longer if packed full and kept closed. Add dry ice if you have time and if it's available. Warmth can be supplied with a fireplace, or camp heater. Even candles supply essential light and enough heat to warm some foods when the power goes out.

When it's cold outside, the important consideration is keeping warm; it's much easier to retain heat than to try to rewarm a home. The new outdoor sporting equipment—ski clothes, down vests, thermal under-



duty indoors, as well.

wear, insulated boots, battery-heated socks and mittens-will all help. Recently developed synthetics such as Thinsulate, PolarGuard and Hollofil insulate clothing to help retain heat, and the metalized space blankets also retard heat loss. An outdoorsman's snow-country clothing makes for welcome indoor wear when the heat goes off.

Don't overlook your car outside, either, when electricity fails at home. As long as it isn't parked in a

(Please turn to page 192)

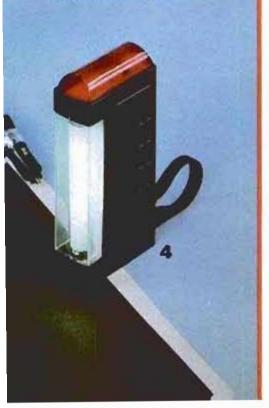
New home-and-highway aids (left): 1. SOS rescue unit combines 10 tools; one can cut car metal. 2. Pak-Kit contains shelter tent, flare, matches, cord, tape, blade. 3. GE HELP! CB plugs into car cigaret lighter to transmit. 4. Combo strobe/fluorescent light from Yolinda international gives illumination or red-flash warning.

Storage supplies (right) include: 1. Dehydrated bulk foods from Stow-A-Way Industries. 2. BiLan 25,

- a 12/115/220-volt refrigerator.

 3. Canned milk. 4. Packaged meals.

- Coleman Peak 1 mini-lantern.
 Coleman backpack stove.
 Waterproof matches and oversize candies. 8. Super Straw for water purification treatment.

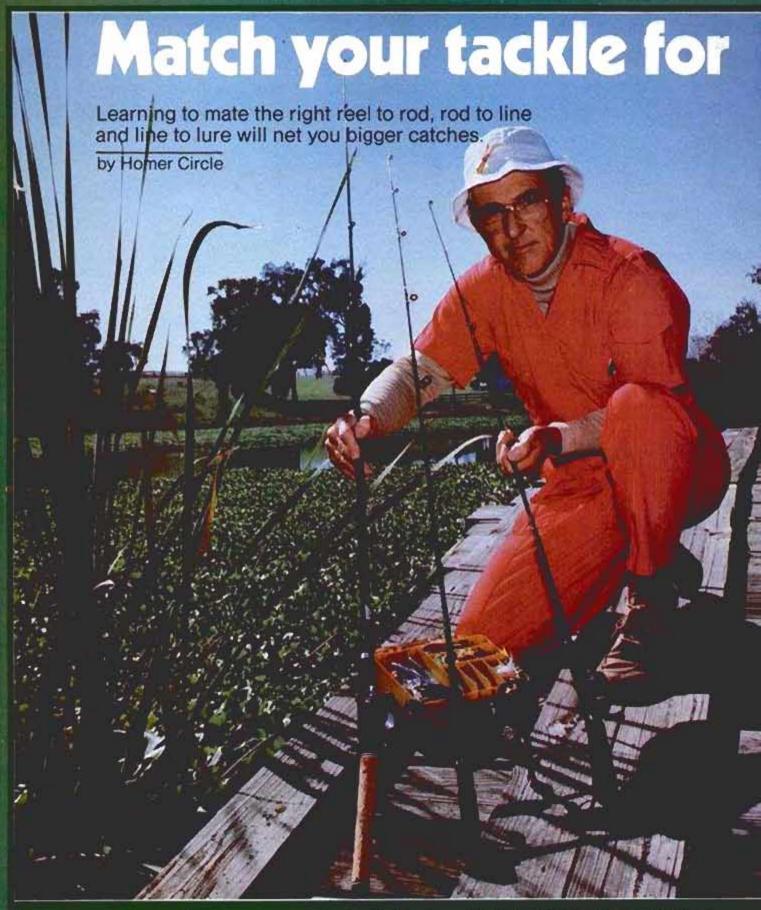






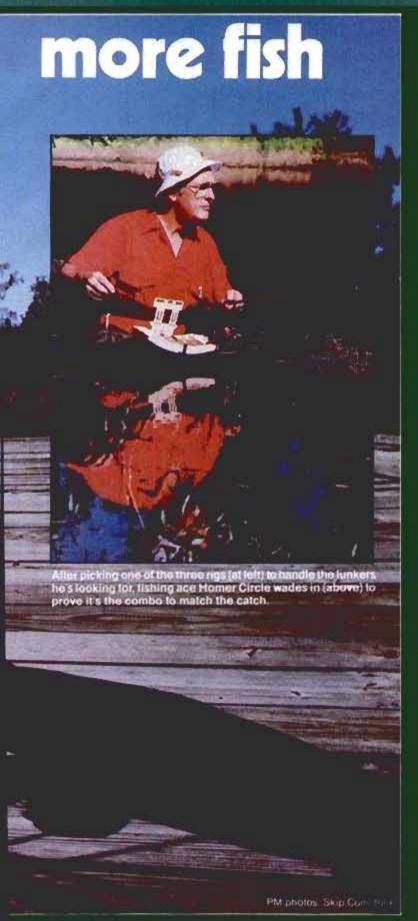
Take-down guns to store for emergency include: 1. Charter Arms' new Explorer II .22 autoloader pistol with three interchangeable barrels. 2. The Charter AR-7 Explorer carbine .22 (assembled above) comes apart to fit barrel and receiver into waterproof stock. 3. Skachet is a knifehammer-hatchet head.

PM photos Steve Fav



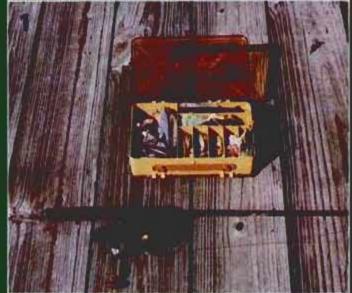
The most common fishing error usually is made when a fisherman buys his first outfit. He selects one rig, expects it to be the answer for all his fishing needs, and his catching suffers as a result. It's something like a farmer who looks to one vehicle for plowing fields, hauling supplies. baling hay and taking the family to church on Sundays. It just doesn't work.

Trying to find one do-it-all fishing rig is much the same. The proper approach, instead, is to get the outfit which will do the best job of reaching and enticing the fish you plan to catch. Let's



break this down into three categories that will work for tyros and experienced fishermen alike.

This involves three different rigs, mainly because of the assorted sizes and habitats of the most popular fish species around the country. These are the smaller







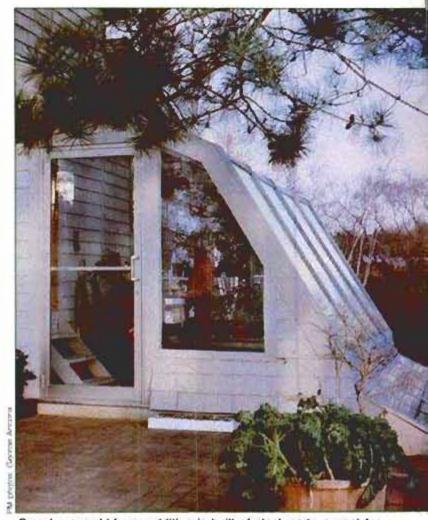
- 1 Open-tace spinning reel is a favorite for medium-sized fish. Rod strength and action must match line and lure.
- 2 Bait-casting, revolving-spool reel takes some skill to handle, but it can fight fish of varying size and weight.
- 3 Spin-casting, closed-face reel may be easiest for young and beginning fishermen. It also is available as an ultra light.



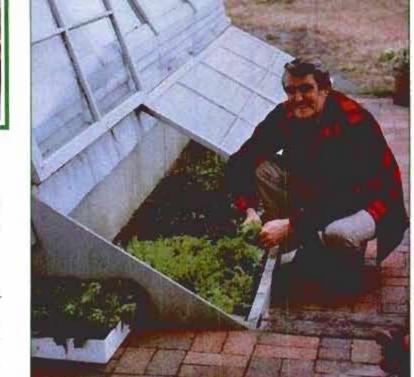
Build this greenhouse with a cold frame and extend the growing season

Master gardener Dick Raymond shares the plans for his greenhouse/cold frame with PM readers.





Greenhouse cold-frame addition is built of stock parts, except for window next to the door and a duplicate on opposite wall; these can be made by a glazier. Dick Raymond shows off seedlings in the cold frame (below) where they harden before outdoor planting.



You can sow the seeds for your vegetable garden early in the season inside this greenhouse. You can then harden the seedlings by moving them to the attached cold frame, before planting them outdoors when weather permits. The greenhouse/cold-frame combination lets you enjoy juicy red tomatoes, cucumbers, squash and other vegetables fresh from your garden much earlier than they usually ripen.

The combination structure allows master gardener Dick Raymond to start his planting season to ensure a good yield early—and throughout the planting season. The structure, built of readily available parts, can also be used to maintain flowering plants and lush foliage during the coldest winter months, when you'll be most grateful for the greenery.

A system of thermostatically controlled exhaust fans vents air from the greenhouse to the house and outdoors. This provides the house with solar heat on sunny days and guards against the greenhouse overheating. These shutter-mounted exhaust fans are readily available; Dick used Dayton fans by W.W. Grainger Inc., 5959 Howard St., Chicago, Ill. 60648.

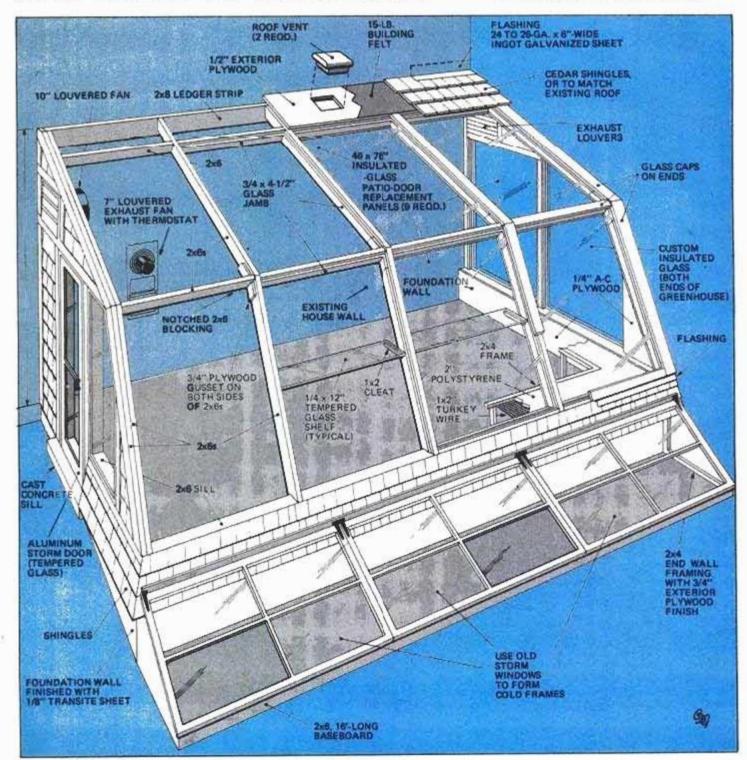
For good heat retention, the greenhouse is glazed with 1-in.-thick double-glazed, patio-door replacement panels. Those on the roof are pitched at an angle to gain maximum solar benefits in the winter when the sun angle is low. The foundation is insulated with 2-in. Styrofoam as shown.

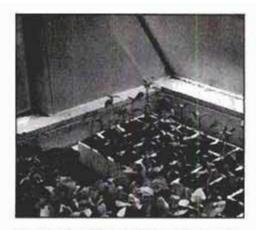
After determining the greenhouse location, lay out the exterior building lines using mason's line and pointed stakes; check corners for square. Determine the depth of the frostline for your area; it will be included with other necessary information in local building codes.

Excavate for the footings and foundation walls. You probably won't need forms to pour the footing. Simply dig a neat trench to required depth and width. The following foundation block wall is insulated, then covered by transite board.



Fan at left draws cool air in; stacked pair at right (bottom unit not visible in photo) are thermostatically controlled to move air from greenhouse to house on demand.





Corner detail of the greenhouse shows the sill plate, 2×6 stud and sheathing. The plant flats rest on removable ledges.



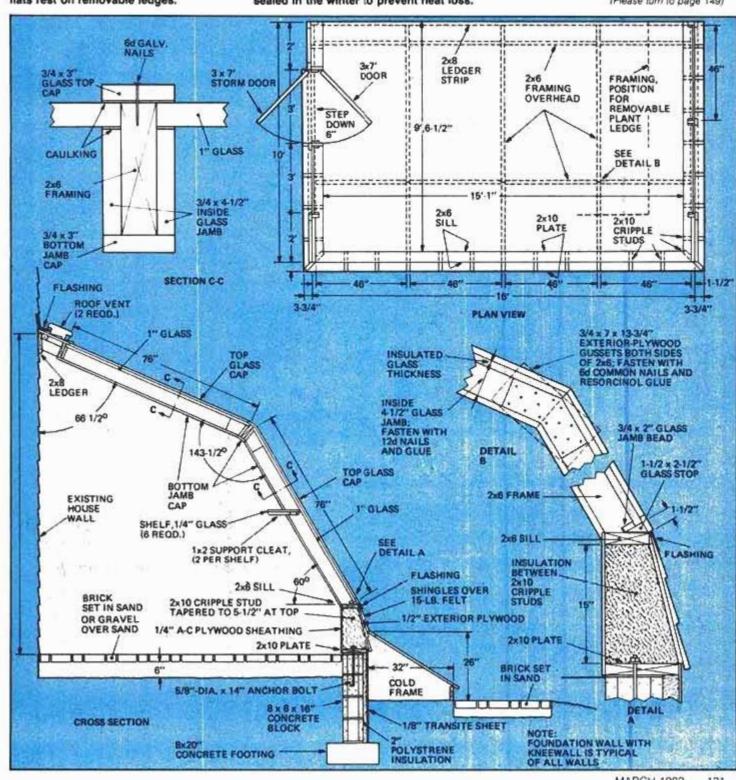
Double roof vents draw off warm air from the greenhouse by convection. Both are sealed in the winter to prevent heat loss.

The greenhouse floor consists of 6 in. of sand covered with 2 in. of gravel. If you prefer, install a brick-insand floor covering. Just make certain that the 6-in. layer of sand is well compacted at the correct elevation. The sill is sealed and anchored to the cement blocks.

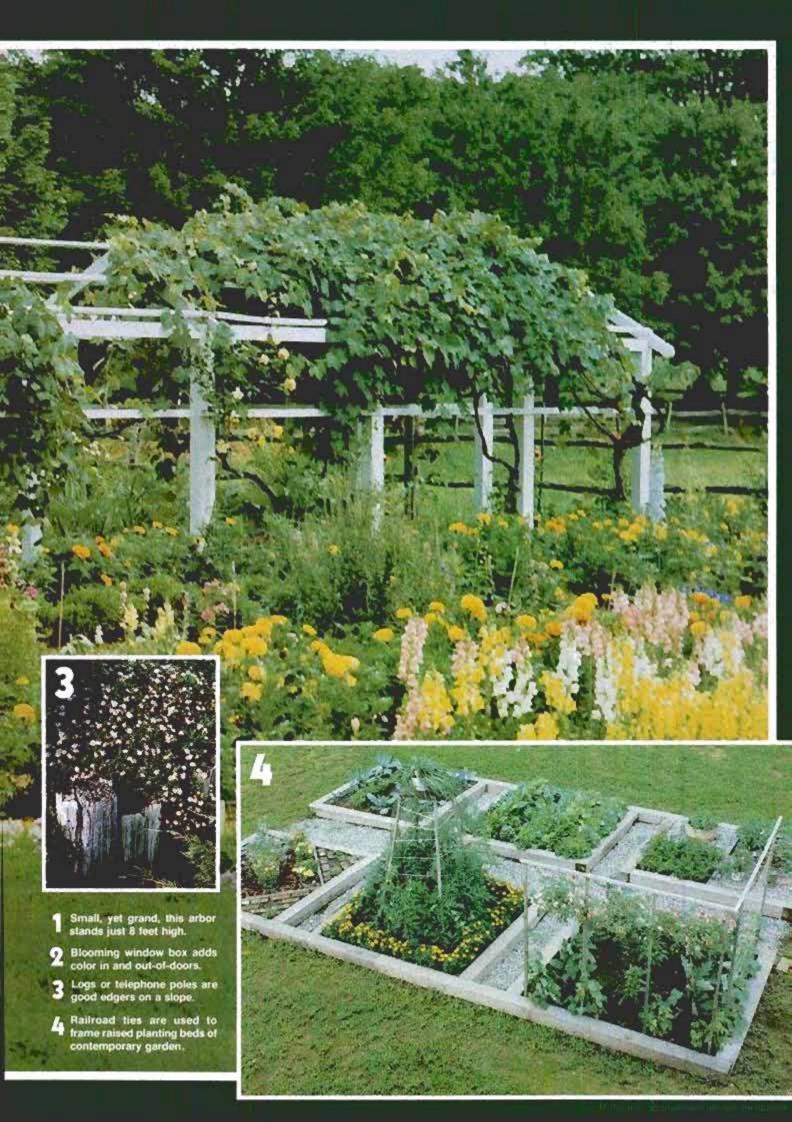
The greenhouse is framed with 2×6s, using conventional framing methods. Later, the framing members are clad with %-in. pine stock. Gussets are used on both sides of all sidewall roof joints.

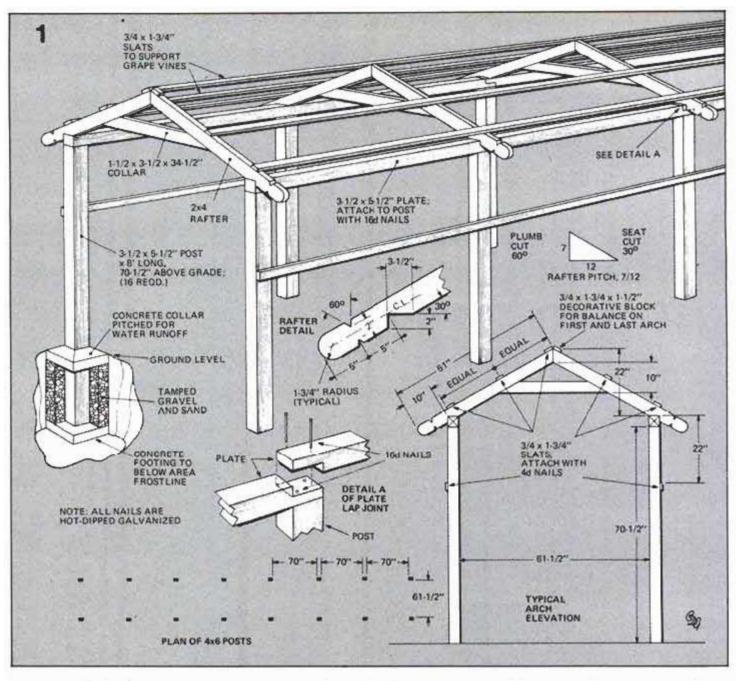
Since the roof pitch may vary from that shown, complete all of the framing before measuring the two open-

(Please turn to page 149)









retreat for back-yard get-togethers. Window boxes are an all-time favorite; our redwood version (project No. 2) has a scalloped edge at the front. Telephone poles or treated logs installed on sloping land (project No. 3) serve to contain both plants and soil. Project No. 4 features railroad ties framing raised planting beds of enriched soil.

1 Arbor

Since this arbor stands just 8 ft. high at the ridge, if you grow grapes on it you can harvest them without the need for a ladder.

Because of its ability to resist damage from insects and earth, pressure-treated wood is the suggested material for building the arbor. Or you can use conventional

> Photos project No. 1 Molly Adams: projects Nos. 2-4 and log planter. Elvin MacDonald. technical art. Carl DeGroote

lumber and treat it with a commercial preservative. Follow the directions carefully if you choose this route. Allow the lumber to dry completely after such treatment, then finish it with a quality, water-base exterior paint.

Set the posts securely into the ground on concrete footings as shown in the drawing (above). Check each post with a spirit level to make certain it is plumb. Hold posts true using diagonal braces nailed to ground stakes, while you backfill the holes with crushed gravel. Finish up by pouring concrete collars with pitched shoulders for water runoff.

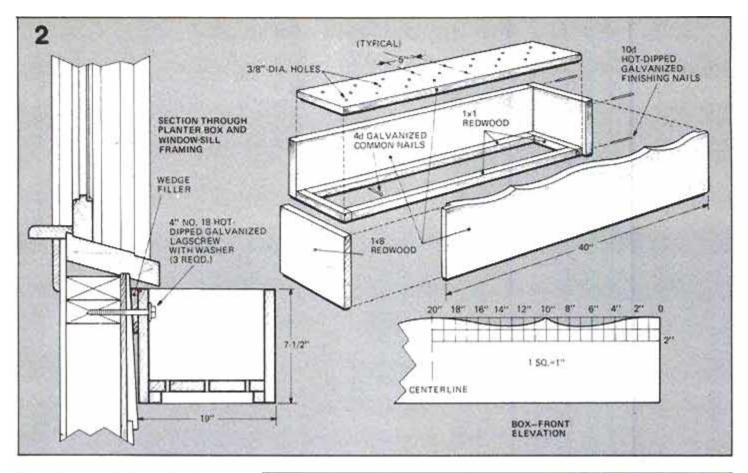
Join the top plates using lap joints (detail A). Attach the plates to the posts with 16d nails. Fasten the horizontal runners, one on each side of the arbor, to the posts with 4d common nails. (If vines are hefty, use 6d common nails.)

The rafters rise 7 in. vertically in each 12 in. of horizontal run (1/12) pitch). Lay the first rafter across a pair of sawhorses and lay out for the ridge and bird's-mouth cuts, using the drawing as your guide. Since these rafters will be exposed, make the cuts using either sabre or hand crosscut saw. Use the sabre saw to make the decorative tail cut.

Using the first rafter as a template, mark and cut the second rafter. Position the two rafters on the ground to check for fit and pitch. Adjust the cuts, if necessary.

Now, using the first-cut rafter as your template, mark all remaining rafters to be cut.

Repeat the procedure for the collar beams. Cut the first one and check it for fit on a pair of rafters. When you're satisfied with the length and cuts, you can use the first collar beam as the pattern for cut-



ting the remaining collar beams.

For the next part of the job, you will need a helper. Assemble all the rafter-collar beam units on the ground at one time. Then hoist them, one at a time, into position on the arbor top plates. Align each triangle carefully and, while one person holds it in place, the other should secure the unit to the top plates using 16d common nails (toenailed through rafter sides into the plates).

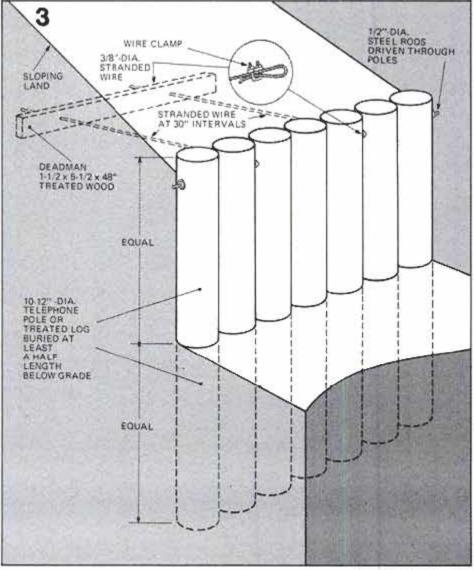
To prevent the triangular section from falling over—remember, at this stage it is held only by those nails at the plates—stand a temporary 2×4 brace alongside each unit and tack-nail it to one of the rafters near the ridge. The bottom end of the brace should be tack-nailed to a stake in the ground.

Once the vine-supporting slats are in place, the unit will be tied together and the temporary braces can be removed. Cut and fasten the arbor slats to the rafters with 4d nails (6d, if those vines are heavy) before positioning the arch. The slat members are just butted together; all such joints should be over a rafter.

2 Window box

This redwood window box is a super-easy project. Parts are simply butt-joined, except for the front, which has rabbetted ends to accept the sidepieces.

You can lower the cost of (Please turn to page 184)



A master gardener's plan for a bountiful harvest—with very little work

Mulching, watering and pest-control systems mean practically no work for you.

Here's a tempting sampling of the harvest from my vegetable garden. Highlights include: giant two-pound tomatoes and ripe spephett squash, which are \$2.50 each at markets.

by Derek Fell

ow would you like to grow a vegetable garden in which there are no weeds and no serious pest damage; where there is no digging after the first year and no manual watering? Yet, despite the minimal effort, the garden is highly productive, beginning early in the season.

I have tended such a garden the past three years. A system of mulching that utilizes black plastic prevents weeds from growing. After the first year's digging to make raised growing rows, I simply replenish the soil each year with compost. Instead of hosing or sprinkling, inexpensive drip irrigation makes watering automatic and effi-

cient. Organic pest controls keep pests away.

The garden shown is 15 x 41 ft. You can dig your own site in spring and divide it into 2-ft.-wide by 4-to-5-in.-high raised rows, with 1-ft.-wide walk-ways. To raise the rows, rake the soil from the walkways or use compost. Level them on top.

Midway at the garden edge lay two 150-ft. lengths of polyflex drip irrigation hose with 2-ft. emitter spacings, along the middle of the rows, in opposite directions, snaked up one row and down the next. Connect the two hoses to a water spigot with a Y-valve. Every inch of row can be watered in 30 minutes.

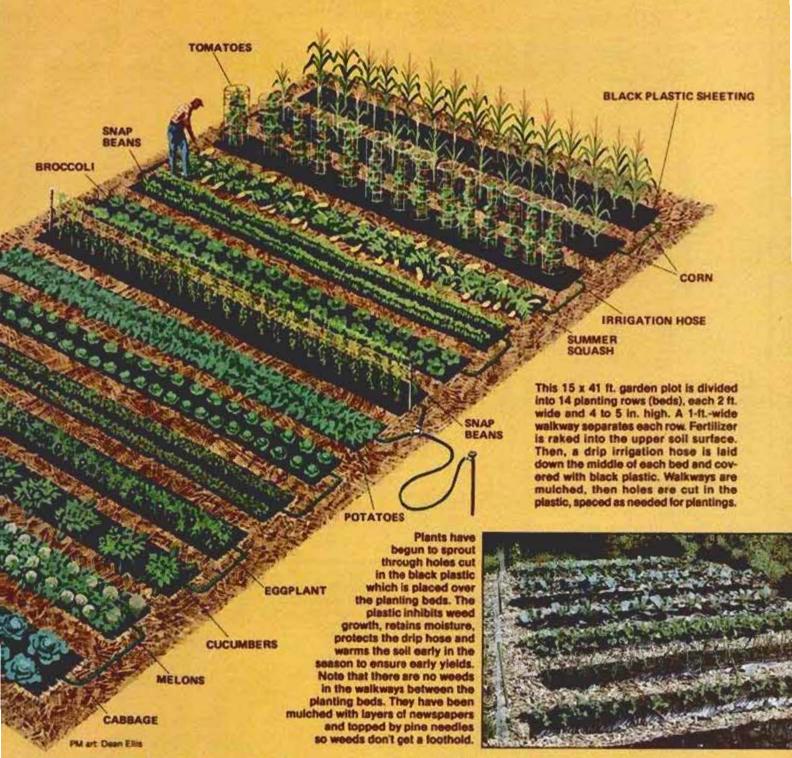
Next, cover the raised beds with 3-ft.-wide rolls of black plastic, leaving a 1-to 2-in. lip along the walkway for soil anchorage. On the walkways place layers of newspapers, then pine needles, to form an impenetrable, attractive mulch. Cut holes in the plastic for seeds and transplants.

LETTUCE

I leave the plastic in place all winter; it warms the soil early and prevents insects. In spring, replace the plastic after conditioning the soil.

To control pests, I use a rotenonepyrethrum or a diatomaceous earthpyrethrum mixture insecticide. Both are made from natural compounds that leave no residue. Apply insecticide early to keep pests at bay. Also,

Derek Fell is the author of Vegetables—How to Select, Grow and Enjoy, to be published this spring for \$8.95 postpaid by H. P. Books, Box 5367, Tucson, Ariz, 85703.





Three garden rows (foreground) are already covered with plastic, and adjoining walkways are mulched. Drip irrigation hose is still visible in the remaining rows.

clean up dead vegetation in fall to prevent pests from wintering.

To maintain nutrient levels, I use compost with bone meal added. For tomatoes, peas and heavy feeders, I also use liquid fertilizer.

GARDEN EXPENSES, BASED ON THREE YEARS OF HARVESTS

A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	•
Drip irrigation hose *	
30 ft., \$40 amortized over three years	\$15.33
Siamese shutoff valve, \$2.95 over three years	.98
Black polyethylene plastic, 1 % mils x 3 ft, x 300 ft	12.00
Granular fertilizer, 10-lb. bag	3.95
Foliar fertilizer, 1-lb. bag	4.25
Granulated firmestone, 10-lb, big	5.00
Tilting, 120 over three years.	6.67
Seeds	23.87
Quart sprayer, \$15.75 over three years	5.25
Tomato towers, \$21 over three years	7.00
Chicken-wire fence around entire garden.	
120 ft. \$15 over three years	5.00
Total expenses per year:	\$87.30
The state of the s	100

*International trigation Systems, Box 160, 1555 Third Ave., Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

APPROXIMATE GARDEN	YIELDS
Bed 1-Sweet corn, 50 ears @ 126/ear.	1 6.00
Bed 2-Sweet corn. 50 ears @ 129/ear	
Bed 3-Tomatoes, 200 lbs. @ 594/lb.	118.00
Bed 4-Summer squash, 190 lbs. 6/ 50¢	/lb. 95.00
Bed 5-Snap beans, 36 lbs. @ 794/lb.	28.44
Lettuce, 38 heads @ 79€/head	30.02
Bed 6-Broccoli 24 heads @ \$1.00/head	d 24.00
Brussels sprouts, 72 pints @ 754/	pint 54.00
Bed 7-Snap beans, 36 lbs 6 79¢/lb.	28.44
• Snap peas. 25 lbs. #9 794/lb.	19.75
Bed 8-Potatoes, 86 lbs. @ 35¢/lb.	30.10
Bed 9Lettuce, 38 heads @ 799/head.	30.02
*Cauliflower, 24 heads @ \$1.00/h	ead 24.00
Bed 10-Strawberries, 36 pints @ 900/pin	1 32.40
Bed 11-Peppers. 24 lbs. @ 504/lb.	12.00
Eggplant, 50 lbs. @ 504/lb.	25.00
Bed 12-Cucumbers, 84 8 454 each	37.80
Bed 13-Cantaloupes, 42 @ \$1.00 each	42.00
Bed 14Cabbage, 24 heads, 6 lbs	
each, 204/lb.	28.80
Chinese cabbage, 24 heads	
@ 79¢/head	18.96
Spaghetti squash (growing on fence)	
35 at 5 lbs. each @ 50¢/lb	87.50
	NSES: \$87 30
*Second Planting PRI	OFIT: \$690.93

The Rain Bird Model 15103 is an underground impulse sprinkler that can spray a full circle or any part of a circle in radii of 20 to 37 ft. According to the maker, such large coverage reduces the number of spray heads needed and the amount of trenching to be dug by as much as 45 percent. Because the sprinkler head pops up 3 In. when the water is turned on, this unit can be installed far enough below ground level to avoid damage from lawnmowers. Made by Rain Bird Sprinkler Manufactur-Ing Corp., 7045 North Grand Ave., Glendora, Calif. 91740, it's available for \$19.95 at home and garden centers.



The Soil-Warming Cable is a 110-volt, waterproof electrical cable that keeps soil in transplanting flats at a constant tem-perature of 70° F. According to the maker, plants started and grown in warm soil will be more resilient when moved outdoors. The cables are sold in 12-, 24-, 36-, 48- and 60-ft. lengths for soil areas of 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 sq. ft. (2 to 3 in. deep). They're \$8 to \$13 at home and garden centers or from the manufacturer: Easy-Heat Wirekraft, U.S. 20 E., New Carlisle, Ind. 46552.



The Model 650 is a new, diesel-powered compact utility tractor made by Deere and Co., John Deere Rd., Moline, III, 61265. It has eight forward and two reverse speeds and 11.3-in. ground clearance. Its two-cylinder, water-cooled, 52.1-cu.-in. engine delivers 14.5 hp at the attachment's power takeoff. Dual brake pedals, 12-volt starting system and 6.2-gal, fuel capacity are standard; mechanical front-wheel drive and power steering are optional. The tractor lists for about \$5,700 at John Deere dealers.

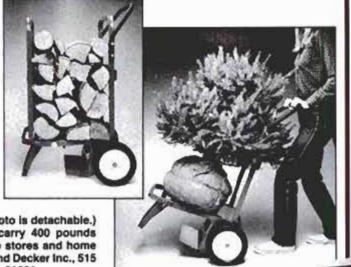
A new, lightweight contractor's wheelbarrow, called the Tough N' Lite, is now available at hardware stores and home centers. Made by Kelley Manufacturing Co., Box 1317, Houston, Tex. 77001, it weighs 49 pounds and has a heaped capacity of 5.75 cu.ft. The tray is made of cross-linked polyethylene; the undercarriage is of heavy-gauge steel attached to 60-in.-long hardwood handles. With a 16-in.-dia. pneumatic tire mounted on ball-bearing hubs, the product sells for about \$130.

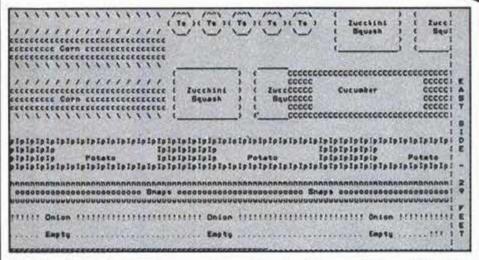


lawn and garden

Haul-In-One is a 44-lb., collapsible garden cart and hand truck, rolled into one. It's made of 18-gauge steel and painted with red epoxy paint to resist corrosion. The frame measures 16 × 21½ × 42 in. when foided; when open, the 16-in.-wide bed extends to 23½ in. (The front upright frame

shown in near-right photo is detachable.)
The Haul-In-One can carry 400 pounds
and is \$99 at hardware stores and home
centers. It's by Black and Decker Inc., 515
Glebe Rd., Easton, Md. 21601.



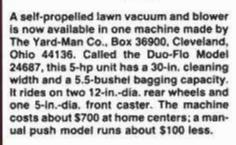


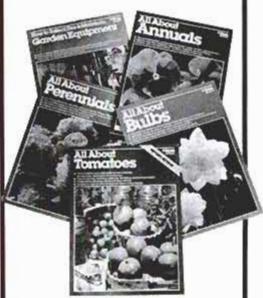
The Smarter Garden Pian is a computer analysis of garden organization and planting that is adapted to a specific gardener's area, climate and altitude. It's derived from a questionnaire on garden size and shape, soil type, weeding methods and desired vegetables. The plan gives a planting timetable and a computer graphic (above) that shows where to plant each vegetable in your plot. The analysis is \$3.95 from Northrup King Co., Box 1615, Dept. PM 382, Minneapolis, Minn. 55440. Write for free questionnaire.



The Multi-Tote is a new, light-weight carryall made of polished aluminum and high-impact plastic. The upper bin measures 3% × 11 × 13 in. and the waterproof drawer measures 3 × 11 × 13 in. The handles extend 12 in. shove the bin and are equipped with a handle brace—so axes and mauls can be carried upright—and a handgrip for car-

rying comfort. The product weighs 2 pounds and, according to the manufacturer, its bright red and yellow coloring makes it easy to spot if you're in the woods or working in heavy brush. The tote costs about \$19.95 and is made by Namaar Enterprises Inc., Box 81, Dept. PM 382 Concord, Ont. L4K 1B2. For information on the location of the nearest distributor, write directly to the manufacturer.





Five new books that cover a wide range of gardening concerns—from proper planting and cultivating of garden plants to care and maintenance of garden equipment—will be available this spring. Published by Ortho Books, Chevron Chemical Co., 575 Market St., San Francisco, Calif. 94105, the titles are All About Buibs, All About Annuals, All About Perennials, All About Tomatoes, and How to Select, Use and Maintain Garden Equipment. Each book is \$5.95 at bookstores.

A craftsman's prize-winning Duncan Phyfe table











This beautiful reproduction was the grand prize winner in Stanley Tools' annual woodworking contest.

by Harry Wicks HOME AND SHOP EDITOR and Steve Willson ASSISTANT HOME AND SHOP EDITOR

pleased to feature a project by one of the winners in the national contest sponsored by Stanley Tools, the well-known hand-tool manufacturing firm. The contest is designed for students in

Finely and lovingly handcrafted, this reproduction of a Duncan Phyfe drop-leaf table is the prize-winning product of 17-year-old woodworker Joseph lannuzzi. Its solid African mahogany construction, attention to ornate detail and excellent craftsmanship reveal skills far beyond his years. The close-up photos at left and top left prove the point eloquently: 1. detail of leaves on leg; 2. columns between the base block and tabletop; 3. base block, also intricately carved; 4. hand-cut dovetail drawer joint. The elaborate table project took young craftsman lannuzzi approximately four months to complete, from start to finish.

grades 9 to 12. To enter, a student under the guidance of his or her woodworking instructor must design, build and finish a piece of fine furniture. In addition, each contestant is required to submit plans, along with a materials list and photographs of the finished project.

From these entries, finalists are selected and their entries are carefully crated and shipped to Stanley's national headquarters in New Britain, Conn., for final judging.

This time, the judges awarded the grand prize of \$2,000 in savings bonds to Joseph Iannuzzi, a 17-year-old senior at Everett (Mass.) Vocational High School. His craftsmanlike reproduction of a Duncan Phyfe table reflects both his hard work and the dedication of his shop instructor. (For more details on the Everett curriculum, see Everett Woodworking Program, page 144.)

The table took Joseph approximately four months to complete. He took no shortcuts, adhering faithfully to the original that he was copying.

Following are the complete plans and building instructions for this fine piece of furniture.

Base block, legs and pedestals

Start by rough-cutting the stock. The African mahogany used on the original was rough-sawn on all surfaces and edges. If you use similar material, it must be dressed first. Once the stock is surfaced on all four sides, glue up the base block, tabletop, drop leaves and cross support and let them dry overnight. Remove all glue squeeze-out the next day with a sharp chisel or cabinet scraper. Don't wipe off the excess glue when it's still wet. This drives the glue into the wood grain, where it dries and seals the wood pores. If you're planning to stain the piece like the one shown, such glue-impregnated areas won't take the color the same way the adjacent wood does.

Use the grid on page 143 for reference, and cut the base block and legs to size and shape using a band saw. Next, cut the decorative leaf designs in all five pieces.

The two fluted carvings on the base block are tricky, because they're carved on separate panels, then glued into recesses cut in the ends of the base block. The idea is to avoid cutting these designs in the block's end grain which is difficult and unattractive.

Cut the base block recesses on a shaper and the fluted inserts on a band saw. (The appropriate arc is given on the drawing.) Carve the flutes by hand with a gouge and finish-sand the panels before gluing them in place. Then complete the base block by cutting the quarter-round step molding on the top edge with a shaper or router.

Next, turn the pedestals to size on a lathe using the grid for reference. Carve and finish-sand the leaf designs in each while it's still mounted in the lathe. You can stabilize the turning by clamping the headstock end of the pedestal to the lathe bed. Then turn the drop-leaf stops and set them aside.

Lay out the base-block dowel holes for the legs and pedestals, using the dimensions on the drawing. Position each leg and pedestal on the base block and trace their outlines. This will allow minor adjustment to the placement of the dowels, so the best appearance and fit can be assured. Then bore the dowel holes in all parts, taking care not to go through the legs when boring the upper dowel holes. Test-assemble all parts, but don't glue and clamp them together yet.

To begin making the table case, cut the pivot blocks and leaf supports to size and lay out the matching finger joints. Cut these joints with a band saw, then clamp each pair together and counterbore the pivot-pin clearance hole through both parts at one time. Glue, screw and clamp the pivot blocks to the case sides.

The pivot pin Joseph used was made by another student in the school's metalworking program. But you can easily fabricate one of your own by getting a long stovebolt or carriage bolt and cutting off its threaded

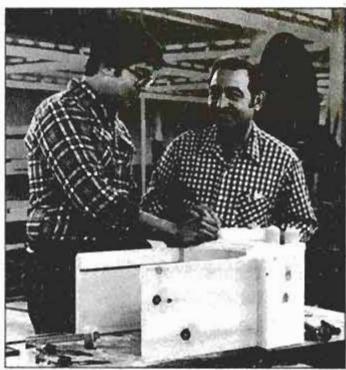
ABOUT THE CONTEST

For information on this year's Stanley Tools Furniture Contest, write to Paul B. Muenzen, manager, Educational Marketing, Stanley Tools, 600 Myrtie St., New Britain, Conn. 06050.

section. Then grind off part of the head, so the lip will conform to specifications.

Cut the remaining parts for the table case and the drawer frames to size and assemble them in the following manner (see drawing Detail 5):

- Join the sides and ends of both upper and lower drawer frames, using a mortise and tenon at each corner. Glue, clamp and let the frames dry overnight. Make certain assemblies are absolutely square when clamped.
- Cut an edge rabbet on both sides of each frame.
- Cut two grooves in each case side to receive the rabbeted drawer frames.
- Use a backsaw to cut off 1¼ in. from the outside corner of each drawer frame rabbet 30 the corner blocks can be doweled flush to the frame.
- Bore the four dowel holes in each corner block and the case sides and drawer frames.
- Assemble the case with glue and dowels and clamp overnight. Again, check for square.



Prize-winning craftsman Joseph lannuzzi (left) at work with his shop teacher, Joseph Bognore, at Everett Vocational High School.

■ Turn the finials to size on the lathe and carve a slight concave cup at the top of each. This ensures that the outside perimeter of the finial will meet the bottom of the corner block flush. Finish-sand the finials, then smear glue into the small depressions and press them onto the bottoms of the corner blocks. Twist each until the glue grips, then clamp lightly and allow to dry overnight.

Bore holes in the case sides for the drop-leaf stops and glue the stops into place.

Assembling the table

Begin assembly by gluing and doweling the legs to the base block. Two clamping blocks are needed—one that conforms to the shape of the upper side of the leg and one that conforms to the shape of the base-block side. Make these by tracing both the leg and the base block on similarly sized stock and cutting out the blocks on a band saw. Then clamp these blocks to the leg and the base block using small, soft wood blocks on the other end of the clamp, so the opposite sides of the leg and base block are not damaged during clamping.

To hold these small clamping blocks in place, fold a

piece of 150-grit sandpaper in half with the grit facing out and place it between the block and the work-piece. This prevents the clamping assembly from slipping on the curved surfaces, yet it won't damage the finished surfaces of the leg and the base block.

Next, locate the best position for your bar clamp, take off the clamping blocks and cut the necessary "flat pads" on each. Now each leg can be glued, doweled and clamped firmly in place. Allow each leg assembly to dry overnight.

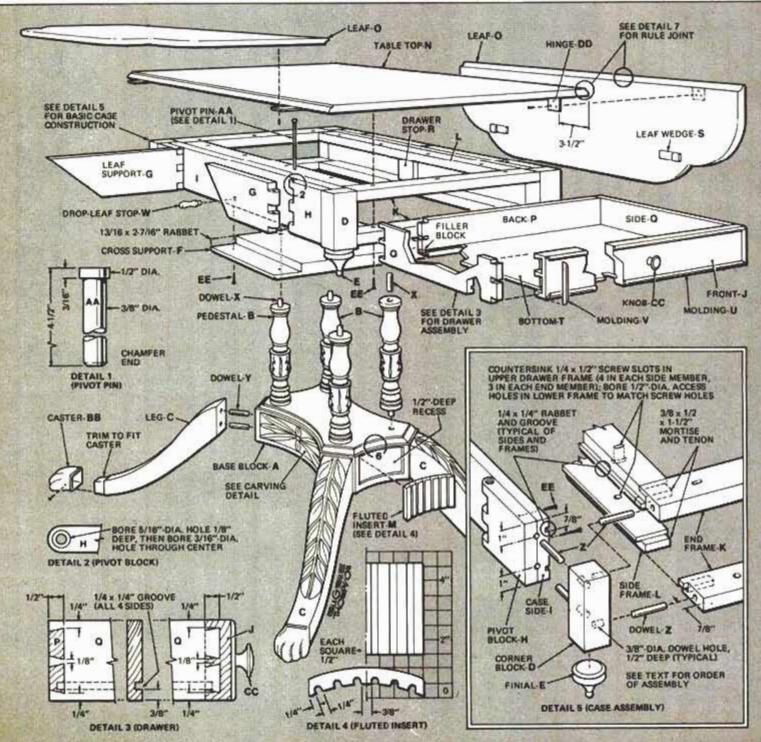
Glue and dowel the pedestals to the base block and cross support, then clamp this whole assembly at once. Check the pedestals on several sides with a square to make certain they're perpendicular.

Cut the tabletop and drop leaves to the size and shape shown, then cut the rule joints on all three, using a router or shaper. Only the knuckles on the table hinges must be mortised into the top and leaves. The hinge leaves are simply screw-fastened to the underside surface.

Attach the table case to the underside of the tabletop, using screws turned in the middle of the slotted screw holes shown. These slots must run perpendicular to the grain direction of the tabletop, so when the top expands and contracts, the screws can move, reducing the chance of the top splitting. To turn these screws, use an offset screwdriver or bore screwdriver-clearance holes in the lower drawer frame as shown.

Once the leaves, top and case are assembled, cut and fit the four small leaf wedges on the underside of the drop leaves and glue them in place. We have supplied dimensions for these parts based on the wedges used in the table shown, but your table will probably be different.

These wedges ensure that when the leaves are raised, the tabletop will be straight across. If your finger joints on the leaf supports and pivot blocks fit tightly and your pivot pin fits snugly as well, the leaf support on your table will be nearly perpendicular to the table case when



extended. Therefore, it will require a thinner block.

If you have children, you should install a small bullet catch in the wedge and top of the leaf support. If they accidently bump into the support, the leaves won't fold up immediately.

Made-to-fit drawers

Before cutting and assembling the drawer parts, measure the opening in the table case to see if it matches the dimensions given in the drawing. If not, use the drawing as a guide and adjust the sizes of the drawer parts as needed.

Cut the drawer sides, fronts, and backs to size, then cut the dovetails at the corners and the grooves in each member for the drawer bottoms. Assemble the drawer sides, backs and fronts with glue. Don't glue in the bottoms; these "float" in their grooves.

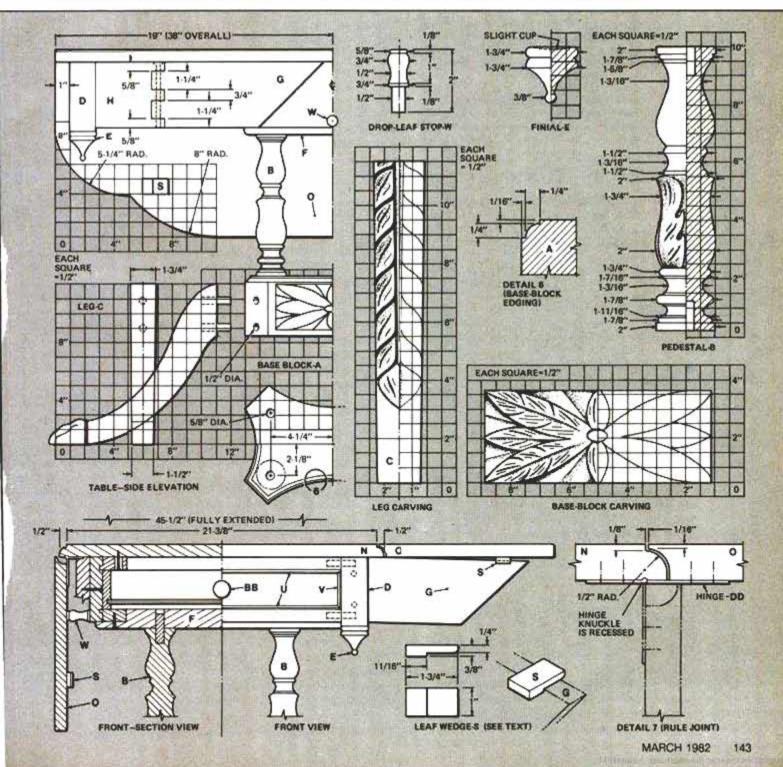
Complete the drawers by gluing and clamping the molding beads to the drawer fronts. The beads can be

MATERIALS LIST-TABLE

Key	No.	Size and description (use)
A	1	4 × 8 × 12' mahogany (base block)
В	4	2 × 2 × 934" nahogany (pedestal)
C	4	194 × 101/4 × 11" mahogany (leg)
D	4	134 × 134 × 434" mahogany (corner block)
E	4	134 x 134 x 178" mahogany (finial)
F	1	15hs × 12 = 171/s" mahogany (cross support)
G	4	7.6 × 41/2 × 11/4" mahogany (leaf support)
H	4	78 x 412 x 434 mahogany (pivot block)
1	2	% × 410 × 3210' mahogany (case side)
	177	

7.6 × 234 × 1636" mahogany (drawer front) 7.6 × 21/4 × 1636" mahogany (end frame) 7.6 × 2 × 321/2" mahogany (side frame) 1 × 31/a × 4" mahogany (fluted insert) 13/16 × 22/4e × 38" mahogany (top) 13/e × 12 × 38" mahogany (leaf) 1/2 × 23/4 × 163/6" mahogany (drawer back) 1/2 × 23/4 × 16" mahogany (drawer side) 1/2 × 294 × 314" mahogany (drawer stop) 46 × 1 × 134" mahogany (leaf wedge) 1/4 × 151/5 × 157/6" lauan plywood (draw bottom) 1/4 x 163e" mahogany (bead) 1/4 × 1/4 × 23/4" mahogany (bead) 3/4"-dia. × 2" mahogany (leaf stop) 16'-dia. × 2' dowel 36"-dia × 2" dowe 34"-dia. × 41/2" steel pivot pin with 3/16 × 1/2"-dia head BB Faneuil model No. 9011 cast socket and hom turned wheel CC. Faneuil model No. 3005 1"-dia, drawer pull Faneuil model No. 12080 11/2" table hinge DD' 11/4" No. 10 fb screw EE 26

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Paul B. Muenzen, (far left), education marketing manager, Stanley Tools, discusses table with judges for 1981 Stanley Tools National Furniture Contest (left to right): Harry Wicks, PM Home and Shop Editor; Walter Winkler, cabinetmaker, Design Dept., Hitchcock Chair Co.; David M. Mordavsky, industrial arts consultant, Connecticut Dept. of Education's Bureau of Vocational Services, John E. Hillhouse, A.I.S.D., Interior Decorating Studio, Q. Fox & Co; Herbert Siegel, director, New York City Board of Education Industrial Arts.

EVERETT WOODWORKING PROGRAM

oseph lannuzzi's woodworking abilities are the product of a remarkable program at Everett (Mass.) Vocational High School. It's conducted by two dedicated teachers, Joseph Bognore and Robert Spinella—who were both participants in the same program in their school days. They agree that all credit should go to their teacher—the originator of the teaching approach they use—Anthony Fortini.

This sense of tradition and continuity must be partly responsible for the considerable success the program has achieved. In recent years, Everett has produced two grand prize winners in the Stanley contest, as well as many other national and regional award winners.

The three-year course of study (grades 10 to 12) is centered around shop work. And what a shop it is! The 2,400-sq.-ft. area is packed with industrial-quality machinery. There are five table saws, four wood lathes, three band saws, four jigsaws, two jointers, seven various sanders, two veneer presses and more.

Each student is directed through a carefully thought-out sequence of seven projects—from a simple magazine rack to a double-drawer Queen Anne night stand. Each new project introduces a new challenge, yet forces the student to repeat things learned on the previous piece. Every project must be completed to the instructor's satisfac-

tion before the student can move onto the next.

The students progress at varying rates and, according to Joseph Bognore, who heads up the program, "there is little pressure on the individual student to keep pace with his classmates." He adds that he is "not teaching speed, but skill." Quality is what's important.

By the middle to the end of the second year (grade 11), most students begin projects of their own. Parents are encouraged to take part in the choice of projects and must approve each one before it is undertaken. This is required because the students must buy their own wood, finishing materials and hardware.

The school also tries to place the senior students in woodworking jobs in local industry, where they can gain firsthand experience doing production work. Such students work one week at the job and attend school on alternate weeks. However, under this arrangement, the student's shopwork requirements are fulfilled on the job. Thus, his school time is exclusively devoted to academic pursuits.

Every effort is made to provide a balanced view of shopwork in this program. The proper use of sophisticated machinery is stressed, but hand-tool technique and the subtleties of fine finishing are also given their due. The result, as seen on these pages, is very impressive.—S.W. cut on a larger piece of stock using a shaper or router, then ripped into molding strips on the table saw. Or they can be hand-planed.

Finishing the table

Install the casters on the table legs before you begin finishing. You'll need to file and sand them for a proper fit. When the casters are fitted, set them aside for later installation.

All preassembly sanding on this piece was done in an 80-, 100-, 150-grit progression. Because mahogany is an open-grained wood, its pores must be filled by brushing on a paste wood filler across the grain and letting it stand until it loses its shine. (Time can vary from 15 to 45 minutes.) Remove all excess wood filler with a coarse cloth such as burlap. Let the piece dry overnight, then sand with 180-grit paper.

Stain the piece with a light mahogany stain. If you prefer a darker look than that of the table shown, let the stain soak in for 30 minutes before wiping. For a very dark finish, add some walnut stain to the mahogany. Let the table dry for 24 hours after

If you own a compressor, spray on one coat of lacquer sealer and let it dry overnight. If not, seal the piece using 3-lb.-cut water-white shellac thinned 50 percent with denatured alcohol. Apply the shellac with a clean bristle brush. (Note: If you choose the shellac sealer, finish the piece with several coats of varnish and standard varnish application techniques. In this event, disregard the following lacquer instructions.)

For lacquer finish, use only one coat of sealer or you might end up with cracks in the finish. Sand the piece with 220-grit abrasive paper, brush off and wipe with a tack cloth. Spray on the lacquer, allow the piece to dry overnight and sand with 220grit paper. Apply each ensuing coat of lacquer in the same manner. Four or five coats will do the trick. (Remember, it's better to apply many thin coats of lacquer than two or three thick coats.) And work in a well-ventilated area with no open flames or sparking electrical equipment. Wear goggles and a respirator mask

Before the last coat is sprayed on, sand the entire table with 280-, then 300-, 360-, and, finally, 400-grit sandpaper. Then tack off. After the last coat is dry, hand-rub the entire table with a 4-0 steel-wool pad until the desired gloss is achieved. Finally, apply two coats of paste furniture wax (Butcher's wax) and buff. To complete the table, reinstall the casters and drawer pulls.

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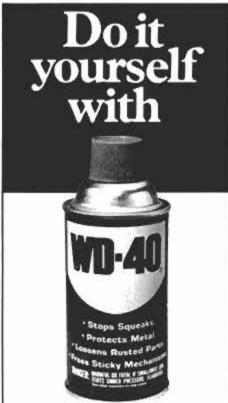
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HIT THE DECK-HERE COMES THE RAF (Continued from page 117)

situation changes considerably."

As is generally known, modern defenses against air attack, on both sides of the Iron Curtain, center on the use of radar. But this system is less effective against planes flying so low that they are out of a direct line of sight. The curvature of the earth, contours of terrain, intervening structures and trees all scramble the return signals. Lacking early warning, missile defenses cannot react quickly enough against aircraft which will be just overhead and within range for only a few seconds. In some cases, the weapons can't achieve adequate trajectory when the target is at treetop level.

Airborne radar is not a complete answer, either. Interceptors carrying "look-down" radar have been used to track aircraft at a lower altitude, but their record has been spotty. "Noise" from ground echo and other interference makes positive identification of invading aircraft difficult. Both sides have attempted to overcome this problem by installing radar installations on high ground and the United States has developed the AWACs-the "ultimate radar on a pole," Walker calls it. It gives the United States a lookdown and shoot-down capability which the Communist Bloc countries still lack.

Training RAF pilots to outwit the enemy defenses is no easy matter, however. "Flying low and fast is a skill difficult to acquire and one that requires constant practice," Commodore Walker says. Along the level, pastoral countryside adjoining the North Sea, local Britons have grown accustomed to the rumble and roar of RAF pilots endlessly rehearsing their tactics. According to Walker, more than 70 percent of a squadron's training time is devoted to defense-avoidance.

It is no exercise for the fainthearted. Strike Command is understandably reluctant to estimate the num-

ber of pilots killed in low-level training, and seeks to play down its dangers. "Losses are probably no greater than in air-to-air combat tactics, weapons training or aerobatics,' Walker protests. Nonetheless, crashes occur frequently enough that they are now scarcely noticed. A fatal crash recently rated only two sentences in the London newspapers. During the same month, the RAF lost two other pilots, one of whom spun into a field, while the other caught a wing on the ground during combined U.S.-British "Red Flag" exercises at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

"Flying low-level still looks more dangerous than it is," Walker argues. "We are selective about our pilots and we inculcate into them that the danger lies in being casual or careless. The lower you fly, the more you have tunnel vision. At 100 feet, you must only look straight ahead, because the ground is the major threat. You let your wingmate look for the enemy. The enemy may or may not kill you, but the ground is certain death."

Before an RAF pilot is assigned for low-level duty, he spends six months in an Operations Control Unit, learning every aspect of the plane he will be flying. Even though he is, by then, a fully qualified flier, washout rates at this stage are high; 13 percent of candidates never complete the OCU course. When he can fly the plane, he is schooled in its weapons systems, then assigned to his squadron for further training. He is seldom given full duty for another six months. "We train them down to 100 feet only under very careful supervision," Walker empha-

Take the matter of flying over ridges in terrain (or, in heavily builtup Northern Europe, power lines and pylons). Normally, a pilot would approach the hill at right angles to the ridge line, pull the nose up to

146 POPULAR MECHANICS

clear it with plenty of room, then descend to assigned altitude on the other side. But simulated attack profiles have shown that this kind of "skylining" can expose the plane to a fatal dose of radar. Accordingly, Strike Command pilots learn to keep the nose low, approach the ridge at a slight angle, and roll over it with minimum increase in altitude, righting the plane on the far side. "It can be quite sporting," Walker smiles, indulging in a little RAF understatement, "Some of our pilots have actually wet themselves on the first pass."

Learning to use mountainous terrain as a screen calls for strong nerves. The pilot flies lower than the shielding peak itself, hugging the ridge line, always aware that another ridge may suddenly appear ahead in his flight path. Similarly, the pilot must learn to follow more gentle, rolling terrain in an undulating path, rather than remaining at a constant altitude.

Rewriting the script

In RAF movies on the Late, Late Show, the old Spitfires fought in tight formation, wingtip to wingtip, shepherded along by an all-wise squadron leader. Formation flying is still central to RAF tactics, but it is formation flying of a very different sort. RAF leaders recognize that once radar picks up one plane in a rigid formation, the others can be spotted easily, so the current philosophy calls for widespread formations without a precise pattern. Four- or eight-plane units fly at random distances and altitudes, often miles apart and screened from each other by intervening terrain. Yet each man remains responsible for protecting his wingmates. The technique places strong emphasis on individual decision-making, as well as strong leadership. "It's not something you can learn through a correspondence course," Walker says. "Forward visibility is what counts." Squadron leaders often take their men up in marginal conditions to fly "under the weather," then return them to an unfamiliar base, simulating conditions in which the home field might be inaccessible on return.

The newest area of RAF low-level training has been night operations, due to recent NATO-wide emphasis. The RAF recently opened a new night-training site in far northern Scotland, one of the least populated areas of the British Isles. Pilots train down to 100-feet altitude, four nights a week. A night bombing range is also being discussed. Flying just over the treetops in utter darkness can be a terrifying experience at first, but pilots can be trained to see better at night than on a heavily overcast day, Walker says. They learn to rely on "moon bounce" off lakes and wet highways for navigation and to identify cities by the pattern of their lights.

For all the affection that the British population traditionally holds for its airmen, low-level training, with its inevitable bone-jarring, house-shaking noise, often brings conflict with civilians. Flights must be restricted to certain times and limited areas, with clearance for training missions issued on a dayby-day basis, Sometimes, pilots are not cleared to descend below 500 feet, lest they disrupt a cricket match or rugby game on the ground. In the sheep-raising areas of Britain, low-level fliers are completely grounded during the lambing season. Around the London suburbs, flights are taboo on weekends. when they would annoy golfers, tennis players and gardeners.

'Garden filled with aircraft'

The fliers sympathize with civilian complaints. "You have to realize that we have one-fourth the population of the United States in an area 1/s2nd the size of Texas," Walker says. "Essentially, we are just a garden filled with aircraft. But there is nowhere else to go. West Germany is just as densely populated; Holland more densely populated yet. And you can't produce 20 tons of thrust quietly. We try to train as much as we can over the sea, but the conditions are simply not representative enough of what we would face in a real war."

Once a year, however, the RAF gets to practice low-level tactics in more isolated surroundings. At Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., more than 30 U.S. and RAF planes participate in the annual Red Flag exercises. There, squadrons from both countries devise and work out tactics for penetrating enemy defenses under wartime conditions, with their sorties rated and scored. These demonstrations have confirmed the value of RAF low-level strategy, Walker SAVE.

But not all NATO air strategists agree. Belgian and Dutch air forces follow the British example, but the Americans and Germans do not. They prefer to fly at "medium" altitude, defined as above 250 feet. This fundamental difference in philosophy, according to the RAF, stems from America's "very nasty experience" in Vietnam, where light antiaircraft, rifle and pistol fire and

(Please turn to page 148)

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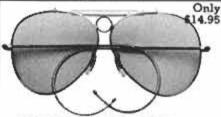
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HERE COMES THE RAF

(Continued from page 147)

even strategically thrown rocks brought down numbers of low-flying planes. The U.S. Air Force, with superior numbers and more sophisticated electronic countermeasures, believes it's in a better position to take on enemy air defenses directly, rather than trying to avoid them and exposing pilots to other hazards.

In any case, Walker says, the philosophical gap is being bridged. The TFR-equipped Tornado will enable the RAF to operate at slightly higher altitude, out of reach of small arms. Moreover, the advantage of defense avoidance is being nibbled away slowly. Defenses in the Eastern European countries are not only becoming more advanced, but new layers are being added without the older versions being phased out; "if A doesn't get you, B will," Walker says. It's only a matter of time, NATO analysts say, until Warsaw Pact forces have the same lookdown, shoot-down capability now monopolized by the Americans. When that occurs, the rationale for low-level flight may be negated.

Numbers, technology and men

Today, the Warsaw Pact countries have an aircraft numbers advantage of 2.4 to 1 over NATO. Although their technology lags behind in some areas, it is catching up fast. The Soviet Hind helicopter, used in Afghanistan, is the finest military helicopter in the world. It is generally conceded by air strategists that the three areas of comparison in air war are numbers, technology and men. One shouldn't take on an enemy unless one holds the upper hand in at least two, and preferably three, of these areas.

"We always conceded them the numbers," says Walker, who must analyze these principles in drafting RAF battle plans. "We believed we had the advantage in weaponry, but they have been building up their strength while we have stood still. That means we must retain our edge in men. That is not easy. We have been at peace for a long time.

"We are still seeking, and thank God, we still find, the type of guy who enjoys facing that 2.4-to-1 challenge, who is not afraid to take on the odds. We want the man with sheer, naked aggressiveness who will not back away from such a sporting contest. Mounting an attack at 100-feet altitude at eight miles a minute calls for just such a man. But that's what saved us in the past, and what could save us in the future."

BUILD THIS GREENHOUSE (Continued from page 131)

ings for the custom insulated glass. The eight other glass areas utilize standard patio-door replacement panes.

Install the 1/4-in. pine jambs over the framing after the glass is in place and caulked. (In this design the interior jamb serves as the glass bead stops.) Important: Make certain the glass-wood joints are sealed, both inside and out, with caulking.

To make maximum use of the sunny space, you can install glass shelves as shown. Dick Raymond opted to install a 1/4 × 12 × 46-in, tempered glass shelf across each of the six vertical glass areas. Each is supported by two 1x2 cleats 14 in. long.

The greenhouse also contains portable plant ledges propped on cement blocks. The ledges are framed with 2×4s to which 1×2-in, turkey wire has been fastened with 2-in. heavy-duty staples. Two-in.-thick Styrofoam is placed over the frame to insulate transplanting flats.

Soil-warming cables are simply laid in place. The cables are from Easy-Heat Wirekraft, U.S. 20 East, New Carlisle, Ind. 46552.

The cold frame is constructed of

2×4 end walls sheathed with exterior plywood. A 2×6 board is installed between the end walls; used storm windows are hinged in place.

Potting bench

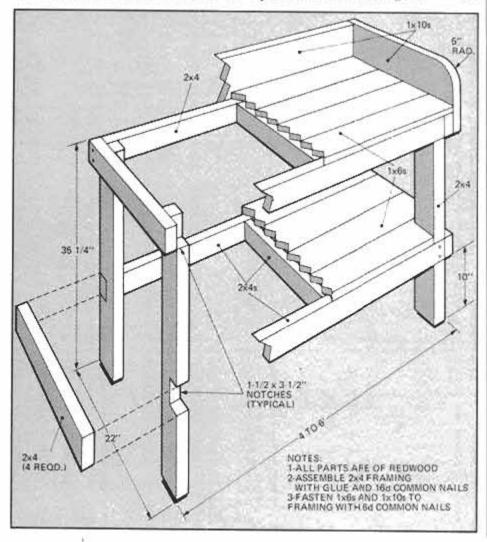
This sturdy redwood potting bench will give you and your family an indoor work center for growing and planting activities.

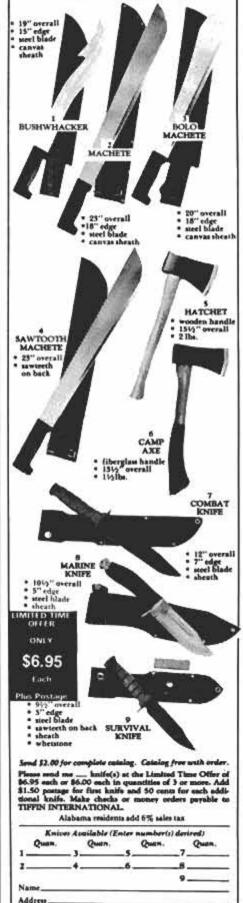
The work surface is a comfortable 35¼ in. from the floor. However, you may want to shorten it to suit the user's height. Its legs are notched to receive the stretchers and rails, and it can be assembled with common nails. But 1/4-in. carriage bolts, washers and nuts give a stronger bench.

Check the corners with a square before the glue dries. Wrack the unit square, if necessary, and tacknail diagonal strips from the legs to the top to hold it while the glue dries.

Before the glue dries, cut 1×6s to size for the shelf and benchton. Attach with 6d common nails.

The splashboard is cut from 1×10 material. The sides and back are simply butt-joined at the corners. Round the ends on the sidepieces using a sabre or band saw; attach parts by 6d common nails and glue.





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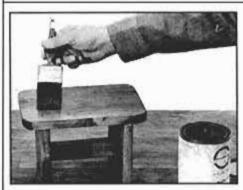
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WORKSHOP MINICOURSE APPLYING A FINISH



Shellac, thinned 50 percent with denatured alcohol, is a good sealer. Never shake a can of shellac, and don't stir too vigorously or you'll wind up with air bubbles in your finish. It's best to apply shellac across the grain, as here, with overlapping strokes. The shellac is self-leveling.



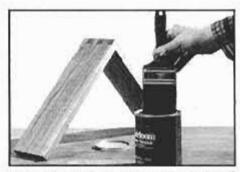
After shellac covers a small area, use withthe-grain strokes to speed up the leveling process. Do this immediately.



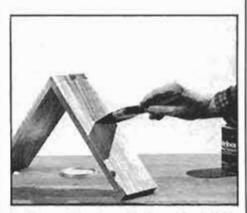
A shellac brush is cleaned by swishing it about in denatured alcohol. Next, shake out excess alcohol and hang brush to dry.



Correct way to grip a varnish brush-like a pencil. No matter what size brush you work with, hold it in this manner.



Dip bristles into varnish so less than half the bristles' length is immersed. Gently wipe brush across lip to remove excess varnish, or tap it lightly against the inside of the can-if there is room.



Apply varnish using with-the-grain strokes, as shown here, on this sample piece of oak.

o matter how skilled a craftsman you are, if you put an inferior finish on your projects, your work will look amateurish.

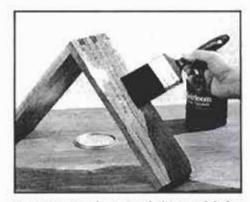
Many cabinetmakers and carpenters I have known dislike the finishing step. It must be the discomfort of working with the odors, because all the craftsmen that I've worked with have more than ample patience and know-how.

At any rate, to do justice to your projects, you should master a very basic system for getting a good-looking finish on the wood.

There are thick volumes on wood finishing, but if you stick to the basic methods shown on this page this month and last, you will be certain to produce results that are highly satisfactory.

Two additional tips (besides those in the photos):

Invest in a photographic floodlamp for your shop-the type that has a clamplike fitting. You should use the lamp with its beam pointed



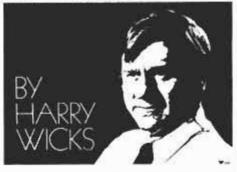
The next step is to level the varnish by using across-the-grain brush strokes.

at an angle to the surface that is being finished. Doing this will enable you to make sure there are no holidays (missed spots).

■ Buy only high-quality bristle brushes for working with varnish. Clean your brush after each session-first in turpentine, then with cool, soapy water. Rinse the brush in clear, cold water and hang it to dry.



Finish by tipping off. For effective tipping off, the brush must be almost dry. Author uses a clean, lint-free rag to wipe brush after each and every pass on the finish.

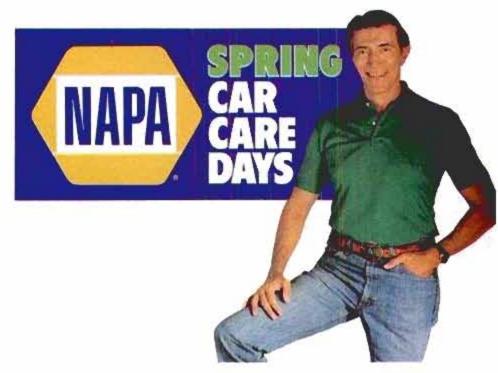




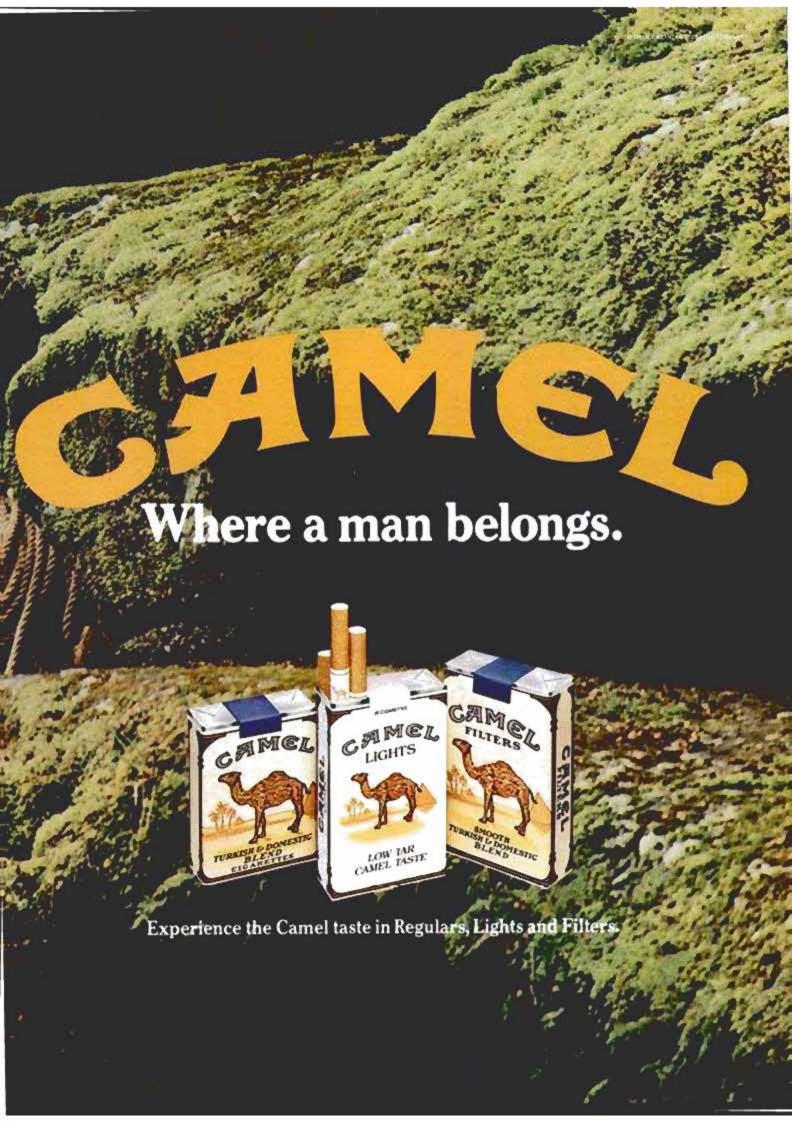
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produce the Gs or the acceleration times. Zero-to-60 runs took more than nine seconds. We complained to the Chevy engineers at the proving grounds and they said they'd look into it.

They have. Our test car at Milan had the newly standard 3.23 axle ratio and we can attest that it does make a big difference.

With the automatic transmission (no stick is available with the twin crossram V8), our 0-to-60 times came up in 8.77 seconds. Again, with two aboard. About 8.2 seconds would be right for a driver-only run. Our best quarter-mile time was 16.56 seconds at 83.10 mph.

Here, the limiting factor wasn't wheelspin, but rather simply one of engine power vs. weight plus an automatic transmission. The 305 in Z28 trim sports a higher 9.5-to-1 compression ratio and twin throttle body fuel injectors sitting outboard near the valve covers. The result is 165 hp at 4,200 and 240 ft.-lb. of torque at 2,400 rpm. One Chevy engineer at Mesa told us that the Z28 would be packing a full 350 fuelinjected cubes à la Corvette for 1983. which would make the Z28 the hottest car sold in America. This year, it'll have to settle for second hottest.

Through the twisty slalom run, our Z28 test car was taking second place to no one. Witzenburg sizzled through the course in just 11.42 seconds, easily the quickest time of the day. He also ran an 11.47 to back it up. The Camaro cruised through flat and true, its quick steering allowing our test driver to concentrate on being smooth overall, not specifically when to turn the wheel for the next pylon. There's no question that the Z28 is the finest handling car built in America today.

Buick Regal Turbo Sport Coupe

Think of Buick and you think of upper-middle-class values and genteel suburban lifestyles. The fact is, Buick has always had a mean streak that manifested itself in some of the fastest, quickest, hairiest cars built in Detroit. Its GS-400 and GS-455 Stage I cars of the late '60s and early '70s were simply race cars detuned for the street. And their Ram Air 455 Stage II GSX was a race car, pure and simple.

The thing is, Buick doesn't make too big a deal out of its performance hardware. You have to be a hardcore Buick enthusiast to know about it.

So it is with the '82 Regal Sport Coupe. It's one of Detroit's better kept performance secrets. The Sport Coupe is the Regal in hot rod clothing. Exterior trim is kept to a minimum with just some lettering along the hood scoop to give the thing away. Under the hood, there's a turbocharged 3.8-liter, four-barrel V6 rated 175 hp at 3,800 rpm and 275 ft.-lb. of torque at 2,400 rpm. Changes to the package this year include a larger, higher-capacity turbocharger to

		SPECIFIC	ATIONS		
	Buick Regal Sport Coupe	Chevrolet Camero Z28	Dodge Charger 2.2	Mercury Capri RS	Plymouth TC3 Turismo
Price (as Insted)	\$13,459	\$13,000 (astimated)	\$5.391	\$10.618	\$9,245
Esgine	231-cu -in V6. subo- charged	305-cu in VB National sected	135-04-M 14	302-0 ₈ -n VB	135-op on L4
Horzapower	175 @ 4.000 rpm	165 (S 4.200 rpm	84 (F 4 800 rpm	157 IS 4,200 rpm	84 ID 4.800 Ipm
Torque (ftlb. @ rpm)	275 @ 2.600	240 (8-2,400	111 (8 2,400	240 10 2,400	111 @ 2.400
Transmission	3-speed automatic	3-speed automatic	4-speed manual	4-speed manual	4-apend manual
Final drive ratio	3.08	3 23	313	300	319
Suspension (front-rear)	independent, SLA, coll springs, sway barrigid axie, 4 links, sway bar	Independent, modified MedPherson sinute, sway bar rigid axie, it know, sway bar torque aver.	Independent, Mac- Pherson style, sway beringd beam asia coll springs	Modified MacPherson struts, sway baringid arise 4 links, sway bar	Independent, Mac- Pherson struts, sway baringd beam sale soil sorings.
Tires; wheels	P205 70R14 radials. 14 × 7-in wheets	P215-65R15 radials 15 × 7-in wheels	P195-60P114 (south 14 + 513-in wheels	P190-65F390 radius. 390 - 153-mm wheels	P195-60R14 radiate 14 = 15'o-m influent
Sheering	Power-asseted reor- culating bell	Power-assisted rece- curating ball	Manual recruising half	Power-assumed rack and pinion	Power-assisted recr- culating ball
Brakes	Disc front, grum rear, power asset.	Disc forc drum reer, power assist	Disc front drym rear. power assess	Disc front, drum rear, power assess	Disc front, drum rear power assist
Wheelbase (In.)	106 1	101.0	36.6	100 4	96.6
Overall length (in.)	200.6	187 8	1740	179.1	174.0
Curb weight (lbs.)	3.245	3.162	2 256	2.772	2.256
		PERFOR	MANCE		
0 to 60 mph (sec.)	9.40	6.77	10.86	10	1123
/-mile acceleration (sec. @ mph)	16.56 @ 00.21	16.56 @ #3.10	17 52 (3 78 32	15 94 @ 95 70	17 49 49 77 58
1.005-ft. slatom (sec.)	1274	1114g.	1242	(2.6)	12.44
EPA mpg (city/highway)	16:25	15:24 (watmassed)	26:41	17:28	26.41

increase output, a higher-capacity, more free-flowing exhaust system, and a 3.08 rear axle ratio to help multiply the torque.

The result is a car that moves out deceptively well despite its rather heavy 3,280 pounds of avoirdupois. The Regal reached a best of 16.56 seconds in the quarter-mile at 80.21 mph before the transmission on our test car started to go away. With two aboard, 60 mph came up from a standing start in 9.4 seconds.

The Regal's handling through the slalom course was, we feel, exemplary for a car of this size and weight. although our test driver had to work hard to get such good times-a best of 12.74 seconds with two other runs

in the 12s, as well.

The Regal Sport Coupe is, when all is said and done, still a Buick and all that implies. Its interior was far and away the plushest of any of the cars tested, and its ride was the smoothest and quietest, too. That it could silently and smoothly glide up to the starting line of a drag strip, its stereo system going full blast, rev up. come smoking and screeching off the starting line to a 16-second ET, then crank itself through a 1,000-foot slalom within hundredths of a second of the Capri RS says much, we think, about the dual nature of this banker's hot rod.

Dodge Charger 2.2

You might be asking what a fourcylinder-powered car is doing in a performance-car test. The fact is, Chrysler has been touting the Charger 2.2 as its performance entry for about nine months. We wanted to see if it was a real performance car or just a performance car in the mind of some fanciful ad agency copywriter.

One trip through the quarter-mile and slalom and we were convinced. The Charger 2.2 surprised the hell out of us. No, it can't hold a candle to the big V8-powered cars on the drag strip. It just doesn't have the ponies. For instance, its best drag strip run was a 17.52 at 78.32 mph-or, more than a second slower than the Capri. So in that sense, it's a rolling stone. But through the slalom run, take a look at this time slip—12.42 seconds, with a 12.44 and a 12.96 to back it up. Quicker than the Capri!

Horsepower isn't everything. Still, there's no substitute for cubic inches. Ask any drag racer. The best 0-to-60 run for the Charger was a 10.88, again a lot slower than any of the larger-engined cars.

In case you're not familiar with the Charger 2.2 package, it's basically an Omni 024 that gets some engine recalibration to richen

things up, a stiffer 3.13 final drive ratio to give the car more off-the-line dig, and a big-capacity, free-flow exhaust system that not only dumps the exhaust in good form, but also sounds hairy. All this is coupled to a four-speed transmission and a handling suspension that includes 60series Firestone HPR tires. It all works together quite nicely and you can smoke the tires off the line if you really rev up the 2.2 and let it happen. On the street, the car causes quite a stir with its big hood scoop and racing stripes, and it's definitely a funmobile. But it's just not in the big leagues of performance-yet. Of course, dropping in a dual-quad 426cu.-in. Hemi engine would certainly cure that.

Plymouth TC3 Turismo

Take one Dodge Charger 2.2, delete all the exterior flash, hood scoops and decals, substitute some tasteful pinstriping, keep all the mechanicals intact and you have a TC3 Turismo.

Theoretically, a TC3 Turismo should perform identically to a Charger 2.2. Production tolerances being what they are, our test Turismo was marginally different in performance in all our tests, reaching 60 mph from a dig in 11.23 seconds and covering the quarter-mile with a best of 17.49 at 77.58 mph. It churned through the slalom run in 12.44 seconds despite having power steering, which the Charger 2.2 did not. Power steering is sometimes a hindrance in quick maneuvering because of the hydraulic drag that's inherent in a power-assisted steering system.

The TC3 could also light the tires off the line on our acceleration runs and we got a satisfying chirp out of the front tires on quick shifts to second. Again, it's a fun car but simply lacks the all-out power of a big, brutish V8.

So that's it. A representative sampling of performance, 1982 style. In this supposedly energy-conscious world, why is there a return to the seemingly anachronistic performance virtues of the '60s? A couple of reasons. First, people still like cars that are fun to drive. And a good performing car is a lot more fun than a dullard on four wheels. That has never changed. Second, all of these cars will deliver decent, if not excellent, fuel mileage. But none of them are the guzzling behemoths that reigned in 1969, and the EPA numbers are testimony to that.

Which all goes to prove that you can be a socially conscious member of today's changing world and have some fun. too.



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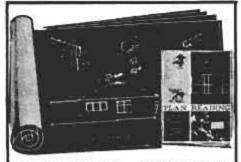
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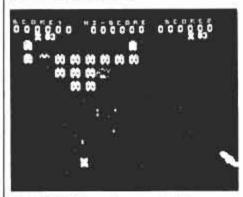
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NEW ARCADE ACTION AT HOME

(Continued from page 122)



FALCONS-The allens spin down-and change into vicious flying birds. Finally, the mother ship itself appears. It's similar to the arcade's Phoenix (Piccadilly Software).

tells it what to do. A program in the Galaxian arcade game tells that computer how to draw swooping squadrons of ornamental aliens. A program in the Asteroids console tells that computer how to draw and animate asteroids, ships and flying saucers.

But these arcade-game computers can accept only one program-the one built into them. This program is "burned in" on an integrated-circuit chip, soldered to the main printedcircuit board. A Space Invaders console will never suddenly start playing Galaxian.

On the other hand, a home computer, such as the Apple II or Atari 800, will accept any number of programs. Rather than having programs burned in, programs on a home computer are loaded in from disc. A floppy disc (which looks like a small record, encased in a plastic jacket) is inserted—jacket and all into the slot of a disc drive.

The disc drive whirs and the program is read off the disc and stored in the computer's brain-specifically in the home-computer's randomaccess memory (RAM). This RAM is fully erasable and reusable.

After you're done with one program, just load in another one. The old one is simply erased from memory as the new one is read in.

Here comes the invasion

It wasn't long before programmers realized that some home computers could be programmed to display many of the same colorful, high-resolution, fast-moving effects for which the arcade games were becoming famous. But when the market was first developing, such highlevel programming was beyond the technical expertise of most owners of the machines (specifically the Apple II). The speed and detail of the effects called for ultracomplicated

156

programming. In fact, many computer-graphics capabilities were discovered by inventive programmers.

The first few video-arcade programs—for home computers—sold surprisingly well. The market began to snowball. And within two years, such games were among the most popular in the software market.

Up until recently, the Apple II computer, with its color display and high-resolution graphics, had this market almost to itself.

Now, the Atari 800 home computer is beginning to make inroads in the marketplace. A whole series of articles, written at a highly expert level, on programming the Atari 800's graphics have appeared in recent computer journals. With all this information now being "discovered" about the Atari 800 system, it's no surprise that the first arcade-style games for this computer are appearing. In all likelihood, there will be



SHADOWHAWK ONE—This game takes hours to play. It features 3-D ghost ships that dodge and twist in rapid, eye-fooling computer animation (Horizon).

hundreds more to come from the various software manufacturers.

Soon Commodore, too, with its new, and very affordable, VIC 20 computer, may be adapted to arcade action.

But as of this writing, programs for the Apple II—such as those described here—are the ones most readily available.

Arcade rumblings

As computers become cheaper, more people will be able to afford the type of systems needed to run these programs. Right now, an Apple II with disc drive and color display goes for about \$1,800. But, with an additional investment of less than \$500 in software, you could simulate more than \$300,000 worth of arcadegame consoles.

As home computers become more of a mass-market item, what's going to happen to all those quarters dropped in arcades?

Many arcade game manufactur-(Please turn to page 158)

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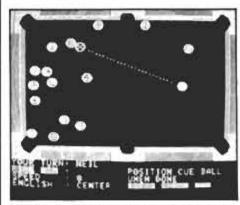
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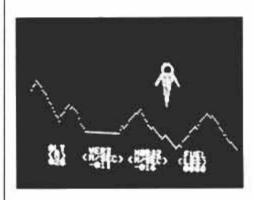


NEW ARCADE ACTION AT HOME

(Continued from page 157)



POOL 1.5—New home games can simulate other forms of recreation. In this pool game, angles of impact, English and rebounds are shown exactly in animation (I.D.S.I.).



TRANQUILITY BASE—The lunar-landing games were arcades' most popular before allen-combat games. Here's the best we've seen on a home computer (Stoneware).

ers are beginning to worry—at least from all indications.

Atari, for example, recently won a court case against a rival company that was marketing add-on chips for Atari arcade-game consoles. With the added chips, the arcade games became more challenging.

Atari squashed this scheme legally. After all, they don't want their arcade games to be tampered with and bring in quarters for other people.

Then, Atari ran full-page, threatening ads directed at companies marketing games for home computers that were not only very similar to the arcade games, but had the same names. Atari called this "piracy." Most software companies now change the name on their games, but Atari is still after them for copying the ideas.

But the latest home-video games go far beyond the arcade in both action and playability. The question now is not, "Can home computers get away with copying arcade games?" but "Can arcade games even begin to keep up with home computers?"

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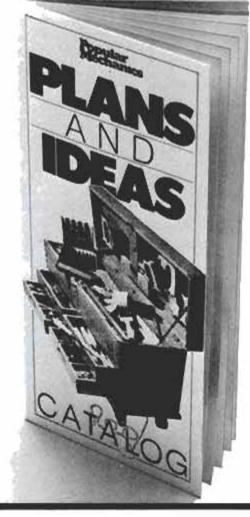
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TECH LINES

The great train rivalry

Transportation

Two of Europe's "trains of the future" are now making regular runs. The French TGV, in regular service at speeds up to 160 mph, and the prototype British ATP (regular service won't begin for another five years), have presented different solutions to the problem of achieving stability and economy at high rail speeds.

While both government-run train systems employ new technology in basic suspension and aerodynamic designs, each chose a divergent final step. The French chose to spend over \$1.5 billion to construct 250 miles of exclusive TGV roadbed with precisely canted tracks and no short-radius curves. The British say they were able to develop a train that will run nearly as fast (although some 15 to 20 mph slower in current operation) on existing-otherwise known as "Victorian"-tracks at a total cost of about 1/20 of what the French spent on roadbed alone.

The ATP train tilts inward on curves as much as 9° from the perpendicular to the bogie (wheel) frame, which may also be canted by the track on sharp curves. The hydraulic actuators that tilt the train have been a source of concern, however. On the ATP's inaugural run last December, its return leg from London to Glasgow was marred by three

Intercity.

92 TIAT ANGLE

Britain's ATP train hits 125 mph on its inaugural run. Drawing (right) shows basics of automatic system which tilts cars into sharp curves. Design problems, malfunctions have stemmed from it.

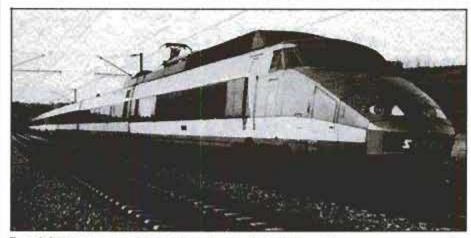
emergency stops. When the tilt mechanism malfunctions, an automatic system locks the cars upright and pulls the emergency braking cord. Some passengers were shaken; the dining-car galley was a shambles. The apparent cause: a blown fuse.

Also, at a full 9° tilt, the ATP slightly exceeds its "loading gauge" (see drawing). This is defined as the

space outside of which a train could make contact with objects along the right of way—or with another oncoming ATP—according to Britain's New Scientist magazine.

Meanwhile, the French claim they tried the tilting system first, and discarded it because it induced motion sickness. Their TGV has diverted 6,000 people per day from airlines (about 1,000) and highway travel onto the rails, according to government figures.

A slower, Canadian-designed tilt train (8° limit), has been under Amtrak evaluation in service between Boston and New York for over a year. Thus far, neither major incidents, nor further commitment, have been reported by Amtrak.



French TGV train at speed on new roadbed built for it alone. Its average occupancy rate at the end of 1981 was 68 percent—two years ahead of its planners' schedule.

TECH LINES TECH LINES TECH LINES

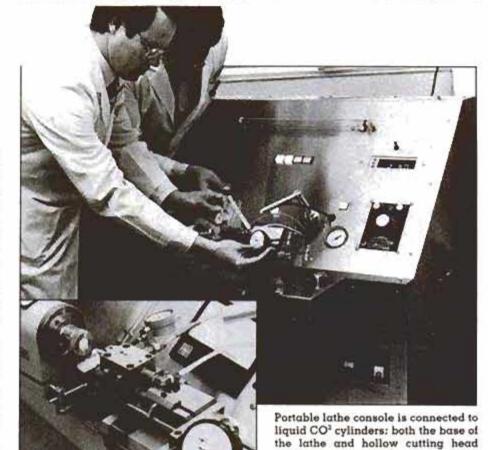
Medicine

New eyes from a lathe

Medical technology is not a field for the squeamish. It takes a steadfast stomach, as well as a keen imagination, to originate the idea of shaping actual human corneas into transplant lenses on a miniature lathe. Yet, such a procedure is now expected to help restore vision to cataract-surgery patients who are left with a condition called monocular aphakia. This problem requires a large refractive correction which often cannot be obtained with contact lenses or glasses.

The lathe, manufactured by Steinway Instrument Co. of San Diego, Calif., keeps corneal tissue frozen while it is cut into a properly contoured lens "button." Then, it can be positioned on the patient's eye and sutured into place.

The still-experimental lens-grinding procedure and surgery—called refractive keratoplasty—proceeds in four distinct steps: First, the outer layer of the patient's cornea is sliced off by a microelectrokeratome, an instrument resembling a tiny, motorized block plane. Then, a thin, transparent disc of corneal tissue from a donor is placed on the optical lathe's base and frozen immediately by liquid carbon dioxide, circulating



through the base of the instrument.

To determine what precise shape to cut the frozen tissue, the surgeon enters the degree of correction needed, the curve of the patient's cornea, its thickness and other data into a small computer. The required arcs are then dialed into the lathe. The actual cutting procedure, however, is

controlled manually by the surgeon.

keep donor tissue frozen.

The lathe's cutting edge, like the base, is hollow and charged with liquid carbon dioxide. This absorbs heat generated by the cutting process and helps keep the lens frozen. After being ground, a typical corneal lens may wind up slightly smaller than the diameter of a pencil eraser

Automotive

Mini-miser

Lately, there haven't been a surplus of opportunities to commend the British automobile industry for either marketing expertise or technical brilliance. Yet try they must, and at least one conversion of a Leyland Mini Metro by an outfit known as Butterfly Motor Corp. from Redditch, Worcestershire, looks like a winner.

The Metro 100L saloon, not exactly a gas eater, even in stock configuration, was modified by fitting a special cylinder head and a plasma ignition system. The latter, which can be fitted to any car, provides a welding-type spark that enables a much leaner fuel/air mixture to be dependably and fully ignited.

The other major problem with superlean running—burned valves—appears to have been overcome by the addition of the modified cylinder head.

An independent research team studied the modified Metro for two months. At a constant speed of about 40 mph, the car recorded gasoline mileage of slightly over 70 mpg. Running near 30 mph, the car was able to notch an impressive verified mileage of slightly over 100 mpg.

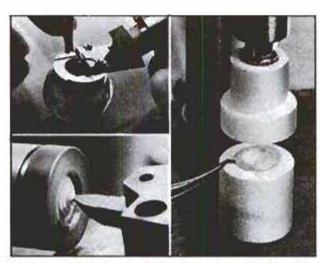
If the new, lean-burning

system is demonstrated to be transferable to a variety of vehicles, Britain might once again be back on the map, at least automotivewise.



Modified Mini Metro workers use rickshaw to make a point.

ECH LINES TECH LINES TECH LINES



Device called a microelectrokeratome is used to slice thin layer of cornea from donor eyeball (top left). Placed on lathe base and frozen (left, above), cornea is shaped, then checked (right) for .001-mm thickness. While a computer is used to determine final dimensions of new corneal lens. surgeon's hands guide the lathe.

and about as thick as two sheets of notebook paper.

The surgeon completes the procedure by creating a corneal "sandwich"-placing the newly shaped donor lens on the patient's eye, covering it with the slightly larger slice of the patient's own cornea (removed at the beginning of the operation) and suturing the two pieces in place. Rejection is not a problem, since cells in the donor tissue are killed by the extreme temperature.

Only a handful of optical lathes

are currently in use in this country. One, at Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland, has enabled Dr. Larry Rich to experiment with different surgical techniques on laboratory animals. The success of those studies has made it possible for Dr. Rich to perform nine of these procedures on human subjects.

Dr. Rich believes that as surgeons acquire greater skill in operating the lathe and as the surgical procedures become more commonplace, refractive keratoplasty will eventually be-

come an attractive treatment option for a variety of less serious refractive-sight problems, such as cases of severe nearsightedness, for exam-

One resource Dr. Rich hopes to see developed is regional corneal "banks," where donated corneas could be preserved indefinitely at extremely low temperatures. Eye surgeons would then be able to order lenses, ground to an exact prescription, for insertion in their patients' eyes.

Making contacts

Millions of people who can be thankful that they'll never require corneal transplants are still fated to suffer from presbyopia, the age-related inelasticity of the eye's lens that inhibits focusing on close objects—as in reading.

Recently, Bausch & Lomb introduced the first soft contact lens in the United States that's capable of bifocal correction for near- or farsightedness and presbyopia. Hard contact lens materials tried as bifocals didn't work out—the extra "plus" lens seg-ment required made them bulky and unwieldy. Bausch & Lomb estimates that some 5,000,000 Americans out of the approximately 34,000,000 candidates for spherical bifocal lenses can use the new, soft bifocals successful-

ly.
The presbyopia-correcting segment of the lens takes advantage of the fact that most close work is accomplished with a slight downward movement of the

eyeball. This movement MAJOR is enough to shift the eye's lens into position behind the "plus" segment of the soft contact lens.

Clinical studies indicate that persons 40 to 55 years old will be prime candidates for the lens.





Military Arcade aces

As video games go, this has to be the ultimate: up to 12 players, divided into offense and defense. Four sit in fighter-plane cockpits inside 40-foot translucent domes; sky, ground and other aircraft are projected onto the dome, simulating realistic combat conditions. The remaining eight players "fly" TV consoles and are directed by intercept controllers. Thus do the fighters and interceptors do battle.

Atari can't touch it. Nei-

ther can we. It's a classified McDonnell Douglas combat simulator, set up by 60 computer experts, and now under U.S. Air Force test.



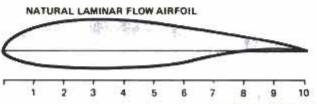
Doglight in projector dome of a still-secret simulator.

Aviation

Winging it

Natural laminar flow over an aircraft wing, unaided by vacuum (boundary layer control) or slot geometry, has been a goal of aerodynamicists for decades. Until the advent of compositematerial surfaces, wing construction didn't permit the needed smoothness that would allow air to adhere.

Now NASA thinks it has a design (drawing below) that will provide natural laminar flow up to Mach .6 (about 430 mph at sea level, less at altitude) on a composite-surface wing. Not surprisingly, it's a "sutype-fairly percritical thick, with the characteristic "hook" aft.



TECH LINES TECH LINES TECH LINES

Marine

PT patrol-or bust

A St. Petersburg, Fla., company, appropriately known as PT Boats, is building an 85-foot, patrol-type craft, based somewhat on the lines and functional design of the against-alloads craft that symbolized bravado in the Pacific 40 years ago. They're not doing it for reasons of nostalgia, however; the asking price for the prototype will be \$895,000.

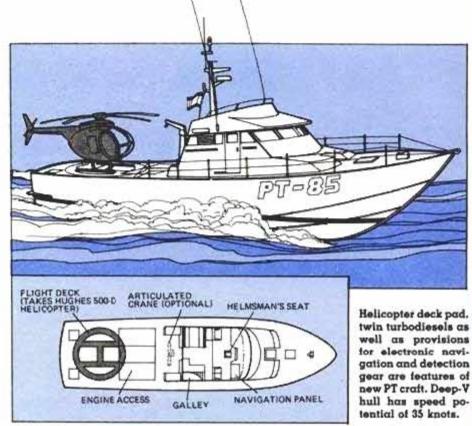
The new twin-turbocharged-diesel craft, said to be capable of 35 knots or better, should appeal primarily to the U.S. Coast Guard, Customs Service and Drug Enforcement Agency.

vice and Drug Enforcement Agency. These organizations are trying unsuccessfully to curtail a massive influx of illegal substances—and immigrants—into this country via

Florida waters.

One of the major reasons for the runaway smuggling syndrome, says PT Boats president Chris Petty, is that it's so easy. On the average, the Coast Guard fleet is more than 20 years old. The cutters that are capable of any speed are all over 200 feet long and unable to go up through reefs or into narrow coves after drug runners.

These relative rust-buckets are pitted against the newest Donzis, Cigarettes, Magnums and other hot, off-



shore racing hulls, equipped with radar and drivers wearing nightvision equipment made to classified military specs. It's no contest, according to Petty.

The new PT concept would include an afterdeck pad to accommodate a small helicopter which could cruise at 160 mph (no enforcement vessel currently operating in Florida waters can land a chopper). The copter and PT boat could work in tandem in search-and-bust operations. The fiberglass hull was designed by C. Raymond Hunt Assoc. of Boston, known for fast, deep-V type motorboats.

What's to keep a drug smuggler from buying a PT himself? Nothing least of all the price.

Alternatives

Tilting windmill

Heirs of Don Quixote are threatening to sue Windgen Ltd., an Elgin, Ill., manufacturer of a new wind turbine that does its own tilting.

The basic problem is that wind machines capable of generating power in light winds tend to tear themselves apart in heavy ones. Windgen's W-1 begins electrical output in an 8-mph breeze, and the company claims it can sup-

ply the electrical needs of an average three-bedroom home in winds of 12 mph (not including heating). Maximum output is 4,000 watts at a wind velocity of about 20 mph.

The turbine tracks the wind 360° around its mast. When the wind velocity reaches 20 mph, negative lift produced by the stabilization vanes tilts the turbine up. This effectively feathers the blades in the windstream to protect the system from overspeeding. It automatically returns to operating position when the wind dies down.

The one-piece blade is made of laminated wood, triple-coated with fiber-



Windgen wind turbine in normal operating position (left) and tilted up in high wind; sliding weight damps the movement.

glass, to preclude any interference with local TV reception (a common problem with standard metalbladed wind machines).
Windgen is located at
1265 Countryside Dr.,
Elgin, Ill. 60120.

Оттерато и поделения для пестронни терпом

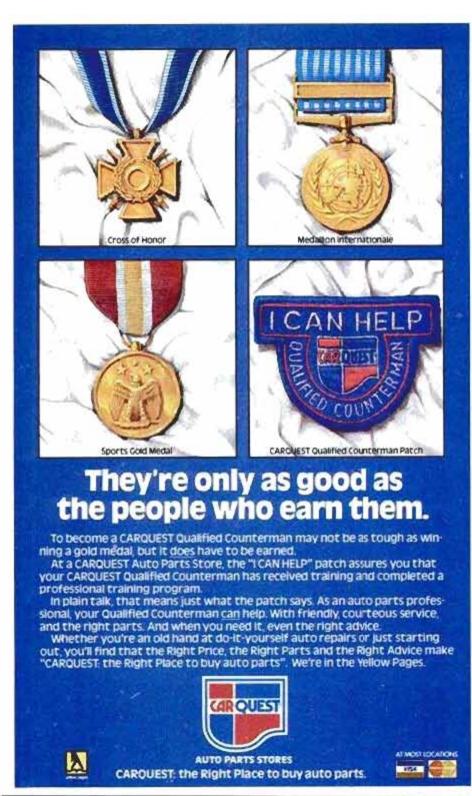
Editor: Robin Nelson Contributor: Linda Freedman



MAG-48

repairs!

69615







6 WOODWORKING SECRETS

(Continued from page 93)

exposed to prevent uneven wear. Make the 1-in. table slot wider in the center to accommodate such adjustments.

Before welding the leg (G2) to the rod (G1), drill and tap one end of the rod for a small screw to hold the protractor indicator. Turn a groove 1½ in. from the tapped end for the locking rod. Taper-grind the threaded locking rod to fit in the groove.

When you assemble the grinder, allow the %-in. rod to protrude about 1/16 in. through the protractor. Then, with the table locking rod in place in the groove, fasten the hanger to the table bottom.

The protractor may be a 6-in. school type. If it's clear plastic, spray the back side white, so that markings will stand out sharply. Glue the protractor to an oversize section of hardboard and drill a ½-in.-dia. hole through the center of the protractor center. Attach the ½-in. rod and screw-fasten to the table-top edge. The protractor arm may be a strip of clear plastic, heavily scored on the back, or a sheet-metal pointer.

The table may be of ¾-in. plywood or a plastic-covered sink-cutout section, as shown here. The abrasive belt may be 1 × 42 or 44 in. If not available locally, 1 × 44-in. belts may be obtained from Belsaw Machinery Co., 3251 Field Bldg., Kansas City, Mo. 64111, for about 90 cents each.

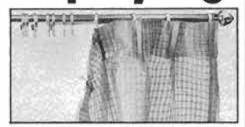
-William Waggoner

MATERIALS LIST—SANDER/GRINDER

Key	No.	Size and description (use)
A	1	1"-i.d. × 2" pipe
B	1	44"-i.d. × 111/4" pipe
C1	1	1/2"-Ld. × 81/2" pipe
C2	1	1/2"-i.d. × 3" pipe (ream to 58" i.d.)
C3	4	1/2" × 3" pipe (ream to 4s" i.d.)
D1	1	1"-l.d. pipe (collar)
D2	1	1/2"-i.d. to 3/4"-i.d. reducing elbow
E1	1	1/2" pipe floor flange
E2	1	44 pipe floor flange
F	2	1/2"-i.d. × 56"-o.d. × 11/9" bushing
G1	1	\$8"-dia. × 10" steel rod
G2	7	%6"-dia. × 3%4" steel rod
H1	1	1/2"-dia. × 4" steel shaft
H2	1	12"-dia. x 3" steel shaft
1	2	% × % × 3" flat steet plate
J	1	1/6 × 1 × 6" flat steel backing plate
K	1	\$16"-dia, × 4" steel rod
L	1	Faucet handle
M	1	31/2" butt hinge
N	1	1/4 20 × 1 1/4" rh machine screw
0	1	1/4-20 nut
P	1	1/4-20 × 3/4" wing bolt
Q	1	\$16 × 1" compression spring
R	1	8-32 hex nut
s	1	\$16-18 hex nul
T	2	8-32 × 1/2" setscrew
U	3	11/2 × 21/4"-dia. hardwood pulleys
٧	1	1/4" hardboard, approx. 6 x 10"
W	3	Protractor
×	1	% × %, length to lit (indicator)
Y	1	8-32 × 1/2" rh machine screw
Z	7	No. 8 rh wood screw
AA		Electric motor
BB	1	3/4 × 10 × 10" plywood
CC	1	%1'-dia. × 1" steel pin
DO	8	Va" Teenut and bolt
EE	1	Abrasive belt

Misc.: Welding materials, white paint (optional).

How to make



Drapery rings are 1/4-in. slices of schedule 40 PVC pipe and No. 16 screw eyes.

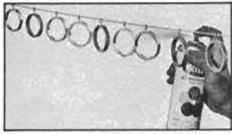
hen the rings for our drapery hangers were lost during moving, new ones, at \$2.59 per pack, would have added up to over \$40. Instead, I made new rings by cutting 1/4-in. slices of 11/2-in. schedule 40 PVC pipe; it has thick walls to receive screw eyes. I predrilled pilot holes, attached screw eyes and painted the rings .- Jack Langseder



A band saw slices the pipe. Strip of masking tape on the table ensures that the slices are cut to the proper thickness.



After marking and drilling a 1/10-in, hole in the PVC, turn the screw eye until the point is flush with the inside wall.



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Here's a brush cleaner that works for all paints

ost shopowners stock an array of expensive solvents for cleaning brushes after various finishing jobs. A common assortment might include turpentine or paint thinner for brushes used with oilbased paints, enamels and varnishes; methyl alcohol for shellac; lacquer thinner for lacquer; and acetone for polyester resins, such as those used when working with fiber-

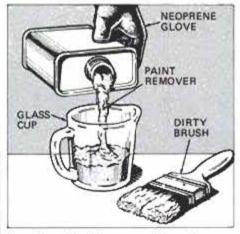
There is one solvent, however, that can take over all brush-cleaning duties. To a chemist, it's known as methyl chloride. To everyone else, it's generally known as paint remover.

Purchase the stuff by the gallon at any hardware store. Sometimes you

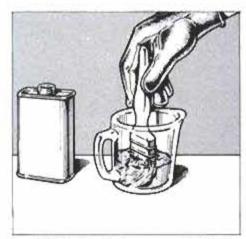
will see methylene written on the label instead of methyl chloride; it will work just the same. In paint remover, methyl chloride is combined with cellulose fillers to slow its evaporation, and a soap emulsifier which lets you rinse it off a brush with water.

A big plus is that it's not flammable, unlike most solvents. In fact, it's used in fire extinguishers. And it is one of the least toxic solvents. However, it should be used with good ventilation, since it displaces oxygen in the air as it evaporates. Also, wear rubber gloves and safety gog-

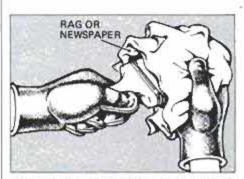
Used as shown in the accompanying drawings, methyl chloride is an even better brush cleaner than the



Pour 2 oz. of paint remover into a glass cup to clean an average 3-in.-wide brush. Wear gloves and safety goggles.

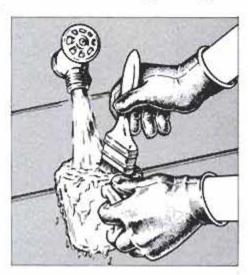


Flex bristles in paint remover until they're fully saturated. Work brush for several minutes to ensure thorough cleaning.



Wipe off as much paint and remover as possible against lip of cup. Then squeeze out bristles in a rag or wad of newspaper.

Rinse brush in cold water (right) in order to get off any remaining paint and remover.



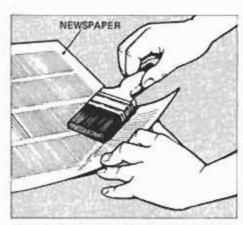
specialized solvents. The fact that paint remover emulsifies, as well as dilutes, enables it to remove even those binders which have hardened into a gummy mass that solvents are unable to penetrate.

Brushes used with latex or acrylic paints also leave dried, hard-toremove residue that water and soap won't wash away. Treating the brush with paint remover is helpful in these cases, too.

Solvent cleaners are, of course,



Using an ordinary hair or wire comb, stroke wet bristles to remove any particles and to give the brush a good shape.



To store the brush until your next paint job, wrap it in newspaper, taking care not to dis-tort the shape of the bristles.

still necessary for thinning, and for cleaning a brush that will be used a couple of hours later.

Conservation tip

A good tip for conserving solvent cleaners: Rinse the dirty brush in a small amount of solvent after squeezing out as much paint as possible into a rag, then pour the used solvent into a larger jar for which you have a cover. Pour another small measure of solvent into the small jar and give the brush a second rinse. Continue with as many rinses as are required to get the brush clean, saving the used solvent. The pigment will settle out of the solvent in the large jar after a few days. Pour it off into a clean container for reuse .- Harold W. Borns

WATER FROM YOUR OWN BACKYARD WELL!

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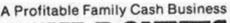
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DRINKING WATER FROM THE SUN

(Continued from page 106)

ganisms in the tank and pans, put a quarter pound of copper sulfate crystals in the supply tank.

When you're ready to activate the system, turn on the water supply. As the water begins to run into the evaporation pans, use shims to attain the final level of the unit. Adjust the water level in the pans by bending the shaft of the float valve (Bobby valve). The float should stop the flow when the water just covers the gravel. At this point, tighten the turnbuckles on the braided anchor wires.

Next, apply weatherstripping to the bottom of the glass-support cleats (PP and QQ). Put the lid with glass in place on the box and attach with wood screws. Water will begin to condense on the glass and drip off the silicone bead into the trough.

Let the still run for three days before collecting the distilled water for use. During this time, find a convenient location for the insulated picnic cooler that serves as a storage tank and install an overflow tube in it. Seal the points where the tubing passes through the walls of the cooler with clear silicone.

Run plastic tubing from the air pump, through the lid of the cooler,



Water purified by the solar still is ideal for drinking, as well as for cooking.

to the air stone and seal with silicone once again. Set the timer so that the air pump runs for about three hours in the evening.

Once the still has run for three days, pass the output line through the lid of the cooler; use silicone to seal the joint. Before use, let the cooler fill a day or two to provide a buffer supply of water.

Maintenance is simple. Check the water level for a few days and cor-

rect if necessary. About every three months, rake the black gravel lightly to expose a fresh surface. Replace gravel annually.

The output of your solar still will vary through the year, depending on weather conditions. In severe winter areas, shut the unit down to prevent freezing. If heavy snows are expected, protect the glass with plywood secured to the lid.

MATERIALS LIST-SOLAR STILL

A	No.	Size and description (use) Robert Bobby valve (float valve) with 1/4"
B	1	tubing fitting 2"-dia. float (for Bobby valve)
č	5	Brass evaporative cooler drains
Ď	5	Brass evaporative cooler-drain looks
E	5	Evaporative cooler-drain rubber washers
F	9	1/2 × 1/2" PVC male pipe-thread adapters
G	1	1/2" × length to suit PVC pipe (feeder line)
H	,	'a" PVC cross fitting
ï	9	
		12" PVC nipples
K	2	12' galvanized unions 12' PVC tee
	4	
L	2	12" PVC elbows
M		2" PVC ceps (collecting-trough ends)
N	1	2" PVC tee (collecting-trough drain)
0	1	2×36" PVC pipe (collecting trough)
P	1	1/2 × 2" PVC female pipe-thread reducer
Q	:	Compression fitting 1/4" nyton or soft copper tubing (supply and output tubing)
5		Glazier's points
Ť		No. 6×1° Phillips-head screws
U		3d galvanized box nails
V	4	
w		'\4"-dia. screw eyes or eyebolts with washers and nuts
	2	Turnbuckles 5×6×12" plastic ice-cube storage tray (float
x	- 10	tank)
٧	4	1 x 171/2 x 231/2" galvanized automotive drip pan (evaporation pans)
Z	1	20 lbs. aquarium gravel
AA	. 1	1/2×37×63" exterior plywood (bottom)
88	1	1/2 × 37" × height to suit (overall) exterior plywood (front support)
CC	1	1/2 × 37" × height to suit (overall) exterior plywood (back support)
00	2	1/2 ×21×64* (overall) exterior plywood (sides)
EE	1	1/2 × 12 × 13" exterior plywood (access port cover)
FF	2	3/4 × 31/2 × 66" pine (sides of top)
GG	2	3/4 × 31/2 × 381/2" pine (front, back of top)
HH	2	1/4 × 11/2 × 63" pine (cleats)
11	2	3/4 × 11/2 × 63" pine (cleats) 3/4 × 11/2 × 19" (overall) pine (back cleats)
n	2	3/4 × 11/2 × 351/2" pine (front and back bottom cleats)
KK	2	34 × 11/2 × 4" pine (front supports)
LL	2	Na × 11/2 × 25/8' pine (filler block)
MM	2	44 × 3½ × 4" pine (collecting-trough supports)
NN	2	3/4 x 11/2 x 44" pine (evaporation-pan supports)
00	4	44 x 11/2 x 37" pine (evaporation-pan supports)
pp	2	34 x 11/2 x 63" pine (glass supports)
QQ	2	34 × 11/2 × 381/2" pine (glass supports)
RR	- 7	1/6 × 383/6 × 643/6" double-strength glass
SS	8	2° corner braces
TT	1	1/2" x 1/4" x 18' adhesive-backed foam weather-stripping
UU	2	34 × 112 × 12' pine (float-tank supports)
W	2	34 × 11/2 × 12" pine (float-tank supports) 34 × 11/2 × 33/4" pine (float-tank supports)
	-	To a file of the same discussion in the state of the same of the s
ww	1	3/4 × 51/4 × 12" pine (floet-tank platform)

'As required.

SHOPPING INFORMATION

The ice-cube tray (part X) is from Rubbermaid. It's model No. 2862 and is available at houseware stores that carry the Rubbermaid line.

The Robert Bobby Valve (part A) is Model RM-64 and is available at most True Value hardware stores and many other hardware outlets. If you have a problem locating one, write to Robert Manufacturing Co., Drawer A, 10667 Jersey Blvd., Cucamonga, Calif. 91730, for the nearest dealer. The automotive drip pans can be found at auto supply outlets.

"AFTER 2700 MILES, MY MARINER WAS ABOUT THE ONLY

THING IN ONE PIECE."

Ken Heskestad, tankerman, New City, New York



It was mid-June when Ken Heskestad left the Seaweed Yacht Club in Stony Point, New York, to begin his odyssey in a little 12-foot Avon inflatable boat, powered by a Mariner 25 hp outboard.

Twenty-seven hundred bone-jarring miles, 23 locks, 2 punctures and 3 months later, Ken motored "Inflation 1" back up the Hudson River toward home. Total maintenance for the trip: 3 spark plugs and a new prop to replace one that was destroyed when he ran aground in a fog. Ken says, "Someday, I'd like to retrace the old Viking route back to Bergen, Norway. Whatever it is, the outboard will be a Mariner."

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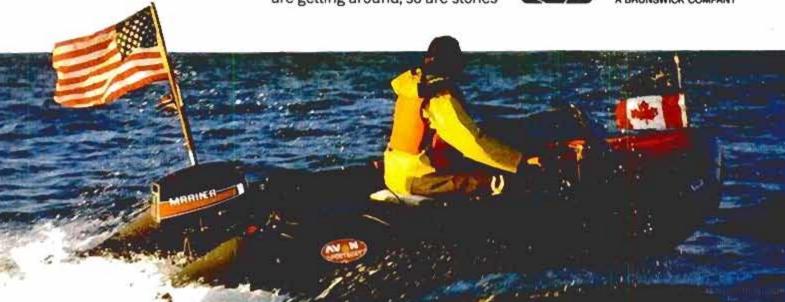


like this one. These remarkable outboards from 2 to 200 hp are proving they really are better in the long run.

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- Continuous display, including moving graphics
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- ing and handling. Price includes connectors for TV and cassette. AC adaptor, and FREE manual

- Mathematical and scientific functions accurate to 8 decimal places
- Unique one-touch entry of key words like PRINT, RUN and LIST
- Automatic syntax error detection and easy editing
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- Built-in interface for ZX Printer
- 1K of memory expandable to 16K The ZX81 is also very convenient to use. It hooks up to any television set to produce a clear 32-column by 24-line display. And you can use a regular cassette recorder to store and recall programs by name.

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The 8K Extended BASIC chip used in the ZX81 is available as a plug-in replacement for your ZX80 for only \$39.95, plus shipping and handling-complete with new keyboard overlay and the ZX81 manual,

So in just a few minutes, with no special skills or tools required, you can upgrade your ZX80 to have all the powerful features of the ZX81. (You'll have everything except continuous display, but you can still use the PAUSE and SCROLL commands to get moving graphics.)

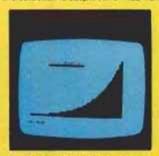
With the 8K BASIC chip, your ZX80 will also be equipped to use the ZX Printer and Sinclair software.

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*Does not apply to ZX81 kits.



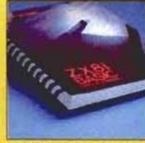
NEW SOFTWARE:Sinclair has published pre-recorded programs on cassettes for your ZX81, or ZX80 with 8K BASIC. We're constantly coming out with new programs, so we'll send you our latest software catalog with your computer.



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~~		TOTAL	

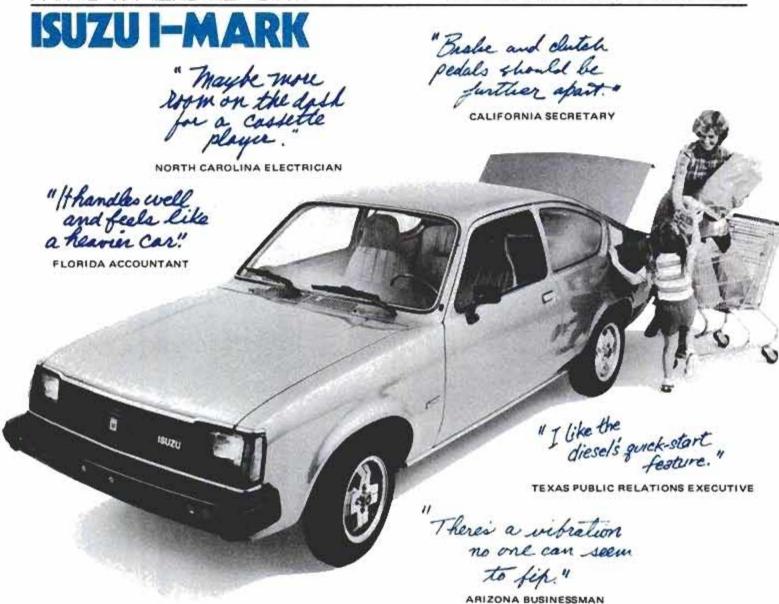
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A little car that packs a great deal of appeal.

There's a lot to like about the Isuzu and very little to nitpick. That's what owners told us after they racked up nearly 2.5 million miles on their I-Mark coupes and sedans—gasoline-powered versions, as well as those with diesel engines (8.1 percent in our survey).

"The price was definitely right," beamed a Minnesota printer. Price brought them in and economy keeps them happy. Nearly half of our respondents listed price as their primary reason for buying the Isuzu.

"I bought my I-Mark coupe," stated a California student, "because it was the most car for the money. It's very economical and fun to drive; also well built, with a large trunk,



The zappy 1.8-liter diesel engine option provides very responsive performance.

good ride, full instrumentation, and it really performs. Quality is excellent, everything fits, and the car is well finished."

Quality, workmanship, standard equipment, comfort, styling and low maintenance all drew whistles and cheers from the great majority of owners. Here's a sampling of the I-Mark's most appreciated aspects.

"Great price on a roomy, high-

mpg, quality automobile," praised a California program support rep. "Being 6-4 and 260 pounds, I found that other cars offered a lot less interior space, particularly headroom, than I needed. This Isuzu LS coupe, though, really fills the bill."

A North Carolina employment counselor told us, "Last summer I

A NATIONWIDE SURVEY BASED ON 2,403,678 OWNER-DRIVEN MILES

made a 3,000-mile trip to Canada and New England in my Isuzu automatic sedan. With the airconditioner running most of the time and considerable mountain driving, we averaged just over 31 mpg. Compared

(Please turn to page 176)

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Building block interface with 4 plug in ports \$79.50. RS 232 cartridge \$79.50, telephone modem \$129.00. Best quality 80 column printed \$379.00. 8K RAM cartridge \$79.50. Floppy disk cartridge \$79.50. Floppy disk \$399.00. Tapes and cartridges \$9.95 to \$19.95.

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Prepare yourself for the future. You can learn to operate and program a computer for great job opportunities in the computer revolution. The built in Basic is a simplified Level II with a unique entry system of Basic command words. This basic includes integer and string arrays. Direct memory access PEEK and POKE. Direct statement execution, user definition functions, multi-statement lines, editing, scrolling, file management, curser and more. We sell a BASIC TUTOR program on tape to teach BASIC Programming. Machine language programs are available.

Since the computer can talk, play music and perform in color IT IS A PHENOMINAL TEACHER. You can now use the TV to EDUCATE not to frustrate your family. You will eliminate TV boredom with programs that challenge, stimulate and entertain you. Create your own programs or select from over 30 programs offered. IT IS A BRILLIANT MUSIC TEACHER. You can practice on the keyboard, select key and tempo, write a tune and record. It has a great color art program. You can improve your memory, math, spelling, vocabulary and sharpen your strategy skills, IT IS A GREAT TUTOR FOR YOUR KIDS.

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Great for the do-it-yourself businessman. Just add the building block interface for \$79.50 and a 8K RAM cartridge for \$79.50. This will give you a 31K computer for only \$389.00. With a floopy disk you can write good sized programs for inventory, names list, accounts receivable, etc.

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SERVICE AND WARRANTY

If the unit fails because of defect of warranty within 90 days of purchase, it will be repaired at no cost for labor and parts. You just send the computer United Parcel prepaid to the service center designated and it will be sent back to you within 48 hours of receipt. United Parcel prepaid. The warranty is backed by APF, a major electronics manufacturer.

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PM OWNERS REPORT: ISUZU

(Continued from page 174)

with other cars of the same size, the Isuzu's weight gives it a most comfortable ride. And yet, the engine is hefty enough for quick response in passing situations."

A retired New Jersey fire chief: "The price is so reasonable! I really like the sedan's styling, and most of the equipment that's optional in other cars is standard here in the Isuzu."

Isuzu offers the least expensive diesel available in this country, so we were anxious to hear from owners who'd had experience with that engine. Again, price and economy headed their list of initial buying goals. Our diesel owners, though, reported mpg tallies considerably lower than those posted by the EPA. Instead of the EPA's best figure of 41/51 mpg, our diesel respondents reported averaging 33.5/39.5 city/ highway.

Of general comments by Isuzu diesel owners, here's a cross section:

"In 6,000 miles, I haven't been back to the dealer for anything, reported a Florida nurseryman. "What I particularly like is the diesel's quick starting, lack of noise and good acceleration.'

A North Carolina polygraphist: "I'm getting 45 to 48 mpg on the highway, so I'm very pleased with my car's cost of operation-also, its workmanship. The only thing that bothers me is rim and tire widththe car needs a larger footprint. Then, too, instrument lighting causes glare in my line of vision."

A Texas insurance agent: "Diesel fuel across the border costs 17 cents a gallon, so I've been wanting a diesel, and I found one that looks great! It's a well made car, but needs a little more acceleration.'

"You can't beat this diesel coupled with the good automatic transmission," smiled an Arizona businessman. "Isuzu has had a lot of experience with diesels. The car is well put together and solid, but a turbocharger would help performance. My car has a vibration in the front end that no one can seem to fix. Three other local I-Mark owners have had the same problem."

A Texas accountant: "I'd expected better fuel mileage with the diesel engine. I'm getting 26 to 38 mpg town and country.'

And a public relations consultant from the same state confided, "I especially like the diesel's prompt starting feature, its reasonable fuel mileage (I'm seeing 34 mpg tops) and its driving ease."

The few complaints we heard from

The mutt with the heart of a thoroughbred

Just for the record, it's pronounced ee-soozoo and in Japanese it means 50 bells. In true Japanese democratic fashion the name was selected from submissions made by the gen-

And it somehow seems highly appropriate that the name was selected by the will of the people, because the !-Mark is fundamentally an Everyman sort of car. There is no single outstanding quality that makes it stand out from the rabble of other low-priced scooters like Starlets, bottom-of-the-line Subarus and Chevettes. Yet, it's charming in its own dated

I drove the base coupe with the diesel engine option (\$6,799) and it felt very much like the Japanese cars that were made 10

It has none of the refined manners of the comparably priced competition like the Civic, the versatility of on-demand 4×4 traction like the Subaru or even the zappy good looks of a Corolla sports coupe. What it does have is a functional, if lumpy-looking, body, a suspension that's made for work rather than play, an interior that looks like your kid brother put it together in shop class and an outstanding little diesel engine. The engine alone forgives most of the car's faults. It starts on the first try. even after sitting all night in 20° weather, it spins freely to its 5,000-rpm redline and provides very undiesel-like performance off the

line, as well as remarkable flexibility when you're sparring your way through heavy traffic.

The brakes are quite good for the day-today skirmishes with cabbies and militant bicycle riders, but heat up and fade a bit if you drive aggressively or demand too many panic stops in a row. The steering is heavy for any really quick road work, but it seems acceptably light if you're pedaling along at a relaxed canter.

Pedaling along and saving fuel is really what the I-Mark does best. The suspension doesn't inspire feats of daring on the freeway or on the back roads, but neither will it lull you with a soft ride. It's quite firm, in fact, with a hard ride that borders on harshness. It does however, feel like it's built for the long run. You get the impression the I-Mark will tolerate well the countless trips to the market, be loaded down with all manner of cargo and keep chugging along faithfully year after year no matter what sort of continual abuse you heap upon it.

It seems a fair enough trade. If you're willing to put up with a car that's nowhere near state-of-the-art technology, it will respond in kind. It won't dazzle you with brilliance, but as the Isuzu owners we talked to demonstrate, it will inspire a certain loyalty for its unpretentious nature and basic virtues. Everyman has his car .- T.A.

Handles beautifully, good pickup on takeoff, very comfortable. easy to maintain.

both diesel and gasoline Isuzu owners involved relatively minor things like temporary airconditioner failsquealing brakes, rattles, squeaks and similar annoyances.

Nearly 70 percent of the owners we surveyed had never needed to go back to the dealer for any repairs at all, despite a one-year, 12,000-mile warranty on parts and labor plus a three-year warranty against body rustouts. Of the owners who needed service, almost 60 percent rated their dealers "good to excellent."

A few owners mentioned waits for parts, but others brought out the fact that since Buick had sold this

same car in the late '70s as the Opel Isuzu, they found a well trained pool of mechanics thoroughly familiar with their cars.

However, several owners did complain that dealers sometimes charged two or three times as much for items like oil filters as chain stores and filling stations.

On the topics of ride, handling and comfort, here are some representative comments:

From a Florida accountant: "The Isuzu handles very well and feels like a much heavier car on the road. Good acceleration and a silent ride."

A California marine electrician: "Handles beautifully, good pickup on takeoff, very comfortable, easy to maintain."

A Florida librarian: "It's an easy car to drive, very comfortable and the seats fit me well. I like the cloth upholstery and the fact that the console comes as standard equipment."

When we asked owners to recommend changes that might improve their Isuzus, 17.6 percent said none-leave the car the way it is. But some did have suggestions, which included the following:

"The brake and clutch pedals should be larger and farther apart," urged a California secretary. And a North Carolina electrician: "The instrument panel ought to have a big-

(Please turn to page 200)

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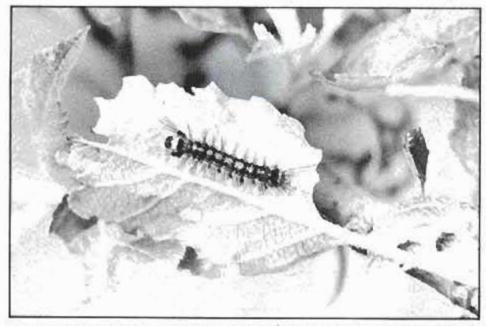
(24272) It rips up to 24 inches, cuts 2-inches deep at 90°. Both blade and motor tilt for bevel and miter cuts, rip fence self-aligns. Two steel extensions make total work area 37 x 20 inches. Direct-drive, capacitor-start, ball-bearing 1/4-HP motor develops 1.6-HP. Aluminum miter gauge and steel leg set included.

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What you can do to control gypsy moths

by Dr. Louis M. Vasvary



This gypsy moth caterpillar can eventually grow to be over 2 inches in length. Later the caterpillar will transform into a moth and will mate and lay eggs. Thus, the cycle repeats.

n recent years, gypsy moth caterpillars have wreaked havoc on thousands of acres of forests and shade trees, and have been plain nuisances to homeowners. We can control these pests. But to do so, it helps to know their history, life cycle and habits.

In 1869, gypsy moth eggs were purposefully imported near Medford, Mass., by a French scientist who hoped to cross gypsy moths with silkworm moths. Some caterpillars may have escaped, or some eggs may have spilled. Thus, today, gypsy moths are established pests.

The gypsy moth passes through four stages of development: egg, larva (caterpillar), pupa and adult (moth). But only the caterpillar stage defoliates trees. Eggs usually hatch in mid- to late April; then the tiny caterpillars climb as high as they can and drop on a fine strand of silk. If it's windy, they can be blown 10 to 20 miles.

Some of their favorite trees include the white oak group, red oak group, apple, ornamental flowering fruit trees and willow. Caterpillars feed on foliage from April to July.

The caterpillars grow up to 2½ in. long. You can identify them by pairs of colored warts along the tops of

their bodies. The first five pairs are blue and the last six are red.

Since eradicating gypsy moths is now impossible, we must utilize various control methods at the specific time each is most effective.

The first step toward control is to predict population for the coming year by counting egg masses in late fall or winter. Substantial defoliation can occur when there are 500 or more egg masses per acre.

Your county cooperative extension agent may have figures on this. However, if you make a count, use binoculars to see egg masses on tall trees. New egg masses are bright tan, rather than the dull, washedout shade of the previous year's eggs. Since caterpillars are windblown, it's also important to know egg-mass density for nearby areas.

Applying insecticides

When egg-mass counts are high and epidemic conditions are imminent, insecticides are the only salvation against defoliation. To provide the best foliage protection using insecticides, you should apply them when the majority of caterpillars are % to 1 in. long. When this growth stage predominates, most caterpillars from surrounding areas have already arrived.

During this critical period, some foliage must be present to retain the insecticide. So, you don't want to spray too early, before foliage emerges, or too late, after trees have been defoliated. At this time, the majority of caterpillars are feeding in treetops. Therefore, aerial applications are more effective—and use



Female adult mates, lays eggs in a single mass, as shown here, and dies. Female moths, larger than males, can't fly.

Photo: Union Carbide Agricultural Products



To trap large gypsy moth caterpillars, tle an 18-in.-wide burlap strip around a tree trunk. When the insects lodge in the cool shelter, remove and destroy them.

less insecticide—than ground treatments. For effective treatment from the ground, sprays should be powerful enough to reach treetops.

Use only those insecticides reviewed and registered for gypsy moth control by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Although controversy exists regarding insecticides for gypsy moth control, spraying substances is the only way

(Please turn to page 180)

Dr. Vasvary is an extension specialist in entomology at Cook College, Rutgers University, Livingston, N.J.

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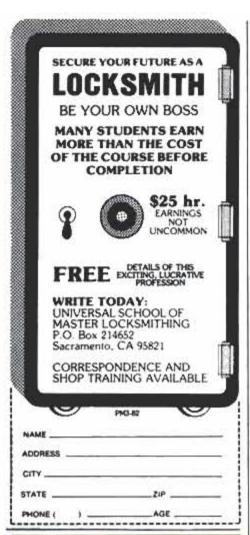
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CONTROL GYPSY MOTHS

(Continued from page 178)

to prevent defoliation in an area containing many caterpillars. However, you should use other control methods during nonepidemic periods.

Insecticides and amounts for ground application are indicated in the chart below.

Of the materials listed below, carbaryl (Sevin) and Bacillus thuringiensis are registered for use on lations of climbing caterpillars. Two such products are Tack-Trap and Stikem Special.

Parasites such as some species of wasps and flies, and predators such as mice and chipmunks, play a role in regulating gypsy moth populations. These controls become more effective at low levels of gypsy

Pheromones are chemical substances secreted by animals which cause a specific reaction by a receiv-

INSECTICIDES						
Material (Brand), Formulation	Amour 100 gal.	nt for Hydraulic 3 gal.	Application 1 gal.	Mist Blower 50 gai.		
Acephate (Orthene) 75% soluble powder 15.6% liquid concentrate	43 lb.	- 4½ tablespoons		43 b.		
Bacilius thuringienals (a bacteria) (Dipel) (Dipel 4L) (Thuncide)	1 to 2 pts. 2 gts.	9 tablespoons 3 to 6 teaspoons 3 fl. oz.	3 tablespoons 1 to 2 teaspoons 1 fl. oz.	5 lb. 21/2 to 5 qts. 10 qts.		
Sendiocarb (Ficam W or Turcam) 76% wettable powder	3 oz.	lication by commercial	applicators	_		
Carbaryl (Sevin) 50% wettable powder 4 flowable (4 lb./qal.) 80% sprayable	2 b. 1 gt. 1 ¼ ib.	5 tablespoons 2 tablespoons 4 tablespoons	2 tablespoons 2 teaspoons 4 teaspoons	1 gal. 5 lb.		
Phoemet (Imiden) 50% wettable powder	11/2 lb. App	lication by commercial	applicators	_		
Methoxychlor 50 (Marlete)	2 to 3 lb.	6 tablespoons	£ teblespoons	_		

most food crops. (See the product list at the end of the story.)

Other control methods

Some control methods useful during low populations of gypsy moths include egg-mass removal or treatment, and banding trees. You can destroy egg masses from August to mid-April by removing them with a penknife or putty knife. Scrape the egg masses into a can containing Clorox, or into an empty container which you can burn. Pick up all egg masses that fall to the ground.

You can also treat egg masses directly on the tree with a 1 to 2 mix of creosote to fuel oil. Apply mixture with a paintbrush and only cover egg masses, not the entire tree trunk. Wear gloves for protection.

Beginning in mid- to late May, burlap or cloth strips tied around tree trunks will capture some gypsy moth caterpillars. Cut the strips at least 18 in. wide and long enough to encircle the tree 4 ft. above ground level. Secure the material around the middle with string. Fold the upper edge of of the strip down over the string to form a skirtlike band. Remove and kill captured caterpillars every day. Sometimes aluminum foil or thin plastic wrap secured around tree trunks will also stop cat-

Sticky material applied to tree trunks will also intercept low popuing animal of the same species. Synthetic sex pheromones have been formulated and used for confusing and trapping male moths. However, traps haven't provided successful control in moderate to high populations.

The best natural control of the gypsy moth is a virus which causes a wilt" disease among caterpillars. Unfortunately, the disease works best when the pests have reached a high population density. However, it might be a good weapon for future control when we understand its pro-

MANUFACTURERS-**GYPSY MOTH INHIBITORS**

Sticky materials applied to tree trunks Tack-Trap: Ari, Lawn and Garden Div., Box 999, Griffin, Ga.,

Tree Tanglefoot: The Tanglefoot Co., Tanglefoot Building, 314 Straight Ave. S.W., Grand Rapids, Mich. 49504. Stikem Special: Michel and Pelton Laboratories, 5743 Land-

regan, Emeryville, Calif. 94608

Orthene: Chevron Chemical Co., Agricultural Pesticides Div., 575 Market St., San Francisco, Calif. 94105

Dipel and Dipel 4L: Abbot Laboratories, Chemical and Agricultural Products Div., 14th and Sheridan, D-95M, North Chicago, III. 60064

Thuricide: Sandoz Inc., Crop Protection, 480 Camino del Rio S., San Diego, Calif. 92108 Ficam W and Turcam: BFC Chemicals Inc., 4311 Lancaster

Pike, Box 2867. Wilmington, Del. 19805

Sevin: Union Carbide Agricultural Products, Box 17610, Jacksonville, Fla. 32216 Imidan: Stauffer Chemical Co., Nyala Farm Rd., Westport,

Conn 06880 Marfate: E.I. duPont de Nemours and Co. Inc., 1007 Market St., Wilmington, Det. 19898

J.T. Baker Chemical Co., Philipsburg, N.J. 08865

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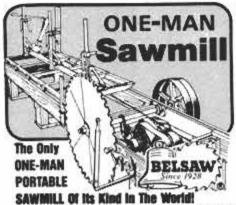
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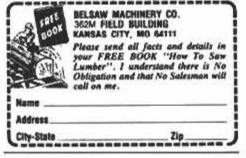
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THE ICE ABOVE, GIANT BELOW

(Continued from page 119)

than a decade and all without major mishap. The proposal comes from the marine division of General Dynamics Corp. and is principally the work of its Electric Boat (submarines) and Quincy (LNG) Shipbuilding subsidiaries.

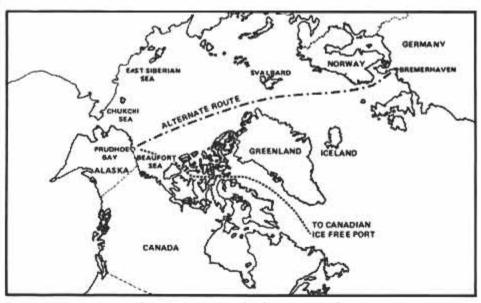
It is perhaps the most fascinating concept advanced as a solution to the major problem of the Alaskan North Slope: not how to produce oil or natural gas, but how to move the vast amounts already discovered to world markets.

Surface ships, according to a majority of experts, can't fight the ice year-round and do a reliable job. Although there are still some proponents of new ice-breaking tanker designs (primarily Canadian interests), the Esso S.S. Manhattan project is regarded, by most marine architects, as the final test of surface ships against Arctic ice—a test

believe the project will never be completed, although 1987 has been given as a target date.

By comparison, General Dynamics calls for a fleet of 17 submarine tankers, each costing about \$700 million to produce, plus another \$3 to \$4 billion in shore facilities. Reactor-powered versions of the sub LNG tanker design—the "nuke option"—would cost an additional \$25 million apiece to build. But, because of a speed advantage—15 knots versus 12 for the larger, heavier methane/liquid oxygen-fueled sub tanker—only 14 nuclear vessels would be required to deliver the same volume of gas at the specified rate.

Besides costing almost \$30 billion less than the projected pipeline, and being much preferred from an environmental standpoint, the submarine tanker offers the flexibility to react to marketing—which, in terms of petroleum, usually means "political"—conditions. For instance, the Reagan administration might be



Proposed submarine LNG tanker routes to ice-free ports in Canada or West Germany.

which has proven them to be economically unviable. Off Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, the Beaufort Sea not only freezes several feet thick, but the surface icepack is often thrust by wind and current into pressure ridges that build up like small mountain ranges.

Washington's favored solution has thus far taken the form of a proposed 4,800-mile pipeline, branching off in Canada to terminuses both in Chicago and San Francisco. It would be the largest private construction project ever undertaken, at an astronomical cost of \$43 billion, a portion of which would be federal subsidies—read "taxpayers"—put up in advance of construction. Even if financed, with environmentalist objections cast aside, some experts

able to talk West Germany out of finalizing a massive deal for Russian natural gas via pipeline if some means of supplying the Germans with Alaskan gas existed.

But current indications suggest that despite some obvious advantages, the submarine concept is regarded by both government and private sources of finance as too novel and untried.

Yet, the idea really isn't new.

At General Dynamics, the idea goes back 13 years to a design for a submarine oil tanker. This slightly smaller sub—about 900 feet long, as opposed to 1,400 for the LNG version—would also have operated from Prudhoe Bay. Interestingly, even as pipelines today are being championed for long-distance Arctic

gas transmittal, the original submarine idea, for hauling crude oil, is the subject of renewed interest on the part of Canadian interests; it may yet be built.

Six cargo tanks

Liquid natural gas handling, of course, involves more critical systems than does transportation of heavier petroleum products. The LNG sub would have six separate. 340-foot-long cylindrical cargo tanks. Inside the steel pressure hull of each would be a layer of insulation identical to that lining the spherical tanks of LNG ships now operating: mechanically attached isocyanurate (foam) panels. This system has a designed boil-off rate of about 0.2 percent per day. An air-filled space between the insulation and the pressure hull would allow for inspection and repair access. The tank material inside the insulation would be nickel steel, built to withstand the extra pressure should malfunction prevent venting of boil-off gas.

A main, variable-ballast tank running down the center of the submarine would provide the necessary seawater ballast for submerged running with or without cargo (LNG tanks cannot be contaminated while deadheading). General Dynamics believes the general undersea operating routine would involve nothing outside the realm of current military submarine operations. A heavy array of electronic and sonar sensing instruments, however, would be necessary for the detection of undersea obstacles below, above and to all sides.

Operation at 600 feet

Arctic-sea ice-pressure ridges extend more deeply below the surface-as much as 150 feet-than they do above it, and would provide a primary navigational hazard. The tanker is designed to operate at a maximum depth of 600 feet. The pressure hulls would have a col-lapse depth of 1,000 feet. Normal cruise would probably be at about 300 feet, depending on available depth and presence of surface obstacles. It wouldn't pay to run deeper, since a "mid-water layer," extending from about 600 down to 3,000 feet in Arctic oceans, is actually warmer by several degrees than the 29°F. surface layer and this would only work against the cryogenic cargo insulation. (Sudden or massive release of LNG into the much-warmer seawater might result in a spontaneous explosion—nobody is exactly

While there would be emergency hatches, compatible with rescue submersibles, to provide escape for the crew of 30-plus, a grounding or complete power loss under heavy pack-ice would be dicey. Even the heaviest sea ice is always moving, however, and is frequently split open by wind and current into what are called leads or polynyas. These pools can be several hundred yards wide and a mile or more long. The open water would soon glaze over with thin ice, but the tanker could surface through it-the deck and upper hull protected by those 10-by-10 oak beams put there specifically for that purpose.

The nuclear-powered version of the tanker, while speedier and more economical to operate, would require some backup source of propulsion in the event the reactor had to be shut down for emergency reasons while the ship was submerged under

General Dynamics engineers believe a storage-battery system could suffice, although an auxiliary diesel engine, fueled by LNG and liquid oxygen, might be preferable. Highly sophisticated sonar gear would locate a nearby polynya; once the ship were positioned below it, it would need no further auxiliary power to surface.

Stored compressed air would blow seawater ballast from the main tank, with no drastic effect on trimalthough emergency surfacing would probably be undertaken in a bow-high mode.

It is estimated that a seabed cargo-transfer facility (illustration on page 118) would give individual tankers no more than a 24-hour turnaround time in Prudhoe Bay. The proposed fleet (17 non-nuclear or 14 reactor-powered) would have a cargo-lift capability of two billion cubic feet of natural gas per dayevery day.

Prototype proof

It is apparent that the concept would require proof in prototype, even though its novelty lies primarily in the grand scale at which technology is applied, rather than totally new applications. Adding a nuclear reactor to the mix might be too much for most nervous bureaucrats to swallow-even though the methane-fired version would require a large liquid oxygen tank aboard. This would add bulk and weight and would require a liquid oxygen processing plant at the southern terminus of the tanker route.

There was a day when bold ventures had better than even chances. In that regard, the submarine tanker concept might have come along not before, but after, its time.



1 Crutchfield Park, Charlottesville,

Department Q

City

This small rustic-looking log container holds a variety of succulents such as starshaped aloe, several types of lacy sedum and rose-shaped seonium.

Planting cacti in small containers

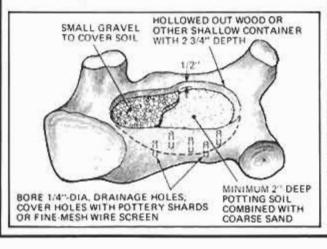
Gnarled, burled, twiggy, knotted and generally craggy pieces of wood make ideal containers for cacti and succulents. The rough wood textures complement the often thorny, often tough-skinned cacti. Wood containers can also provide good drainage—a necessity for healthy succulents.

You don't need a large container for a cactus garden, as there are many miniature species. For example, some types of aloes and sedums (see photo) retain their miniature sizes so you can enjoy a cactus dish garden long after you plant it. As an extra bonus, many succulents are so hearty that they grow with little encouragement.

Cacti and succulents don't grow in pure sand—they require nutrition, and the soil should have good drainage. You

can grow them in a commercial planting mix to which you should add vermiculite and sharp sand to improve the drainage.

When you repot a cactus, gently remove the hard crust of soil from the container and loosen the roots very slightly. Place the cactus in the pot and add soil to within ½ in, of the rim. Give your dish garden several days before watering it sparingly.



CONTAINED GARDENS

(Continued from page 135)

materials by using constructiongrade redwood.

However, since the box will be filled with earth and, thus, susceptible to decay and insect infestation, construction heart redwood is a better choice.

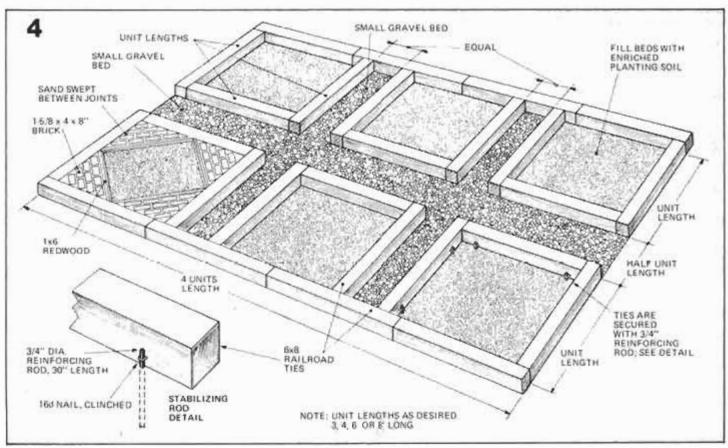
Cut parts to size, according to the drawing on page 135. Mark and bore drainage holes in the bottom piece. Next, cut the rabbets in the front-piece and test-fit the parts without glue.

To cut the scalloped edge along the top of the frontpiece, draw in a pencil grid lightly, using 1-in. squares as shown in the drawing. With squares in place, you can draw in the curves freehand.

Analyze your artwork critically, to make certain you like what you've drawn. Then, cut the edge, using a sabre saw and a relatively fine woodcutting blade. Sand the shape, using a drum sander in your portable drill.

Assemble the box with the fasteners noted on the drawing in the following order: back cleat to back; side cleats to sides and back; front to sides. The bottom floats. For maximum strength, use resorcinol glue in the fixed joints.

Caution: Attach the window box securely in place. Locate the double plate (directly under the window's sill) and fasten the box; use 4-in. No.



18 hot-dipped, galvanized lagscrews with washers turned through the box, the siding and into the plate behind. Add wedges (wood shingles) between the box and the wall as needed to level the box.

3 Telephone-pole edgers

Weathered telephone poles sunk into sloping land contrast handsomely with blooming plants placed along the border.

Although telephone poles are difficult to buy in some areas, you can begin your search by calling the local utility company, or a landscape supply company.

A chain saw generally does a good job of cutting the poles to the lengths you'll need for this particu-

lar project.

To keep pole sections securely in place, it's a good idea to join them with 1/2-in.-dia. steel rods driven through holes bored in the poles with a 1/2-in. or larger drill.

As extra security on sloping ground, clamp one end of a length of wire around the steel rods between poles at 30-in. intervals. Then clamp the other end of the wire to a "dead man" buried farther up the slope. After positioning the poles, you should backfill the trench and then tamp the earth firmly in place to provide support.

4 Railroad-tie planting beds

This contemporary-looking garden is inspired by the age-old concept of intensive gardening, which is practiced in both Europe and the Orient.

The idea is to fill each bed with highly enriched planting soil and to plant it densely with chosen vegetables, herbs and flowers. The theory is that the dense plantings will crowd out most weeds.

There's a great amount of flexibility in the plan of this modular garden. You can begin on a modest scale, with two or more modules and then add additional ones as you need them, or as railroad ties become available.

The ties are secured in place by 30in. lengths of %-in.-dia. reinforcing rod, attached with 16d nails partially driven into the ties and clinched around the rods.

You'll find that the raised beds are more easily tended than conventional gardens. They also offer architectural interest, even in the dormant season.

For an added aesthetic effect, try positioning bricks in some of the modules.

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NEW PRODUCTS FOR LAWN AND GARDEN (Continued from page 139)

The Growmaker is a 14-cu.-ft.-capacity compost bin made of eight rolled steel panels, a sturdy base and a hinged lid. All parts are coated with aluminum-zinc alloy and green paint to reduce corrosion. Each panel can be raised separately to remove compost evenly. The 30-in.-diameter unit is 34 in. high, weighs 26 pounds and is priced at \$73.95 postpaid from Rotocrop Inc., 604 Aero Park, Doylestown, Pa. 18901.



The professional-model High Limb Chain Saw is a pruning saw designed for cutting high limbs without a ladder. The tool consists of a 4-ft. chain blade, two 25-ft. lengths of polypropylene rope and a 14-ounce sandbag weight. To operate, just attach the throwing weight to one rope end, toss over the tree limb and cut. It costs \$39.95 at hardware stores and from the manufacturer: Green Mountain

Products, Muller Industrial Park,

Norwalk, Conn. 06852.

Stone Bark is an earth-colored mulching material made of slate that's been altered to look like chips of wood bark, According to the manufacturer, it won't rot, fade, blow away or attract insects. A 45pound, 1-cu.-ft. bag sells for \$4 at home and garden centers. If it's not available in your area, write to Old Dutch Materials Co., 350 Pfingsten Rd., Northbrook, III. 60062, for the nearest dealer.



Struck Corp., Struck Lane, Cedar-

burg, Wis. 53012.

Hydroponic gardening is now available to homeowners through the Vegetron. Made from a series of 3-in-diameter PVC tubes arranged in steps, the tubes are connected with hoses to a pump (a.c. current). This design provides plants with a controlled flow of water, oxygen and nutrients. According to the

ly assembled, and if placed in a sunny ation. Price ranges information packet Geo. W. Park Seed

maker, the unit is easily assembled, and produces maximum yield if placed in a sunny spot with good air circulation. Price ranges from \$352 to \$664. A free information packet is available by writing to Geo. W. Park Seed Co. Inc., Box 31, Greenwood, S.C. 29647.



The HB-680 is a gasoline-powered blower/mister/sprayer that weighs 16.5 pounds and has a 2-gal, spraytank capacity. It can drive spray up to 30 ft. horizontally and 20 ft. vertically, and it can blow air at the rate of 245 cu. ft. per minute. The unit has engine speed control and liquid volume control, mounted on the front handles, and easily accessible air filter, fuel filter and carburetor in the rear for adjustment or replacement. It sells for \$259.95 at Homelite dealers and is made by Homelite Div. of Textron Inc., Box 7047, Charlotte, N.C. 28217.

The Solo Model 581 rotary lawnmower has a 5-hp, liquid-cooled engine with a 2-quart fuel tank that allows up to four hours of uninterrupted cutting. According to the maker, its low-profile plastic housing cuts rust corrosion and engine noise. This 18-in. mower weighs 55 pounds. It's \$399 at garden centers and is made by Solo Inc., Box 5030, 5100 Chestnut Ave., Newport News, Va. 23605.





The Back-Saver is a gooseneck-handled lawn rake that reduces user fatigue. Its 48-in.-long, tubular-steel handle is connected to a 20-in.-wide head with 32 spring-steel teeth. It's 29 pounds, and \$9.95 at home and garden centers. Made by Rugg Manufacturing Co., Box 507, Greenfield, Mass. 01302.

(Please turn to page 188)



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LAWN AND GARDEN PRODUCTS

(Continued from page 187)



tion can provide greater strength than injection moiding. This allows the product to remain sturdy and durable in temperatures ranging from -20°F to +150°F. The 32-gal.-capacity can shown here sells for \$19.95 at hardware stores and home centers. It's manufactured by Fesco Div. of Cities Service Co., Box 626, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15230.

turer, the blowmolded construc-



The Green Machine is a lightweight, electric cultivator with two double-edged, reciprocating, spring-steel cutting blades. According to the manufacturer, this motion eliminates the clogging that is common to circular-action cultivators. With a heavy-duty plastic housing, the unit is 52 in. long, weighs 11 pounds and sells for \$99.95 at home centers. It's made by HMC, 20710 Alameda St., Long Beach, Calif. 90810.

Phone

MATCH TACKLE FOR MORE FISH

(Continued from page 127)

panfishes, the intermediate sport fishes and the larger game fishes.

Panfishes include the bluegill and its many country cousins such as redear, pumpkinseed, rock bass, green, redbreast, and spotted fishes, plus bullhead, catfish, crappie, yellow perch and pickerel as well as small trout.

The intermediate fishes include largemouth, spotted, smallmouth, white and yellow basses, plus channel catfish, walleye, larger trout, white perch and larger pickerel.

The larger game fishes include muskellunge, northern pike, salmon, channel catfish, sturgeon, and many species of inshore saltwater fishes.

As you can guess, the lures needed to catch each group vary from tiny for panfishes to whoppers for the larger game fishes, and it's obvious that no one rig will properly cast such a wide range of lure weights. You can't cast a bluegill lure using a musky rig, and vice versa.

Then, in addition to selecting the properly matched rig for the fish you want to catch, you must also choose the method of casting that suits you best-spin-casting, spinning, bait casting, or fly fishing. Here are explanations and charts that show you how to pick matched components for the three sport-fish categories.

Spin casting

This is the most popular method of fishing because it is the simplest. It's especially recommended for a youngster or a beginner adult because spin-casting rigs come in youth and adult sizes.

The reel has an enclosed stationary spool with a center hole in the forward side of the cover through which the line runs during casting and retrieving. A thumbing lever on the back of the cover is depressed to

hold the line, then released to free the line when making a cast. After a little practice, anyone with normal coordination can cast with ease.

Spinning

This method uses the open-face spinning reel, which has a stationary spool with no enclosure. The line flows freely though a large gathering guide on a spinning rod during the cast and is picked up for feeding back onto the reel with a hookshaped bail during the retrieve. Spinning is not quite as easy for a beginner to learn as the spin-casting method, but it is second in populari-

Balt casting

This is the oldest and most difficult to master of all the methods. The reel is the problem because it takes skill to control it properly during the cast. Unlike spin-casting or spinning, the spool isn't fixed, but revolves rapidly as the lure pulls off line during the cast. If the caster has a dumb thumb that's not smart enough to yield line gradually during the cast, a miserable mess called backlash occurs as the reel's spool overspeeds.

Many modern bait-casting reels, however, now have a remarkable device that virtually wipes out this backlash when properly adjusted. It's called a centrifugal braking system. It's not difficult to operate and, once mastered, bait casting has an edge in casting accuracy and control of a fighting fish, in this fisherman's opinion.

Fly fishing

Devotees of the "long rod" admit it isn't for everyone, but anyone who stays with this method long enough to master it will unquestionably heighten the thrill of catching any

In fly casting, the line is heavy enough to carry out the tiny lure, or

Please turn to page 190)

		SPIN CASTIN	IG	
Rod action	Reel size	Pound-test line	Lure weights	Fish
Ultralight	Mini-size	4 to 6	Vie to 1/4 OZ	Panfishes
Light	Mid-size	6 to 10	1/4 to 3/8 oz.	Intermediate
Medium	Standard	10 to 15	3/8 to 3/4 oz.	Intermediate/Large
Heavy	Large	15 to 30	3/4 oz. and up	Large
		SPINNING		
Ultralight	Mini-size	2 to 6	1/20 to 1/4 oz.	Panfishes
Light	Mid-size	4 to 8	1/16 to 1/4 oz.	Intermediate
Medium	Standard	6 to 12	1/4 to 5/4 oz.	Intermediate/Large
Heavy	Large	12 to 30	% oz. and up	Large
		BAIT CASTIN	IG	
Light	Mid-size	6 to 8	'/e to '/4 oz.	Panfishes
Light-medium	Standard	8 to 12	1/4 to 3/6 oz.	Intermediate
Medium	Standard	10 to 20	3/4 to 3/4 oz.	Intermediate/Large
Heavy	Service	20 to 30	% oz. and up	Large

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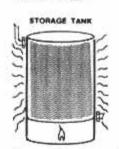
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MATCH TACKLE FOR MORE FISH

(Continued from page 189)

fly, and the reel is not in motion during the final cast. At the end of the heavy line is a 6- to 9-foot monofilament leader which varies from about 2- to 30-pound test, depending upon the size of fish being sought. Our match rod-to-reel-to-line-tolure charts are not applicable in the same way here. Instead, seek the advice of an experienced fly fisherman where you live.

Other gear

In addition to the casting rigs, you need additional equipment to properly fit out for trips afield. You will be fishing either afoot or afloat, and each way requires its own matchedup gear to make you a complete angler.

Afoot: This is how I began fishing in southern Ohio more than half a century ago, and the way I still get some of my biggest kicks. There's something about prowling the shores and shallows of a lake or stream that's special. Maybe it's getting in the water with the fish for hand-to-fin combat.

In summertime when waters are warm, it's common to see fishermen wading and fishing in old jeans and sneakers. Lures can be carried in a discarded pocketbook, with the lining removed, slung comfortably over your shoulder. Or a rucksack may be preferred because it's large enough to hold not only lures, tools, insecticide, and rain gear, but also a light lunch.

In waters too cold for comfort, insulated thigh boots or chest waders are recommended. You can wade out farther from shore to reach deeper holes, and cross over riffles to fish both shores of a stream without getting wet and cold.

Afloat: In a boat, you do cover a lot more water and reach places not possible to fish afoot. Chances of enlarging your catch increase and help justify the investment. Again, it is best to get the advice of another angler who knows the type of boat and motor suited for the area where you fish. For the first few trips, you might want to hire a guide and make notes not only on his equipment, but also where and how he fishes.

One final tackle tip: Beware of most bargains and closeouts in fishing gear. Remember that a good mechanic with bad tools is a poor mechanic. It's smart to shop around. but usually best to stay with the name brands that have withstood the tests of time. And what better time to shop around than right now?

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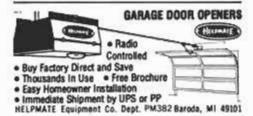
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NEW SURVIVAL GEAR

(Continued from page 125)

closed garage and the exhaust isn't blocked, you can sit in your car to warm up with the engine running. and listen to the car radio for disaster information. Better still, you can communicate your problems if you have a CB radio transmitter.

On the road

A well-stocked car trunk normally will have tire and motor-repair tools. In addition, consider the following: a tow cable and a coil of rope plus a lever-type winch, flares, reflectors, flashlight and hand spotlight, jumper cables, small camp stove, mess kit, ice chest with dehydrated



Generators, particularly mini-models like these Suzukis, can light up a blackout, but are compact to stow and light to carry.

food, waterproof matches and candles stowed inside, ground cloth, space blanket and army blanket, duct tape and wire, coveralls and rain gear, work gloves, first-aid kit, hatchet, and possibly, in cold climates, a sleeping bag. This may seem like an extensive list, but all the items should fit into an ice chest and duffle bag. Fortunately, weight isn't the problem it might be for a backpacker. In warm weather, a canteen, water jug, 12-volt portable refrigerator and possibly even a snake-bite kit might be added.

Some of these aids come prepackaged. The Pak Kit Jr., a 5 by 3-inch tubular container, holds waterproof matches, 8-foot tube tent, fire starter, nylon cord, dehydration tablets, emergency notes, razor blade and duct tape. It's under \$10 from Stow-A-Way Industries, 166 Cushing Highway, Cohasset, Mass. 02025, a major source for a wide variety of dehydrated foods and camping equipment items, as well as books on survival and self-sufficiency. Their catalog is \$2, refundable with the first purchase.

Ten tools in one six-pound holster is the claim for the SOS Rescue Unit from Essem Inc., Box 413, Ridgefield, Conn. 06877. A heavy-duty spade that can also become an ax, crowbar, saw, knife, hammer and metal cutter (among other uses), it's employed like a can opener by fire, police and rescue units to cut into a car after an accident. Price is about \$225 for the professional model, and a home-and-sport unit is available. as well.

Especially for emergency communication, General Electric offers a HELP CB transceiver kit that has a magnet-based antenna and plugs into a cigaret lighter in the car for a quick call for assistance.

Spare lights always belong with the tools in the trunk, and now fluorescents with low battery drain, like the new little Safe-T-Lite from Yolinda International, Box 489, Yorba Linda, Calif. 92686, combine a white worklight with a flashing red strobe on top for under \$20.

At home

Many car accessories can be useful at a campground or in the house, of course, and much new survival gear will do double or triple duty outdoors, on the road or in the basement. Some foods, for example, can be stored without deteriorating, thanks to freeze drying and air-tight plastic wraps. Even whole milk, from Stow-A-Way and others, is being successfully sterilized and canned for long-term storage. Stow-A-Way's extensive food assortments



A hatchet or machete, like this Woodsman's Pai from Survival Equipment, Oley, Pa., can help clear branches after storm.

have been served up in outer space.

Some of the latest compact generators can light up the TV, start an oil burner, or power a portable refrigerator like the BiLan 25, a new unit with no moving parts and low current drain on 12, 115 or 220 volts. It's \$189 from Juhl Associates, Box 974, Elkhart, Ind. 46515.

Probably most compact of convenient stow-away guns are the Explorer II pistol and AR-7 take-apart floating rifle from Charter Arms. 430 Sniffens Lane, Stratford, Conn. 06497. Charter also has a new AR-7S with anticorrosion finish for boatmen. Tools to clear away fallen branches could include the Woodsman's Pal from the Survival Equipment Co., Oley, Pa. 19547, or the machetes by Tiffen International, Box 881, Clanton, Ala. 35045.

(Continued from page 20)

new, ultrasmall compact trailers are headed for the market, with a mini-utility one-wheeler, called the Pack Horse I, announced by Coleman. The company also makes a Pack Horse II that comes in a kit, plus its Caboose made of Ram-X and the Versa-trailer that, with its camping kit, props up the top to sleep a couple of kids.



Warrior is Winnebago's line-leader in lightweight motor homes. The 22-footer can sleep four and nears 15-mpg economy.

Camping trailers for '82 will come from Starcraft, Coleman, Viking and a number of other tent-trailer makers, including Continental Industries, Davison, Mich., a source for the 310-pound Travlite that, with its 25-pound hitch weight, can hook up behind a motorcycle. Jayco, in Middlebury, Ind., with its new 475pound JayTiki, has a clever unit that folds out and down to sleep four after being towed to the campsite by subcompact. The Combi-Camp from Denmark is a similar tent-type



Aerodynamic restyling of front of Coachmen motor homes lowers wind resistance. Airconditioner, microwave are options.



Viking's 14-foot Mini Gasser camping tent trailers for compact towing sleep four and can come with galley, accessories.

that folds down and out, while from the Channel island of Guernsey, the Esterel, with solid sides, folds up and out from its tow package.

European camping is having a strong influence on American camping styles. Rigs suitable for the small cars, narrow streets, high fuel prices and crowded campgrounds of the continent are being adapted to the United States. Colorful tents with inside-room dividers and outside awning shelters are being carried aboard RVs to set up for the kids or mount alongside for added living space. Carefree of Colorado, in Broomfield, has introduced an Adda-Room, made of Condura nylon. It attaches to the side of a travel trailer or motor home for a screened-in or curtained-in extra enclosure.

Slide-in camper bodies for the compact-size pickups are made in solid, fold-out and pop-top models. The new compact pickups like Ford's Ranger and Courier, Chevy's S-10 and the GMC S-15 should provide competition for the imports. Low-



Tioga completes 10 years as one of most popular Fleetwoods. In five models from 20 to 26 feet, Model T has Ford chassis.

profile camp trailers and travel trailers that can raise the roof at a campsite are popular. New Paris Enterprises, New Paris, Ind., even has a Valor, 21-foot, fifth-wheel trailer with pop-up roof that lowers two feet for reduced wind drag when it's in tow.

Tiny travel trailers, again like those favored in Europe, are made by Burro, Trillium, Sun Lite and many others. Serro, with 25 years in the business, is introducing a little, 121/2-foot, four-sleeper Scotty, a lowprofile underslung 13 and a compact Scotty 131/2.

Yellowstone, Coachmen, Skyline, Airstream, and the Fleetwood divisions all have updated travel trailers. The raised top-section that Bud Coons designed for his Diamond vans, and the dropped rear entry of the Champion Transvans now have many imitators.

Big park models with slide-out rooms and bay windows are featured by Heritage, Cree, Oak Park, Fan and other big-trailer builders.



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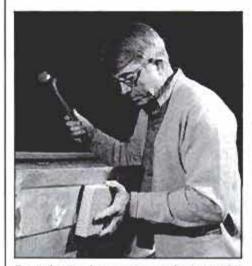
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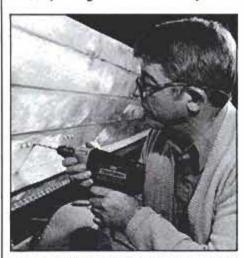
(Continued from page 123)

friend. For only \$100, he bought an old Starcraft aluminum runabout. built in the 1960s, and the rusty trailer it was sitting on.

Inspection before buying showed that, although it looked a wreck, the dents were minor and the hull was basically in sound shape. The paint job was completely shot from exposure to weather, but there were no



Dents in aluminum are smoothed out with careful peening and wooden backup block.



Loose rivets are drilled out and replaced with aluminum bolts, washers and nuts.

cracks, broken structural members or defects that would make the hull unsafe

Gunwales, deck and interior flooring were damaged beyond salvation, however-hence the bargain price. Saltwater had rusted out the trailer. but Ned kept it as a cradle for moving the boat around while it was being rebuilt.

With the help of Don Wagner, a friend with sufficient woodworking experience for the project he had in mind, Ned quickly stripped the battered craft down to bare aluminum hull and ribs. Ned Segar's goal was to build a fishing machine with an interior featuring a completely flat floor, an elevated casting platform at each end, and wide, flat gunwales with rod racks beneath for six rods on each side

The casting platforms would be raised to a few inches below the gunwales, providing elevation for anglers fishing the South Florida flats for bonefish, or local fresh waters for bass. It would even be possible to add pedestal seats to those platforms, if desired, and convert the craft into a serious bass-fishing rig. since the basic layout would be similar to well-designed bass boats.

First came the transverse stringers for the new flooring. Pressuretreated 2×4s were obtained from a local lumberyard. These were carefully cut to size, end-notched to fit



Small holes are fixed with Pliobond-costed aluminum patches held with Pop rivets.



Pressure-treated 2×4s are notched to fit, secured with stainless self-tap screws.

over the existing aluminum ribs along the bottom, and anchored in place with self-tapping stainlesssteel screws. It's important that the screws be exactly the right length to penetrate only the wood and ribs. but not the hull.

The flooring was %-inch marine plywood. Ned said later that 1/2-inch ply would have probably been just as rigid since the stringers are barely a foot apart. Thinner plywood would have saved a little weight. Before the floor pieces were screwed in place, Ned poured in expanding polyfoam flotation. This is a twopart mix that comes in liquid form and expands into a light, rigid foam when the chemicals are combined. The cost of enough mix to fill the entire hull below the flooring was about \$100. Once the foam was hard, Ned and Don leveled the top of it with orbital sanders until it did not quite touch the plywood. This prevents the typical foam-squeak when the flooring is walked on.

There are a number of ways to build wide, flat gunwales on a hull of this type. Ned and Don first cut a 5-inch-wide piece of %-inch plywood in the shape of the gunwale they wanted. Using 1½-inch stainless screws, they anchored this cut-to-fit gunwale board to the inside upper edge of the hull. With these in place on both sides, each was covered with 1-inch-thick mahogany boards



Plywood flooring was fitted and expanding polyfoam poured in spaces under the floor.

screwed to the form. Gunwale edges were finished off with 1½-inch mahogany strips inside and outside the hull.

(When I reconditioned my own skiff, I used 1×2 lumber with one gunwale strip inside the hull bolted through to another outside. Then, by adding one strip screwed and glued to the outside and four more inside, the result was a flat, 6-inchwide serviceable gunwale that wasn't as attractive as Ned's but much quicker to build.)

Either system achieves hull rigidity. Without a strong gunwale system, neither aluminum nor fiberglass hulls would be strong enough to withstand the hard push of the outboard against the transom.

Once flooring and gunwales were completed and a few dents peened out of the topsides, Ned installed fore and aft casting platforms of %-inch exterior ply braced with 2×4s. The platforms need %- or %-inch ply

so that heavy, closely spaced braces won't be necessary.

Instead of painting the interior, Segar chose a complete covering of lightweight blue carpet called Sofdek, made by General Tire & Rubber Co. Complete gunwale-to-gunwale installation required seven yards of the 6-foot-wide material, at \$14 per yard.

For quality fittings that could stand up to Florida's tropical weather, Ned chose Attwood hardware. Ideally, the nuts, bolts and washers used on an aluminum boat should also be of aluminum. It's a good idea to coat the washers (which should be used both inside and outside the hull) with a rubber cement such as Pliobond as an insulating barrier to prevent corrosion. Brass fastenings, of course, should never be used since the dissimilar metals and resulting



To support new gunwales, Segar anchors plywood base with stainless-steel screws.



Hatch in forward casting platform opens for storage of the Viking anchor and chain.

electrolytic action could cause corrosion.

The outside of the hull was refinished, after priming, with a two-part marine polyurethane paint for a glossy satin finish that compares well with a factory job. When he couldn't find an appropriate used trailer, Ned bought a new galvanized Shoreline with the support system fitted exactly to his hull. By choosing a 1-year-old, electric-start Evinrude 50 with low engine time, he saved another \$900. For engine controls, Segar used Teleflex's new aluminum drop-in, side-mounting, adjustable console and steering system, including an hour-meter and tach, plus Attwood's new electric

(Please turn to page 196)



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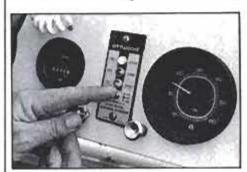
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FROM BANGED UP TO BEAUTIFUL

(Continued from page 195)

systems monitor. The final result is a super fishing rig that could have cost \$8,000 if customized at a professional shop. Ned's cost was less than half that amount. Boat and rusty trailer New Shoreline trailer 425 1,600 Used Evinrude 50-hp

Exterior-grade plywood, mahogany planks, stainlesssteel screws and bolts 270 Sofdek marine carpet 98



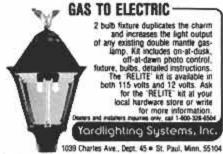
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258 Teleflex hour meter 60 Attwood Viking anchor, chain 74 45 Attwood electrical monitor 84 Teleflex steering cable 100 Expanding polyfoam Total \$3,459

Subtracting the cost of the trailer and engine, the boat came to \$1,434 and could have been done for much less, of course, with a bare-bones approach. Ned estimated that it took 48 man-hours to strip the boat down to bare metal, and about 50 hours to construct the mahogany gunwales. (My laminated-strip gunwales required less than 20.) The flooring took four hours and the two casting platforms eight. Painting, carpet installation and mounting the console, hardware and the rest required another 12 hours. That's 122 hours for the job; two persons working together efficiently could probably do the same in about four busy weekends.

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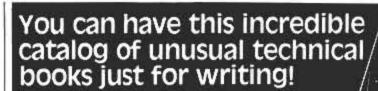




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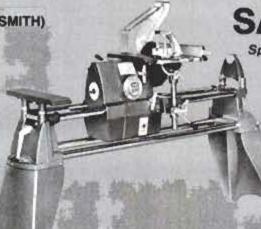
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Pollution and civilization destroy natural air ions. A ZESTRON ionizer recreates 40 Trillion of these ions every second. They clean the air of smoke, dust, solid pollutants, odors, bacteria and viruses which fall to the floor as dust.

A new solid-state pulse circuit breakthrough is used in the Zestron ionizer. This gives the greatest ion output (with no detectable ozone) at an extremely low pricel Compare the performance and prices shown in the chart. The IG-700 clearly has the greatest ion output — yet sells at a remarkably low price.

ION GENERATOR COMPARISONS

IONIZER	lons/cc/sec. (at 1 meter)	PRICE
ZESTRON IG-700	1,904,000	\$ 84.95
Ion Cloud XL	840,000	179.95
Energen 402B	550,000	149.70
Energaire	438,000	79.95
Energaire plus	430,000	59.95
Ion Fountain	430,000	99.95
Ion Cloud	350,000	79.95
Ionosphere	350,000	99.95
Modulian	75,000	85.00
AirCare	72.000	149.95
Ornega 700	63,000	245.00
JS&A Air Bubble	7??	89.95
Orbit	555	99.95

WHAT IT DOES

The high-powered output of the IG-700 provides more negative ion benefit for you. It cleans a larger room faster and more thoroughly than lowerpowered units. Under ideal conditions, a 40 by 40 foot room can be cleaned by a single IG-700.

HOW THEY'RE BUILT

Don't let the IG-700's low price mislead you. The unit is of the highest

quality, designed by engineers with many years' experience in zero-defect spacecraft design. Every Zestron is built with quality parts and materials which operate at mere fractions of their maximum values, to give you years of trouble-free service.

New technology, developed by Zestron engineers, has opened the door to improved performance at a lower price. Zestron is the only company to bring price-performance technology to negative ion generators.

IG-700 SUPERIORITY

The IG-700 features adjustable output, which lets you set the output to your own preference. Some people prefer fewer ions at night, while a large smoke-filled room needs more ions than a small room with no smokers present.

The IG-700 has no moving parts and nothing to wear cut or replace, unlike "perfume" filter-type air cleaners which require frequent replacement of expensive filters, and which emit no beneficial negative ions.

The IG-700 is a compact 2¼ by 2¼ by 6¼ inches. At 1.5 watts, it costs about 7 cents a month to run from standard house current.

The IG-700 features an operatingoutput level indicator that shows you the actual output level. Most competitive units simply indicate that the unit is plugged in.

FREE TEST DEVICE

A free passive remote ion detector is included with each ionizer. This handy little device gives you independent proof of operation, and permits comparison with other manufacturers ionizers.

Place the detector first close to a Zestron ionizer, then close to a competitive unit. You will see far less ion output from the competitive ionizer – in some cases no activity at all!

Please study the facts and figures on this page, and then order your Zestron IG-700. Try it for 15 days in your home or office. We predict that you will be delighted with the fresher air and more stimulating atmosphere it provides.



If you are displeased for any reason, however, you may return your unit within 15 days, and we will promptly refund your full purchase price.

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PM OWNERS REPORT: ISUZU

(Continued from page 176)

ger space for the radio so a cassette player can be installed."

A Texas telephone installer: "The simulated wood grain on the console started to bubble from last summer's heat. Also, with the remote trunk release inside the car, you can't leave the windows open on hot days."

Finally, a California financial ana-

lyst mentioned, "I wish Isuzu would come out with something more sporty. If they'd come out with a sports car, I'd definitely buy it." As it happens, Isuzu is seriously considering bringing its very handsome Ace of Clubs sport coupe into this country, and if the company can hold the line on price, it ought to be a best seller along the lines of the first Datsun 240Z.

When you consider the mild nature of these suggestions, plus the great lack of owner complaints, you begin to realize what a thorough job Isuzu is doing building and marketing the I-Mark series. The majority of Isuzu dealers are still situated in the nation's sunbelt states, but the company is expanding each month.

An Alabama bookkeeper summed it up for most of the I-Mark owners we queried when he wrote on the back of his questionnaire, "I'm awfully satisfied!" He's in the majority.

SUMMARY OF 1982 ISUZU OWNERS REPORTS* Average 35.5 33.1 26.1 20.4 37.5 7.9 3.2 Total miles driven 2,403,578 Average miles per gation: Gasoline engine erformance Number of vehicles owned: In town 31.7% 52.4 9.1 Comfort opinion (rear seats): Isuzu only Long trips esel engine 21.1% Specific distikes: Excelled Two cars 26.7% 10.4 7.9 7.1 38.0 28.5 12.4 Three cars No complaints . . . Disc brake squeal in town 6.8 Long trips Noises and rattles Fuel mileage too low Poor dealer service Makes of other cars own Chevrolet Ford Had any mechanical trouble? Four-cylinder gesoline Four-cylinder diesel 16.9 Oldsmobile What changes would you like? No changes More regroom 9.3 17.6% Transmission choices: Manual five-speed 8.1 What type of trouble? Airconditioner Pontiac Airconditioner Electrical Brake squeal 20.5% 16.7 16.7 Automatic three-speed Change seal shape 6.0 Setter quality materials. Aore space inside Pedals too close together Age distribution of owners: 15-29 years. 30-49 years. 50-plus Transmission Two door coupe Vibrations at speed Workmenship opinion: Why did you choose the leuzu? Dealer repairs satisfactory? Excellent Good Would you buy another lauzu product? 329 43 12 54.3% 45.7 89.0% Economy. Average No Dealer service opinion: Would you buy another lauzu I-Mark? Comfort opinion (front seats): Excellent Specific likes: Excellent Good Economy. 52 7°-51.4% 13.4 *Percentages might not equal 100% due to rounding or insufficient data.

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PATENTED WATER/VAPOR INJECTOR HELPS ELIMINATE PING, HELPS REMOVE CARBON, INCREASES HORSEPOWER, EASILY INSTALLED, GUARANTEED

DENVER—The Copley News Service reported that a U. S. Patent has now been issued to Wm. Trevaskis, veteran electrical engineer, for his Vapor-Jet® water/vapor injector (Pat. #4,119,062).

Trevaskis has developed what can amount to a 15 cents per gallon "rebate" potential on gasoline by designing a lowcost injector for all domestic and foreign cars, vans, light trucks, and RVs.

People have noticed for years that their car runs better on a cool rainy day. Vapor-Jet® gives a constant rainy-day effect to the engine. The water injection principle was used during World War II to give combat aircraft increased power and speed.

Trevaskis' new Vapor-Jet® is one of the least expensive on the market (\$29.95 • \$3.00 shipping and handling) and can be easily installed even by a novice in 15 minutes.

The Vapor-Jet® has an unconditional 60-day guarantee. If for any reason you are not satisfied, you may return it within 60 days of the day you installed it for a \$29.95 refund.

How does the Vapor-Jet® System work?

Vapor-Jet® operates very simply with no moving parts to wear out. It uses engine vacuum to pull outside air through a reservoir containing a water/methanol mixture which is attached to the car under the hood. This causes the fluid to bubble and splash forming a mist of water droplets and vapor in the upper part of the reservoir. The mist is then drawn by vacuum through a hose which is connected to a manifold suction hose. The connection is made very simply by our patented injector nozzle which contains a regulator to allow the right amount of mist to pass into the combustion chamber.

Will Vapor-Jet® help eliminate engine ping and dieseling?

Yes. The introduction of this mist into the fuel mixture has a cooling effect that increases mixture density, extends the burning rate, and improves combustion efficiency. This has the same effect as increasing the octane of the gas which helps eliminate the engine-damaging ping that is a problem to many vehicles because of the low octane gas sold today. The mist also helps remove the mileage-destroying carbon from the spark plugs and cylinder walls and keeps it removed. All of these effects together with the fact that water, when it turns to steam, expands 1700 times (the principle used in the steam engine) gives your car more horsepower (SAE Bulletins #690018 and #215).

How much mileage increase is expected?

Mileage improvement may vary due to vehicle, driving habits, geographical area, and weather conditions—but we guarantee your satisfaction or your \$29.95 refunded, no questions asked.

Vapor-Jet® can improve your mileage in



three ways: First, moisture actually causes the gasoline to burn more efficiently.

Second, Vapor-Jet® also allows in many cases the possibility of spark advance without ping. This can also increase gas mileage.

Finally, by helping remove mileagedestroying carbon from spark plugs and cylinder walls, Vapor-Jet® helps restore and keep your car in fresh tune-up condition.

A recent study of about 3,000 cars by the U.S. Dept. of Transportation shows that a startling 70% of the spark plug sets examined were in poor enough condition to cause one or more of the following spark plug induced performance problems: High fuel consumption, miss firing, engine pinging, surging, hard starting and/or stalling and an increase in hydrocarbon emissions. One reason for spark plug failure is fouled plugs caused by carbon or oil (DOT Report #PB301062).

If carbon is causing a problem with your spark plugs, certainly the carbon-removing feature of Vapor-Jet* has the potential to further increase your mileage. Also, the removal of carbon from your engine can potentially have a money-saving benefit of longer engine life.

Will Vapor-Jet® fit all cars, and is it easy to install?

Yes. The same kit fits all cars and contains everything needed. It will work on fuel injection, cars with super chargers, rotary engines, and catalytic converters. It will work with leaded and unleaded gas, gasohol, or propane burning cars. Simple installation instructions with a diagram are included. Simply take an ice pick or drill and make a small hole through any intake manifold suction hose (i.e., PCV hose, etc.). Screw the injector nozzle into the hole. Mount the reservoir. Use the hose to connect the reservoir to the injector nozzle. Can Vapor-Jet® damage my engine or cause rust?

Absolutely not! Vapor-Jet® cools down the fuel air mixture giving a better burn and suppressing ping, thus extending your engine life. The mist that enters into the engine turns immediately into vapor. The excess exits out the exhaust similar to driving on a rainy day.

What is the purpose of the methanol V.I.M. (vapor injector mix)?

The reservoir measures $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ inches and holds just under $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon. A full reservoir should last 700 to 1,100 miles. Methanol (wood alcohol) is mixed with water mainly to prevent freezing and to aid in combustion efficiency. It is easily and cheaply found almost everywhere in the form of windshield washer solution.

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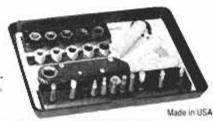
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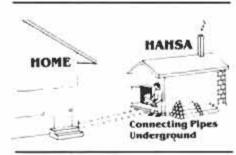
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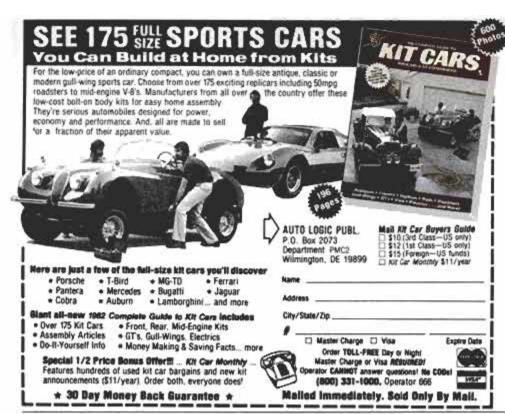
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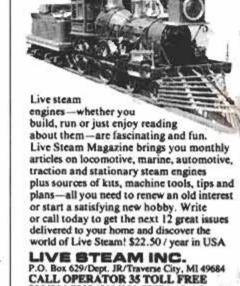
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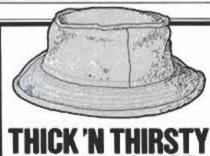
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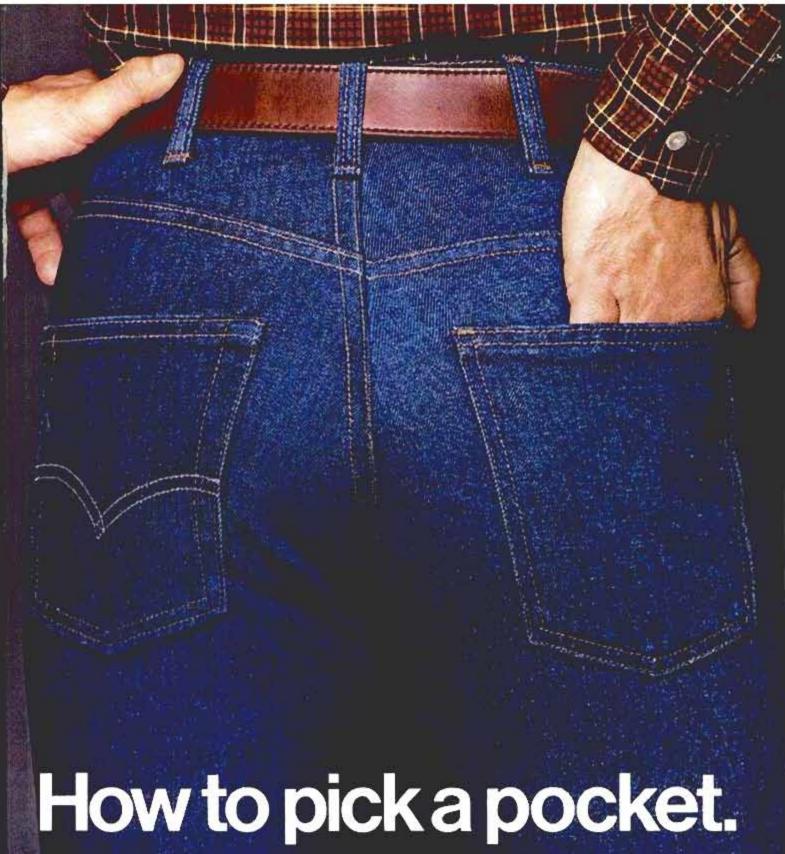
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