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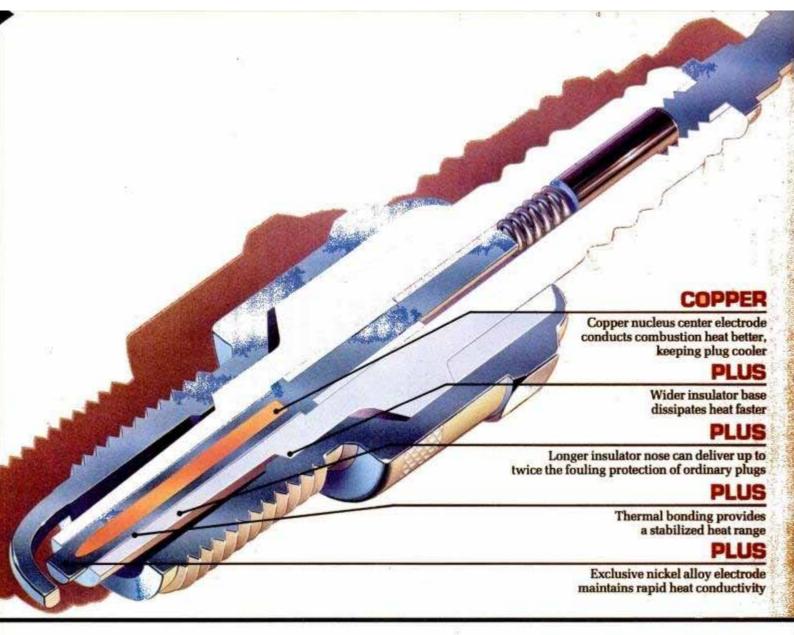




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1.1 mg nicotine av per cigarette, by FTC method.

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FEBRUARY 1985

VOLUME 162 NO. 2



ON THE COVER

Swooping down on a hapless quarry, the fearsome-looking Hughes Apache is typical of a tough, new breed of helicopter gunships that are designed to stop the enemy's mightiest tanks. Read how they could turn the tide of battle in the exciting story on page 86.

PM painting by Ed Valigursky

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EDITOR'S NOTES

ar cruising on Saturday night is as American as apple pie, we all know. Now, reports Mike Lamm, West Coast editor, it's as Japanese as sushi. While in Japan to drive the new Toyota MR2 (Its Beauty Is Under The Skin, page 89), Mike stayed one Saturday night in a Kyoto hotel. "Pretty soon," he said, "the scene on the main drag outside looked like a 1950s graffiti night in Modesto. But instead of '55 Chevies and '32 Fords, these guys were driving BMWs, Porsches and Mercedes (they love German cars), latemodel Vettes, Camaros and Firebirds (they also love American cars), Ferraris, Panteras and every conceivable kind of Japanese mini. All were tricked out with wild wheels, humungus spoilers and paint jobs that would turn George Barris green. Just before midnight the cops cordoned off the street, and that was that. No fuss. The crowd went home as instructed. Not like Livermore, Calif., near my hometown. The city dads there recently outlawed cruising, whereupon the kids wrecked several drive-ins, smashed windows and tossed bottles. Japan's different." ... The French have a helicopter much like the Hughes Apache (cover), reports PM's Shel Gallager. The Aerospatiale Dauphin, which he saw at the big Farnborough air show, is just one of the awesome new breed in Now Helicopters Shoot Back (page 86). . . . Our auto department's Norman Mayersohn was the choice for



Gallager in front of a Dauphin at Farnborough near London, England . . . Lamm in the Toyota MR2 on a Japanese racetrack Mayersohn deep in watermelon (with driver Benny Parsons) at the Talladega 500 . . .







... and back home, Graphics Director Bryan Canniff suffers through a photo session.

the pit crew in PM Joins The World's Fastest Mechanics (page 77) at the Talladega 500 in Alabama. Norman joined the Johnny Hayes NASCAR racing team as gas man on Phil Parsons's Skoal Bandit. Did you

Blanket coverage In the Lincoln home.

suggest PM's next custom project be a boat when you entered our Ford Ranger contest? See if PM's Water Sportster (page 80) fits your dream. . . . We have another February special this year: Thomas Lincoln's Blanket Chest (page 98). Thomas, the President's father, was a skilled furniture maker. You'll find all the instructions for making the chest yourself.





America's best-selling pickups: Ford.

Big Ford Pickups are America's best sellers year after year.*
'85 power choices for the full-size F-Series include high-torque V-8's big as 7.5L and mighty 6.9L diesel.

For '85, Ford puts real power in the hands of America's pickup owners. Power that means quick response, easy hauling, extra work output—and extra fun.

You get a choice of five engines, including husky 6.9L diesel—the most powerful in any pickup. Ford's 5.8L High Output V-8 with 4-barrel carb

gives you 45 more horsepower than Chevy's mid-size V-8! And <u>every</u> Ford engine from standard 4.9L Six up leads its nearest competitor's in load-moving torque.

Big Ford Payloads.

The trend today is to use pickups for bigger, harder hauls. Ford has the power you need. And the payload—up to 5,730 lb. worth. Plus the

ability to tow trailer loads big as 12,500 lb. when properly equipped.

Nobody else gives
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pick from. Roomy Regular
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option. Or 4-door Crew Cab, now with single or dual rear wheels.

Built Ford tough.

These big Fords all come with 2-wheel drive. Or as 4x4's with unique

independent front suspension.

And they all come tough—Ford tough, from exclusive Twin-I-Beam up front to galvanized double-wall box in back.

Best-Built American Trucks.

At Ford, Quality is Job 1. A 1984 survey established that Ford makes the best-built American trucks. This is based on an average of problems reported by owners in the prior six months on 1981-1983 models designed and built in the U.S.

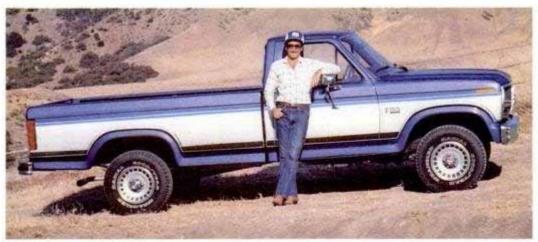
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As part of Ford Motor Company's commitment to your total satisfaction, participating Ford Dealers stand behind their work, in writing, with a Lifetime Service Guarantee. No other car companies' dealers, foreign or domestic, offer this kind of security. Nobody. See your participating Ford Dealer for details.

*Based on final 1984 MY manufacturers' reported retail deliveries.

*Optional: not available in California or with manual transmission. Horsepower based on SAE Standard J1349.





"My Ford Pickup & Me."





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Smart gun rack

Thought you might like to see a photo (right) of the gun rack I made from the plans in your February '82 issue (Build This 'Oil-Proof' Gun Rack, page 110). I am very pleased with the results and like the feature of hanging the guns upside down with their barrels slanting downward to prevent lubricating oil from seeping into the wood stocks. It's a clever idea.

CHARLES L. JOHNSON, M.D. BUTTE, MONT.

Thanks for the photo. For others who may be interested, photocopies of the plans are available for \$1 postpaid from Popular Mechanics, Box 1014, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y. 10101.



PM's "upside-down" gun rack built by reader Johnson. It keeps wood stocks oil-free.

Unfreezing a fridge

I'd like to add a suggestion to your advice on what to do about a refrigerator that gets so cold it freezes food (Appliance Clinic, page 24, Oct. '84). I have been doing refrigeration work for many years and have never seen a weak compressor freeze anything. If the compressor runs long enough to freeze food, it runs long enough to activate the cold control thermostat and shut off the compressor.

I believe you're more likely to find that the thermostat is defective, not the compressor.

> GEORGE DERBY CHICAGO

Hot topic

Your article Efficient, New Home-Heating Systems (page 162, Oct. '84) was informative and well written. As with many new technologies, however, thought should be given to potential problems that may arise. Some condensing furnances have had corrosion problems in their heat exchangers caused, some manufacturers believe, by household pollutants in the air supply. For this reason, some makers specify installing an outside source of combustion air.

Those considering the purchase of such a furnace should look for a warranty on the heat exchanger and combustion chamber that's at least as good as that offered on conventional top-of-the-line heating systems.

JOSEPH T. PONESSA. Ph.D. EXTENSION ENERGY SPECIALIST RUTGERS UNIVERSITY NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.

Only in some cases

I was shocked to see you say that radon gas is emitted by home insulation (Best New Homes Under The Sun, page 80, Sept. '84). Radon gas comes from decaying uranium, traces of which are found in earth, stone and concrete.

> LAURENCE R. STAINS ALLENTOWN, PA.

It's true that ordinary insulation does not emit radon gas, but we were referring specifically to the Impact 2000 home in which thick stone and concrete are used extensively to store heat and provide insulation. It is these materials, as you point out, that are possible sources of radon gas.

It would have been big

I was delighted by your story on the return of three-wheeled cars (3-Wheelers Are Back!, page 91, Oct. '84). Three-wheelers are both fun and practical—and I speak from experience. I own the No. 1 Davis prototype.

One minor correction: You said the big seven-passenger Davis sedan was the intended production model. This never existed as anything more than a mockup. It was the four-passenger version that Davis hoped to produce.

WALTER E. WRAY. PRESIDENT DAVIS 3-WHEEL CLUB OF AMERICA ARGYLE WIS.

Nonstop vs. non-refueled

I enjoyed your story on the Voyager's forthcoming attempt to fly around the world nonstop (Soon: First Nonstop Flight Around The World, page 87, Oct. '84). It was misleading, however. There have been nonstop flights around the world in the past, one by a USAF B-29 in 1949 and another by a group of USAF B-52s in 1957.

These planes did require inflight refueling, of course, so your story should have said "First nonstop, non-refueled flight around the world."

> DAVID R. ULANE LITTLETON, COLO.

The title was shortened to improve readability, but the opening paragraph did say that the Voyager's global flight would be both nonstop and non-refueled. The current nonstop, non-refueled record is 12,532 miles—half as far as the Voyager will have to go.

It was a great story, but I just can't imagine how those two pilots—a man and woman yet—are going to exist together in such cramped quarters for a whole week. What about food, water and, er, calls of nature?

LARRY HOKE HOUSTON, TEX.

While the Voyager's pilots have not revealed just what facilities they will have, it's reasonable to assume that they will cope with such needs in much the same way as our astronauts have been doing for years.

What price Liberty?

I very much enjoyed your article Rebuilding National Treasures (page 93, Nov. '84). You quoted the cost of restoring Miss Liberty as \$30 million, but the only figure I've seen is \$230 million an amount that's hard to believe unless the Pentagon is doing the job. Which figure is correct?

F. H. PLANK HOUSTON, PA.

They're both correct. The \$30 million figure applies only to the restoration of Miss Liberty. The \$230 million estimate includes a complete renovation of Ellis Island, a project still in the early planning stages.



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So fill your best reel with new Stren Class Line.

Come rewrite the record book with us. QUINT



IMPORTS & MOTORSPORTS



The long and the short of Mazda's new B2000





Hardly anyone keeps 'em down on the farm anymore. With the introduction of Mazda's new B2000, the suburbanization of the pickup is complete. If we're going to treat pickups like cars and use them on paved roads, then Mazda is going to design them for a smooth ride and never mind about hauling hay. Choice of powerplant was easy: The B2000 uses the FE-type, ohc Four, the smooth, strong, quiet engine that was developed for the 626 (see Driving The '83 Mazda 626, page 66, Dec. '82). All Mazda had to do was drop it into the B2000 for '86. The hard part was arriving at the right balance of handling and ride comfort for the pickup chassis. They hit it just right, refining the basic ladder chassis to the nth degree-as we found out in a test drive at the company's Miyoshi test track recently. The first step was increasing wheelbase and track. By adding four more inches of track front and rear, you get better roll resistance so softer springs and shocks can be used for ride comfort. A new mounting system for the cab on the chassis cuts NHV significantly (that's noise, vibration and harshness to automotive chassis engineers). Suspension geometry and bushing work aid comfort further, and a more rigid steering system caps off the improvements made on the new model. Put a passenger-car interior in the cab and it all adds up to one easy rider.

Sporty Subaru

Hot on the heels of the redesigned '85 Sedan and Wagon comes a four-wheeldrive wedge to give Subaru a sports car in its model lineup. We haven't seen the coupe in its sheet metal yet, but have had a look at Subaru's development sketches, one of which is shown here. This driving machine looks like a real road hugger.



Hundred-horse GTI

The GTI. VW's hot Golf, is here. Since the GTI shares the two-door Golf body, you know how it's been improved over its Rabbit ancestor (see *Driving VW's 1985 Golf And Jetta*, page 156, Dec. '84). But you haven't heard about the other changes that make this second-generation GTI more exciting.

Start under the hood: The 1.8-liter sohe Four has been tweaked for 100 hp (vs. 85 for the Golf) without adding a turbo or a fistful of valves. Intake valves are larger, pistons are designed for the 10.0:1 compression ratio and a new KE-Jetronic f.i. system keeps the beat with electronic ignition and a knock sensor. Excellent combustion efficiency powers the 2,200-pound GTI to 116-mph top speed with under 10-second 0-to-60 times. When you want to throttle back, fifth gear has a numerically lower final drive for low-rev cruising. Stopping power is assured by the new model's four-wheel discs and high-g cornering has been made easy with the reworked suspension.

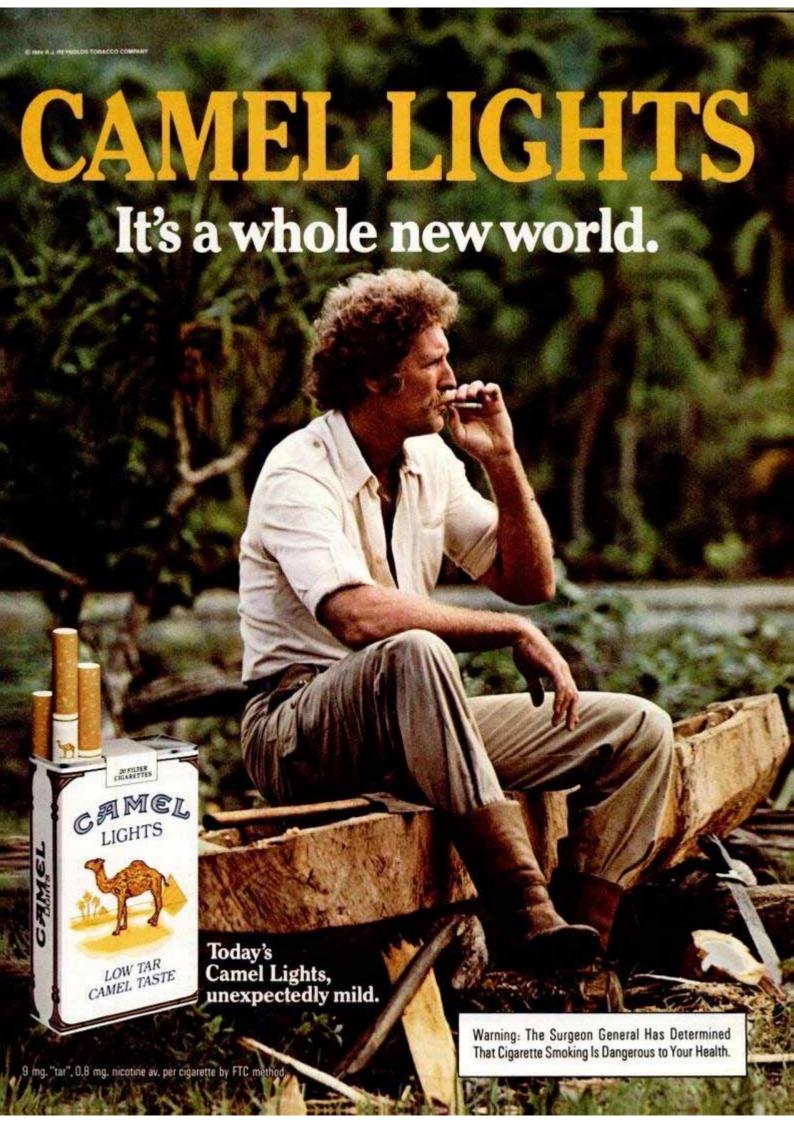


GTI gives you \$9,000 worth of driving fun.

All that is hidden underneath the hood and chassis of this hot addition—what hits the "I" with this GT is its first-class sports styling.

Speed weeks

February is the fastest month—especially if you're lucky enough to be in Florida for the start of the motorsports season. This year's Daytona 24 Hours runs on Feb. 2 and 3. and NASCAR's 27th annual Daytona will have the racers on the road again on the 17th. That's where you'll see the fastest stockers and the world's fastest mechanics, the same speedy wrenches PM joined at Talladega (see story on page 77) just to see how it's done.

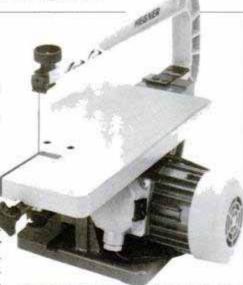


THE PM WORKBENCH

Super scroll saw at a super price

Hegner, well-known maker of scroll saws, has a new Multimax-1 scroll saw. Like the three Hegner saws that preceded it, the Multimax-1 is a finely engineered tool featuring the patented Hegner blade suspension system. But, unlike the other Hegner saws which cost as much as \$1,900, the Multimax-1 is \$430.

The saw's oversized 80-watt induction motor powers a 5-in. blade for intricate cuts in wood, metal and plastics. Other features include a 45° adjustable worktable and a 14-in.-deep throat. For details, contact AMI Ltd., Box 312, New Castle, Del, 19720.—J.T.



Full-featured scroll saw offers top performance at a popular price. A ³/₁₆-in. blade stroke at 1,660 rpm delivers smooth cuts.

A thoroughbred workhorse

Black & Decker's Workmate 85 is its lowest-priced floor unit Workmate. Like other Workmates, the Model 85 combines the clamping capabilities of a vise with the utility of a portable worktable. It stands 29³/₄ in. high and collapses to 6 in. wide. The jaws open 4 in. wide and have swivel pegs to hold 10³/₂-in.-wide items. The Model 85 is \$35 at home centers. For details, contact Black & Decker, Accessory Div., 500 Hanover Pike, Md. 21074.—P.S.



The 18-pound Workmate 85 is the newest floor model in this versatile tool line.

Orbital-scrolling saw

Skil offers a versatile new sabre saw that has both orbital blade action and scrolling capabilities. The orbital action moves the blade into the workpiece on the upward cutting stroke and backs it away on the down stroke. This produces faster, cleaner cuts with less blade wear. The auto-scrolling feature is used when cutting tight curves and intricate scroll work.



The saw's 3.2-amp motor delivers 1/3 hp and 3,200 strokes per minute. The scroll saw also has a handy blade storage compartment and a built-in wrench holder.

The Vari-Orbit scroll saw (Model

4395) is available at hardware stores and home centers for about \$55. For additional information, contact Skil Corp., 4801 West Peterson Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60646.—A.R.

Perfect plugs

For the serious woodworker, Garrett Wade, located at 161 Ave. of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10013, offers a five-piece set of precision dowel and plug cutters. You can make your own perfectly round dowels and plugs up to 21/4 in. long.

The professional-quality cutters have ¹/₂-in.-dia. shanks for use in a drill press. The cutters come in ³/₈-, ¹/₂-, ⁵/₈-, ³/₄- and 1-in.-dia. sizes and range in price from \$47.85 to \$64.95 each. For details, contact Garrett Wade.—*J.T.*



Cut perfectly round dowels and plugs with high-quality cutters. Upon completion, the cutter automatically ejects the dowel.

Back-to-basics catalog

Flipping through the pages of Lehman's Non-Electric Catalog is like stepping back in time. It contains over 400 nonelectric items such as appliances, lamps, heaters, kerosene-powered refrigerators and a century's worth of

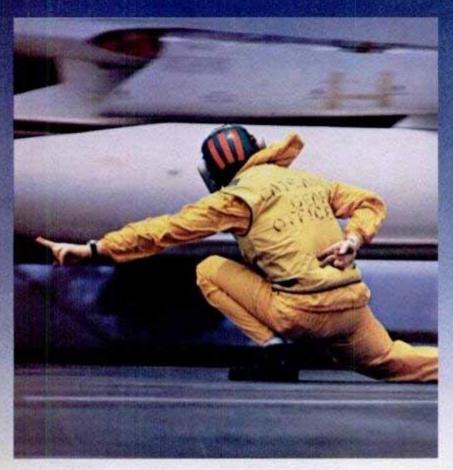
hard-to-find hand tools. For a catalog, send \$2 to Lehman Hardware, Box 41-PM, Kidron, Ohio 44636.—J.T.

The Non-Electric Catalog is an incomparable source of unique and rare tools, appliances and lighting fixtures.



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ALL OUTDOORS



Jeep thrills

Twenty-five hundred miles is a good chunk of outdoors to cover, especially when much of it is off-road. But that's what PM rolled up recently in the American Motors' Moosehead-to-Mardi Gras run. We competed against teams from six car-enthusiast and off-road magazines in a test of fuel economy and miles covered over a route of our own choosing from Montreal to New Orleans. We had six days to make the trip, and the scoring system awarded bonus points for miles covered on dirt roads and no roads. AMC supplied the seven Jeep Cherokees, all equipped with the new-for-'85 Renault-built 2.1-liter turbodiesel. The winning team went after the fuel economy prize with a vengeance and managed to squeeze out a 41.9 mpg average for the trip. The Popular Mechanics vehicle, piloted by Detroit Editor Dan Ross and contributor Cliff Gromer, certainly was the most



PM's Cherokee bombs through the boonles in AMC's Moosehead-to-Mardi Gras run.

high-tech of the lot, as we had installed a Northstar Loran C navigation system. Designed for water navigation, the system functioned just fine on land, giving us our position in longitude and latitude continuously updated to 1/100th°, ground speed, distance to selected coordinates and estimated time of arrival. With the Northstar Loran's help, and maybe a little from AMC on-board observer John McCandless, we came in ahead of all the car-enthusiast and offroad magazine teams except one. We'll beat them next time.

A gathering of eagles

All you bald eagle watchers will be glad to learn that the numbers of our national bird have now stabilized after years of decline. A survey conducted by the National Wildlife Management Institute earlier this year showed 11,819 bald eagles in 42 of the continental states, up from the 10,903 living U.S. symbols that were counted last year in the same states.

Fueling easy

Tired of lifting a heavy, 5-gallon gas can to fuel up your ultralight, snowmobile, tractor or kerosene heater? Ultra-Fill uses a bicycle tire hand pump to rapidly

transfer fuel from its 6.5-gallon fuel can via a 7-foot-long hose to the tank filler. The unit sells for \$54.95, plus \$5 shipping. from Ultra-Flight Supplies, Box 3043. Lexington, Ohio 44904.

Bicycle pump attachment helps you fuel up without lifting 5-gallon gas cans.

Watercycle

Do you love the water, but don't know how to row, paddle, sail or operate an



You'll never be up the creek without a pedal in this 5-mph, foot-powered watercycle.

engine? Does the prospect of tipping or getting wet in a small boat leave you cold? Don't give up hope. You still can enjoy Harken-Vanguard's Waterbug watercycle. You pedal this egg-shaped craft using a low-friction gearbox that drives a high-lift prop. Steer with hand levers that operate the rudder. You'll do a steady speed of 5 mph regardless of wind and water conditions, thanks to hydrodynamic efficiency. Lead ballast prevents tipping, air chambers prevent sinking and a plexiglass cover keeps you dry. List price: \$2,995. Write to Freedom Yachts International, 49 America's Cup Ave., Newport, R.I., 02840, or call (401) 847-7475.

Silencers

High performance marine engines can get pretty loud and annoying when operating in marinas and close to shore. A new silencing system, which works on any through-transom exhaust system, eliminates throbbing eardrums and those nasty looks.

The system includes two silencers, two actuators and a compressor that works off the boat's battery. The whole system retails for \$825. An adapter required by some models is \$185 extra. The silencers take about three hours to

retrofit. They mount externally, protrude about 8 inches and can incorporate rubber flappers. They're made by Kaama Marine Engineering, 936 Sunset Dr., Costa Mesa, Calif., 92627.



Silencing system for high performance marine engines makes you socially acceptable.

SOUND ADVICE: TURN ON EQUALIZER Y AND TUNE UP YOUR NEW GM VAN.

Nothing harmonizes with the new Chevy Astro and GMC Safari vans quite as well as a Delco Equalizer V Music System—an exceptional option available on exceptional new vehicles.

The Equalizer∑system speakers, receiver and graphic equalizer—is designed into the vans on the drawing board. So it's tuned to their unique acoustical environments.

Up to six Delco Sound™ speakers, specially designed to take the show on the road, give the music concert-hall dimension.

Equalizer ∑'s Electronically Tuned Receiver (ETR™) is engineered for drift-free reception. And a new autoreverse cassette player, with music search and repeat, doubles your musical options.

The system's graphic equalizer lets you conduct a quintet of bass, midrange and treble controls to score the music to your individual taste.



Equalizer V

The sum of the parts tunes up your van in a whole new way. Give Equalizer \(\times \) an audition when you test drive the new Chevy Astro or GMC Safari. Hear how Delco Electronics tunes up with the art of music... through the science of sound.

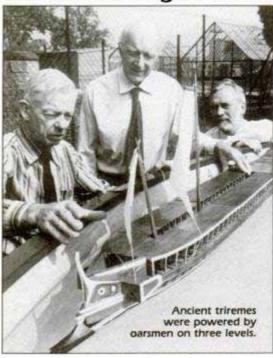


BRINGING YOU THE AREOEMUSIC THROUGH THE SCIENCE OF SOUND.

VORLDWIDE



An ancient legend resurfaces



Homer and other ancient Greek poets wrote of a legendary ship called a "trireme." The 120-ft.-long wooden vessels were powered by 170 oarsmen on three levels. The trireme's main task was to ram enemy ships at high speed. The last recorded sighting of a trireme was over 1,500 years ago. But British naval architect John Coates, researcher John Morrison and Grindlay's Bank director Frank Welsh (left to right in photo) have teamed up to reconstruct the vessel. Studying pieces of salvaged hulls and looking over archaeological records, they built a model. With help from the Greek government, a fullscale model will be tried out with a full crew in 1986. Pull!

Bear with us

A new species of bear may have been discovered in Nepal. Daniel Taylor-Ide and Robert L. Flemming-doing research for the Woodlands Instituteexamined skulls of the decomposed bodies of bear-like creatures. Native legends talk about a small bear that lives in trees in the Nepalese highlands.

Laser's new wavelength

The shorter the wavelength of a beam of light, the smaller the space it can enter. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory says its researchers have produced laser light at the shortest wavelengths yet-about four-billionths of an inch. The laser light, whose wavelength puts it into the "soft X-ray" class, is reflected from the vaporized gases of two metals: selenium and yttrium. At wavelengths five to 10 times shorter than those of commercial lasers, the researchers hope to measure submicroscopic surfaces.

Message from Moscow

A Soviet paper read at a recent Baltimore conference on nuclear war suggests that no human life could survive a global atomic episode. I wrote to Vladimir Aleksandrov at the Soviet Academy of Sciences in Moscow to ask how his team came to that conclusion. His

'We used a computer climate model consisting of . . . three-dimensional models of the atmosphere and active ocean which mimics the main forces responsible for climate change. Winds carry nuclear pollutants around and across the globe . . . gravitation and precipitation (rain or snow) 'fall it out."

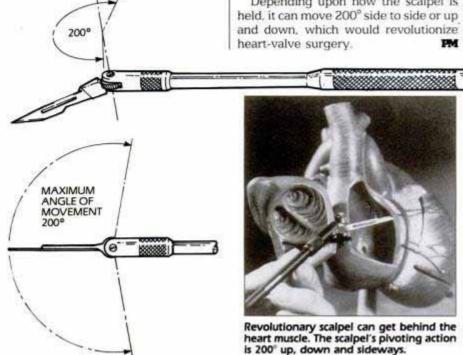
Smoke and dust in his model then cool the Earth's surface temperature. Within a year, after the bombs have gone off, Earth would experience "very strong, long-term temperature drops which start in days within the war hemisphere and in some weeks in nonwar zones." The freeze and drought that follow, he says, would render human life impossible. The American model for nuclear winter predicts very few survivors. The Soviet model predicts that no one could survive the aftermath of a nuclear war.

Tool with heart

The mitral valve of a human heart is hidden behind muscle tissue and is difficult to reach during surgery. But a new Mitral Valvotomy Knife, which was

invented by British surgeon Kenneth Reid, places the cutting edge of a scalpel on a joint. That joint locks a milled wheel carrying the blade against a chisel edge as the surgeon tightens the screw.

Depending upon how the scalpel is heart-valve surgery.



Train for the Fastest Growing Job Skill in America

Only NRI teaches you to service and repair all computers as you build your own 16-bit IBM-compatible

micro

As computers move into offices and homes by the millions, the demand for trained computer service technicians surges forward. The Department of Labor estimates that computer service jobs will actually double in the next ten years-a faster growth than any other occupation.

Total System Training

As an NRI student, you'll get total hands-on training as you actually build your own Sanyo MBC-550-2 computer from the keyboard up. Only a person who knows all the underlying fundamentals can cope with all the significant brands of computers. And as an NRI graduate, you'll possess the upto-the-minute combination of theory and practical experience that will lead you to success on the job.

You learn at your own convenience, in your own home, at your own comfortable pace. Without classroom pressures, without rigid night-school schedules, without wasted time. Your own personal NRI instructor and NRI's complete technical staff will answer your questions, give you guidance and special help whenever you may need it.

The Exciting Sanyo MBC-550-2-Yours To Keep

Critics hail the new Sanyo as the "most intriguing" of all the IBM-PC compatible computers. It uses the same 8088 microprocessor as the IBM-PC and the MS/DOS operating system. So, you'll be able to choose thousands of off-the-shelf software programs to run on your completed Sanyo.

As you build the Sanyo from the keyboard up, you'll perform demonstrations and experiments that will give you a total mastery of computer operations and servicing techniques. You'll do programming in BASIC language. You'll prepare interfaces for peripherals such as printers and joysticks. Using utility programs, you'll check out 8088 functioning. NRI's easy step-by-step directions will guide you all the way right into one of today's fastest growing fields as a computer service technician. And the entire

NRI is the only home study school that trains you as you assemble a topbrand micro computer. After building your own logic probe, you'll assemble the "intelligent" keyboard...

then install

the computer

power supply

circuits and connections

checking all the

there you'll move on to install the

disk drive and

monitor.

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THE PM GARAGE





Handy VersaCover installs easily to give your pickup truck a multiple personality: stand-up stake sides, a sealed and secure tonneau cover or, with an optional tent package, a no-frills weekend camping sleeper.

Gotcha covered

VersaCover does everything but make your pickup fly. It consists of two reinforced, double-hinged ABS white plastic panels. These ordinarily fit over your pickup bed to form a sealed, waterproof cover, but you can also set them up vertically to become stake walls on either side of the bed. Then, if you want, you can stretch an optional VersaTent canvas camper shell over the upright panels.

It's no trick to open each panel from the side for

access into the bed. Self-positioning struts hold both panels at any desired height.

Using common hand tools, you can easily install pre-sized Versa-Covers on most domestic and imported pickups. The panels lift off completely, too.

Prices range from \$454 to \$554, and the VersaTent costs an additional \$79. Phone (800) 228-3541

nationwide or (800) 521-2133 in California. Or write to R.K. Hather, VersaCover, Dept. PM, 6000 Joan Pl., San Luis Obispo, Calif. 93401.—M.L.

Cantilevered carrier

Can't see out the back of your S-10 Blazer or S-15 Jimmy? Is that bulky spare tire blocking your view and taking up valuable space on or alongside your cargo deck? You've probably

Spare rack leaves tailgate operation normal.

thought about those swingaway spare carriers, but here's a new twist—a hinged tire mount that lets you open the rear gate normally, without the "double door" effect. A torsion bar hidden underneath the vehicle counterbalances the weight of the tire, and the mount is engineered so it doesn't stress the tailgate skin. The vehicle's frame and bumper do the heavy work.

You can open and close the gate and rear window without interference. The Tafco carrier is even compatible with a Class I trailer hitch.

The Tafco spare-tire carrier retails for \$129.95. To find your nearest local distributor, you should call (800) 328-3189. The manufacturer is Tafco Equipment Co., which is located at Dept. PM, Highway 16-W, Blue Earth, Minn. 56013.—M.L.

Abrasive, but flexible

The toughest part of any engine rebuild for me is all the cleanup of small components. Baked-on carbon won't come off with a solvent wash, but it will loosen with the abrasive materials sold by the E.C. Mitchell Co. Flexible abra-



Abrasive cords scour hard-to-reach grooves.

sive cords and tapes can be used by hand or with small power tools to clean inaccessible holes, slots and grooves. Prices start at \$10 per spool. Contact Mitchell Co., 88-90 Boston St., Middletown, Mass. 01949.—N.S.M.

Super Glue gel



Gel glue stays put while repairs are made.

The new generation of instant adhesives can be lifesavers around my shop, but I find them too runny for some jobs. Loctite's answer to this sticky problem is Duro Quick Gel Super Glue. This formulation comes out of the tube slightly gooey, so it'll stay in place while you join together or repair nonporous materials. This super gel is available for \$2.19 per tube at auto parts and accessory stores.—W.H.



In Japan, where high-tech electronics are a way of life, they pay \$714.93 for an American-made radar detector

(You can get the same one for considerably less)

Even we were a little surprised. All we did was build the best radar detector we knew how. We shipped our first ESCORT in 1978, and since then we've shipped over 600,000. Along the way the ESCORT has earned quite a reputation—among its owners, and also in several automotive magazines.

Credentials

Over the past five years, Car and Driver magazine has performed four radar detector comparison tests. Escort has been rated number one in each. Their most recent test concluded "The Escort radar detector is clearly the leader in the field in value, customer service, and performance..." We think that's quite an endorsement.

Our Responsibility

One of the reasons for our reputation is our attention to detail. If we don't feel we can do something very well, we simply won't do it. That's why we sell Escorts direct from the factory to you. Not only can we assure the quality of the ESCORT, but we can also make sure that the salesperson you speak to is knowledgeable. And if an ESCORT ever needs service, it will be done quickly. And it will be done right.

50 States Only

And that's the reason we don't presently sell ESCORTs outside of the United States. Even in the countries that use identical radar (Japan and Australia, to name two) we know that we couldn't provide the kind of customer service that ESCORT owners expect. So we pass up the additional sales rather than risk our reputation.

"Dear Sir..."

So we'll admit we were surprised when a letter from one of our customers included an advertisement from a Japanese automotive magazine. The ad pictured an ESCORT, and the price was 158,000 yen. Our customer was kind enough to convert that to U.S. dollars. Using that day's rate of exchange, an Americanmade ESCORT was worth \$714.93 in Japan. Further translation revealed the phrase "The real thing is here!" and warned against imitations.



Econ 101

Needless to say, we were flattered. We knew that ESCORT had an impressive reputation, but we never expected to see it "bootlegged" into other countries and sold at such a premium. But the laws of supply and demand are not so easy to ignore. When there is a strong need for a product, there is an equally strong incentive for an enterprising capitalist to fill that need. And apparently, that's just what happened.

Easy Access

Of course, it's easy for you to get an ESCORT—just call us toll-free or write us at the address below. The price is the same as it's been for the last five years: \$245. Quite a deal for what the Japanese must think is the best radar detector in the world.

Try ESCORT at no risk

Take the first 30 days with ESCORT as a test. If you're not completely satisfied return it for a full refund. You can't lose.

ESCORT is also backed with a one year warranty on both parts and labor. ESCORT \$245 (Ohio res. add \$13.48 tax)

TOLL FREE......800-543-1608 IN OHIO......800-582-2696





By mail send to address below. Creditcards, money orders, bank checks, certified checks, wire transfers processed immediately. Personal or company checks require 18 days.

ESCORT.
RADAR WARNING RECEIVER

Cincinnati Microwave Department 100-068-A02 One Microwave Plaza Cincinnati, Ohio 45296-0100



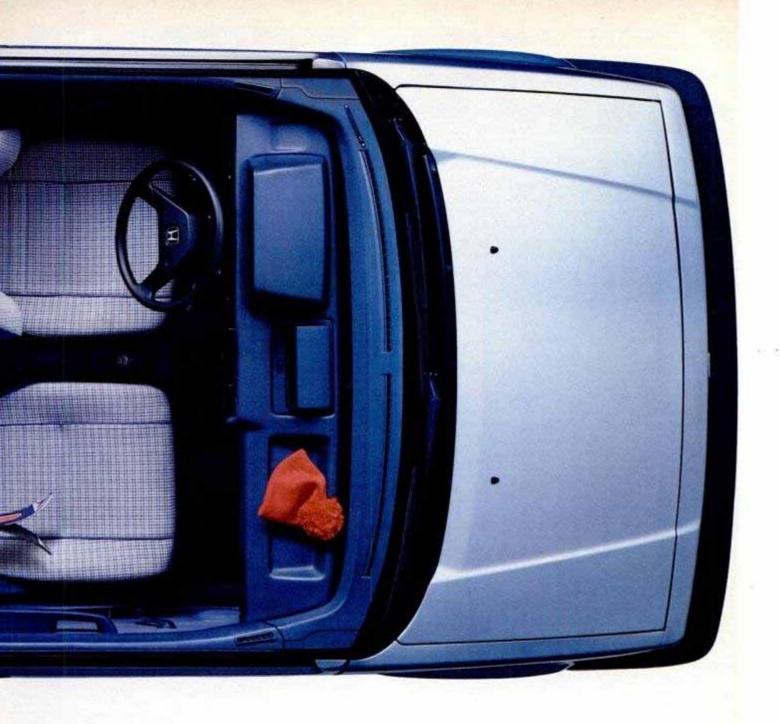
Folds flat for



We'd like to show you how to fold a Honda Civic Wagon. Just like it is here.

Watch. Pop out one rear seat cushion Fold both rear seats down. Then recline the front passenger seat.

Very clever, this wagon. Practical too.



easy storage.

You're looking at a seven-foot stretch of flat storage space. It's long enough for skis or fishing poles or surfboards.

In all, there are ten different ways to fold a Civic Wagon. And there's more.

ACivicWagon has front-wheel drive.

It has front and rear stabilizer bars. So handling is surprisingly crisp. Agile. You might even say flat out fun.



PM ELECTRONICS MONITOR



More AM stereo broadcasts and equipment on tap

Next month makes three years since the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) gave AM radio stations the go-ahead to broadcast in stereo. Now, at long last, broadcasters and electronics manufacturers are making good on AM stereo's promise to deliver highfidelity radio to homes and cars located as much as 10 times beyond the range of FM stations.

At this writing, about 10 percent of approximately 4,500 AM stations have converted to stereo, and about a dozen more do so each month. At least 12 electronics manufacturers have begun shipping AM stereo receivers, mostly for automobile installation.

Why so suddenly? Or, why so late? No matter how you ask the question, the answer lies in the chicken-and-egg situation the FCC laid Mar. 4, 1982.

At that time, the commissioners declined to select a single AM stereo transmission system from among the four competing and incompatible systems proposed. So, rather than engage in a format war, radio makers decided to wait until broadcasters expressed a preference. Unfortunately, few of the nation's broadcasters were willing to risk investing in any one system, not knowing which way the rest of the industry might jump.

It was the automotive industry that finally broke the deadlock when Chrysler, Ford and General Motors last year opted for the Motorola C-QUAM system of AM stereo transmission. (The other system choices hail from Harris Corp., Kahn-Hazeltine and Magnavox.)

From the beginning, it was believed that AM stereo's foremost application would be in the car, where FM suffers from short-range and terrain-related reception problems. Because Detroit's Big Three dominate car radio sales, broadcasters and aftermarket brands now have their cue.

Today, there are stations broadcasting AM stereo in just about every state. At press time, Motorola was leading the sweeps with about 180, and signing up new stations at the rate of 10 a month. Runners-up Harris and Kahn-Hazeltine claim about 90 stations each, but only Sansui and Sony build radios that can receive them. These are sophisticated and expensive units designed to operate with any AM stereo system.

Avoiding such expense are Pioneer, Jensen, Marantz, Sherwood, Concord, Kraco and Sparkomatic, which now join Chrysler, Ford and GM in offering car radios designed for the Motorola system. These units vary in features and range in price from \$150 to \$300. All have pushbutton electronic tuning. Eventually, manufacturers plan to offer less-costly manual tuning models.

With the leading brands now selling AM stereo, it's certain that every manufacturer will offer the option soon. The same competitive pressures exist in broadcasting, so if there's one AM stereo station in your area, it's likely there'll be more before long. Rest assured that your existing monaural AM radio will continue receiving broadcasts just fine—though not in stereo.

Commercial-Free TV—For Your VCR

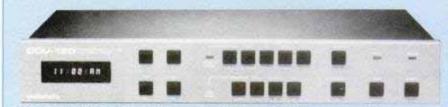
If you're building a library of film classics taped from TV, or creating a home cinema centered on your video and audio equipment, two accessories now on the market can make the jobs simpler and the results more rewarding. One screens unwanted commercials while you're recording from TV; the other extracts theater-like sound from video cassettes and video discs.

The first component, Vidicraft's CCU120 Commercial Cutter and Event Timer, is designed to detect commercial interruptions during TV broadcasts, and instruct your VCR to cease recording until the regular program resumes. It's a useful accessory, particularly for those times when you're away from home and you have programmed your VCR to record an important show in your absence. Not only do you conserve tape (by packing up to 90 minutes more programming on a six-hour cassette), but you've also got the peace of mind that comes from knowing that heavy advertising won't cause your machine to

run out of tape before the program comes to an end.

Vidicraft explains that the CCU-120 works by detecting changes in audio and video signals that denote the switch from program to commercial. Once it has recognized the sales pitch (98 percent of the time, according to Vidicraft), the CCU-120 commands your VCR to rewind to the commercial's beginning, and resume recording only when the real show begins. When using the device, you bypass your VCR's internal timer; the CCU-120 more than compensates by letting you program 12 events over nine weeks. It costs \$399, and works best and most economically in the slowest recording speeds (Beta III; SLP for VHS).

Meanwhile, new from Phoenix Systems is the P-250 surround-sound processor, which replaces the P-25 featured in last April's PM (Super Sound That Surrounds You, page 48). The \$250 add-on is available as a kit (\$180) for do-it-yourselfers.



Vidicraft's CCU-120 detects the commercial breaks in TV programs and instructs your VCR to ignore them. The \$399 unit also functions as 12-event, nine-week timer.



Phoenix System's new P-250 (\$250) decodes Dolby surround-sound effects from video tapes and discs, for theater-like acoustics. It's also available in kit form for \$180.

Tufoil*

For Product Information

YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT IT... YOU'VE READ ABOUT IT... IT WORKS!

Easier cold weather starting, better fuel economy, better performance, and longer engine life.

For more than 20 years lubrication experts have been wrestling with the problem of finding a way to combine PTFE, commonly known as Teflon* or Fluon*, with motor oil to reduce friction. Finally a breakthrough was achieved. The result was a product that is changing the way people think about lubrication — TUFOIL* for ENGINES. TUFOIL*, added to your favorite motor oil is better at reducing wear, increasing power, improving fuel economy, and enhancing overall performance than any engine lubricant you can buy. Much better!

lubricant you can buy. Much better!
Furthermore, TUFOIL* will improve the efficiency and performance of standard

transmissions and differentials by reducing their internal friction.

At the suggested list price of \$12.95, a little TUFOIL® goes a long way and pays for itself many times over. Next time you change your oil, really change it! Add TUFOIL®.

Users everywhere praise TUFOIL - you will, too!

"There are lots of slick oils on the market but we've found one that does what it promises... TUFOIL works. It stayed in dispersion and cut the fuel bill 10%."

Popular Mechanics Magazine, January 1982

"With \$25,000 engines generating in excess of 3000 HP, you don't take chances. Tufoil ... I wouldn't run without it."

AL SEGRINI, Owner/Driver, National Champion/Brut Faberge/Top Fuel Funnycar

"Lubrication engineer Franklin Reick succeeded where everyone else had failed...TUFOIL is a unique, different, but safe kind of Teflon/oil additive."

Motor Age Magazine, April, 1982

Accept no substitutes!

Many have tried to combine PTFE or TFE in motor oil. Only TUFOIL has succeeded. In all other products the PTFE will settle out of dispersion and coagulate. Such products instruct, "SHAKE WELL BEFORE USING". Many suggest engine flushes and extended idling time after addition. None of this is necessary

with TUFOIL. TUFOIL is easy to use! Just add TUFOIL during oil and filter changes.

With numerous U.S. and international patents, TUFOIL is the only recognized, stable combination of PTFE and motor oil. TUFOIL is patented, insured and guaranteed!

SPECIAL PRICE S.9.99 Tafoil for ENGINES Better Mileage Better Performance Easier Starting Increased Engine Life Fewer Oil Changes Reduced Oil Consumption BFLOZ (237 Liter)

How TUFOIL Works

TUFOIL coats all the moving parts of engines with microminiature particles of PTFE, the slipperiest substance known to science. This coating minimizes friction well beyond the capabilities of any other lubricant.

Only in the patented TUFOIL process the PTFE particles are given a uniformly negative charge which causes them to repel each other so that they remain in dispersion. This dispersion serves two very important values. One, it prevents the particles from forming clumps which can clog oil lines and oil filters. Two, it keeps surplus PTFE particles suspended in crankcase oil ready to replace any particles dislodged from metal surfaces by the action of the engine's moving parts. This is accomplished by means of a chemical agent which causes the dispersed particles to seek out and continually coat metal surfaces as they become exposed.

TUFOIL is Reg. TM of Fluoramics, Inc. Teflon is Reg. TM of Dupont Fluon is Reg. TM of ICI Americas, Inc.

*U.S. Patents No. 3,933,656; 4,127,491, & 4,224,173. Other U.S. and Int'l. Patents Pending.

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Charge to my □ Mastercard □ Visa Amount \$_____

Account No. _____ Exp. Date _____

D Please send more information. My self-addressed stamped envelope is

enclosed.

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Name _____Tel: _____

City_____State____Zip____

HOMEOWNERS' CLINIC



Patching spalled concrete

The concrete floor in my garage has areas that flake away as I sweep it, and the rough stones are protruding. I've tried using liquid sealers, including vinyl cement, but they don't hold. Can you help with this problem?—Edward Lull, Clarendon, Ill.

Spalled sections on a concrete garage slab are generally caused by deicing salts dripping from the car. There are a number of materials for patching. If epoxy or polymer patches have not held, chances are you didn't prepare the surface properly. The area to be patched should be roughened by sand-blasting or chipping to about 12 in beyond the spall.

The area should be clean and dry. Remove oil and grease, loose concrete and dust. Make sure there is no moisture rising through the concrete (see Homeowners' Clinic, page 72, July '84, for moisture test). Since epoxy products vary, follow the manufacturer's directions (see also Problem Concrete: Answers to Most-Asked Questions About Patching, page 112, June '83).

Depending on the size of the spalled area, it may be more economical to use a concrete mix. However, this will require more surface preparation since concrete cannot be "feathered" out like epoxy. The edges of the area to be patched must be undercut to hold the mix in place. The procedure outlined below for patching a floor is from the American Concrete Institute's booklet Slabs On Grade. The booklet is available from ACI, Box 19150, Redford Station, Detroit, Mich. 48219, for \$6.95.

- Using a circular saw with masonry (silicon-carbide) blade, make a rectangle of outward-angled, 1/2-in.-deep cuts around the spalled area.
- Wearing goggles, chip concrete within the saw-cut area to about 1¹/₂ in, deep using a cold chisel. Chipped surface should be rough but clean.
- Dampen area with water, cover with wet burlap and allow it to stand for several hours.
- 4. Mix concrete for patch in the same proportions as the slab. If you don't know the mix of the original concrete, use a ratio of 5.5 gallons of water per 94-pound bag of cement. Let the mix stand several minutes before placing it in the patch.
 - 5. Remove excess water from the

patch area, but leave surface damp.

- Compact concrete into the patch, overfilling slightly.
- After a few minutes, level it to match the surrounding surface, then finish to the required texture.
 - 8. Keep the patch damp for 3 days.

SPALLED
AREA

CUT TO
112" DEPTH

SLOPE SAW CUTS
TO KEY IN PATCH

CHIP CONCRETE IN
CUT AREA TO 1-1/2" DEPTH

SURFACE SHOULD BE
ROUGH BUT CLEAN

To prepare a spalled area of floor for a concrete patch, first saw-cut around the area to a ½-in. depth; angle the cuts outward. Then, chip out the concrete within the cuts to 1½-in. depth using a cold chisel.

Replacing porch columns

I own a fine old house built in 1880. Most of the house is still in original condition. The challenge I have is that the columns on my front porch are rotting and two of them need to be replaced. I have not been able to find anyone who will reproduce the original columns. Are you aware of any companies that custom-build columns if provided with sketches?—D. Linderman, Michigan City, Ind.

I found a list of 12 such companies in the Old House Journal. Two of them are: Schwerd Manufacturing Co., 2215 McClure Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212, and Hartmann-Sanders Column Co., 4340 Bankers Circle, Atlanta, Ga. 30360. Both provide free brochures.

Since you own an old house you may be interested in the *Old House Journal*. The *OHJ* is an excellent monthly publication dealing with restoration and maintenance of pre-1939 houses. The May 1984 issue has, among other interesting tidbits and information, an article titled *Shopping For Columns* that should answer all your questions.

A one-year subscription to the *OHJ* is \$18. Back issues can be purchased for \$2.50 each, postpaid. Write to The Old House Journal, 69A Seventh Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217.

Copper plumbing corrosion

For many years I've noticed a white powdery substance like corrosion around valves and some sweat fittings on my copper pipes. Also, the screws that hold the washers in the valves corrode away. I spoke to a person who claimed the corrosion might be caused by the ground wire—running between my main electrical box and the water line coming from the street—setting off some electrical chemical reaction. Is this true? What do you think I can do to stop the corrosion?—A. Nelson, Franklin Square, N.Y.

The electrical ground connection is not causing the problem. It sounds as if you have slight leaks around the joints of those fittings and valves. Water oozes out of the pinhole openings in those joints and around the valve stems. It then evaporates and leaves behind the mineral deposits you see.

Usually, the deposits self-seal the leak. However, if the deposits get larger you will have to re-sweat the leaky fittings and repack the valves.

Your washer screws are deteriorating because of the chemical makeup of the water. Home treatment of the water to prevent this isn't practical. The screws should be replaced with monel screws, made of corrosion-resistant nickel-copper alloy, and available at plumbing supply stores.

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 the column. For more home-repair and maintenance help, get PM's Home Care Guide, \$4.95 postpaid. Send your order(s) to Popular Mechanics. Box 1014. Radio City Station. New York, N.Y. 10101.

EVERY TIME YOU CHANGE THE BIT, YOU'VE GOT ANOTHER TOOL.



The remarkable device pictured below is a Dremel* Moto-Tool.* With its wide range of accessory bits, this compact power tool provides the kind of versatility you won't find in conventional tools. Not only will it handle a variety of tasks, it'll handle a variety of materials. You see, while ordinary power tools usually run at less than 3,000 RPM, the Dremel Moto-Tool is capable of a range of speeds up to 28,000 RPM. And because the Moto-Tool is so compact, you'll often find it'll do the job, where other tools won't even fit.

The Moto-Tool is available in several different models, including both adjustable and constant-speed versions. Each features a reliable motor, an assortment of useful accessories, and most models come with a rugged carrying case.

So if you want a versatile tool that does the work of many other tools, pick up a Moto-Tool. Once you do, you'll quickly see there's no other single



DREMELGets the job done bit by bit.

LINIC



A battery of questions

Does your "strange" file have in it what happened to me? Acid started leaking from the battery positive side terminal. Before I discovered the trouble, the acid had destroyed the battery carrier and inner fender, and leaked directly on two high-pressure lines feeding the air conditioner. The battery was about three years old when this happened. My questions are:

- Is this a common occurrence?
- Is damage the result of vibration or could it be a manufacturing defect even at this late stage in the battery's life?
- In light of my experience, are car owners better off with top-terminal rather than side-terminal batteries? -Norm Zorn, Roanoke, Va.

Strange indeed, Norm, This is not a common occurrence. The most secure parts of a battery, whether it has side or top terminals, are the terminal areas. When acid leaks from a battery, it's usually because of a puncture in the case or a split between the cover and case. Often, this is the result of accidental damage done by someone working on the battery, or by the battery mount

Acid penetration through a terminal area usually results from a defect in the battery. Therefore, although the battery is three years old, you should return it to the place where you bought it. Batteries should age more gracefully

As for switching to a top-terminal battery, there are pitfalls. You either have to replace the cables, which is an added expense, or clip their ends and splice on new cable clamps to fit battery posts. Clamps are available at auto supply stores.

However, the point at which the end of the cable and new clamp meet will not be sealed, and there's a high risk of corrosion. If it were my choice, I'd stick to a side-terminal battery.

Resuscitating a Rabbit

I found oil in the coolant of my 1984 VW Rabbit. The VW dealer can tell me why I'd find coolant in oil, but he's lost on this problem. Please help him and me.-George Rodriquez, Arlington,

The oil cooler, which is probably

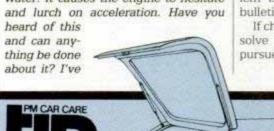
leaking, has proved to be a cause of oilcontaminated coolant with all VW models. Verify that it's damaged by removing the cooler, which is under the oil filter, and plugging one of its hose

Now you should immerse the part in water and apply low air pressure to the other hose fitting.

If water bubbles appear, indicating a bad oil cooler, flush the cooling system. Then, install a new oil cooler and a new oil filter. Be sure to replace the oil cooler seal, which sits between the oil cooler and oil filter.

Water torture

My 1982 Honda Accord has a problem with water in the fuel system. I've purchased gasoline at several different service stations, but I can't get rid of the water. It causes the engine to hesitate



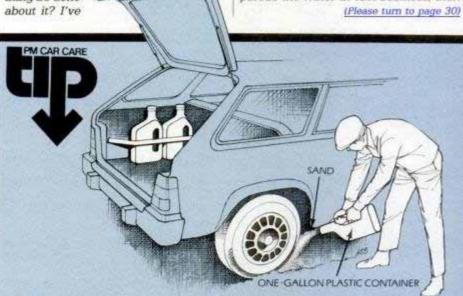
checked with the dealer several times, but he's no help.-Robert King, Haleiwa, Hawaii

This is a tough one to pin down since you insist there's water in the fuel system and Honda says that even if there is, it wouldn't cause hesitation and lurching. According to the company, fuel tanks are constructed to hold several liters of water without affecting engine performance. If the water level exceeded the limit, the engine would guit running, since water would block the fuel-sending pickup screen.

Honda places blame for hesitation and lurch on two other reasons. One is pinching of the No. 11 vacuum line under the air cleaner. It provides a signal to the EGR valve. This problem is explained fully in Honda service bulle-

The second reason—carburetor percolation-causes hesitation and lurch after starting a warm engine. This problem is the focus of Honda's service bulletin 82-014.

If checking these possibilities doesn't solve your problem, and you want to pursue the water-in-fuel business, then



Justice prevails

Here's a gem for winter driving sent to us by Howard M. Justice of Brookville, Ind. He suggests:

"Take gallon-size empty plastic containers that used to contain antifreeze, windshield washer fluid or some other product and fill them with dry sand. Screw their caps back on and place the containers in the trunk."

"The heavy weight increases traction when driving on snow and ice. Furthermore, you have sand readily available to spread under tires when traction is needed to get off a slippery spot."

Naturally, this only applies to rear-drive cars. And keep the weight over or in front of the axle, not way out back where it may lead to quirky handling.

HOW TO SAVE MONEY WITH THE RIGHT MOTOR OIL

SAE 5W-30 COULD IMPROVE STARTING, FUEL ECONOMY AND ENGINE LIFE.

Many of today's new gasoline engines will start better in cold weather and use less fuel if they're protected with SAE 5W-30 motor oil. In fact, General Motors recommends 5W-30 for year round use in many of its current models. Your owner's manual will tell you if your car or truck is among them.

Even if it's not, a check of the manual will help you select the oil that's right for your engine, for your climate, for the way you drive. Understanding the language of motor oil is

a big help, too.

Read your oil container. Look for the American Petroleum Institute (API) symbol. You'll find it on many containers of motor oil. It looks like this:



The presence of the API symbol means the product has been tested to meet some highly specific performance standards.

The symbol says three things about the oil. The letters at the top tell you if the oil quality is right for your engine. An API letter code of "SF" means the oil is for gasoline engines. "CC" or "CD" means the oil is for use in diesel engines. Oils marked with a combination of letter codes, like "SF/CC" or "SF/CD," can be used in more than one type of engine.

The center of the symbol describes the viscosity of the oil—how easily it flows. The various grades are specified and numbered by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). In general, the lower the number, the more easily an oil flows at a specified temperature. Oils with more than one SAE number are called multigrade oils, and contain additives to help them perform whether hot or cold.

With multigrade oils, a number followed by a "W" indicates how well the oil flows in cold weather. The lower the number, the more readily the oil will lubricate an engine during cold starts at low temperature. SAE 5W-30 oil, for example, will flow more easily when cold than SAE 10W-30.

The second or last number indicates a multigrade oil's lubricating properties at high temperatures. While this number can be as high as 40 or even 50, for most vehicles General Motors no longer recommends you use an oil this thick.

The words "Energy Conserving" on an API symbol mean the oil may save you money. Easy-flowing oils reduce friction in your engine, so you'll use less gasoline to run it. "Energy Conserving" oils are generally multigrades, and the lower the viscosity rating, the better the fuel economy.

These guidelines apply equally to synthetic and conventional oils. So pick a motor oil that meets the recommendations in your owner's manual, and follow the oil-change schedule. You'll be sure your engine is getting the right oil, you could be saving money, and you'll be helping conserve valuable natural resources. And that's good for you, for GM, and for everybody.

This advertisement is part of our continuing effort to give customers useful information about their cars and trucks and the company that builds them.



Chevrolet • Pontiac Oldsmobile • Buick Cadillac • GMC Truck (Continued from page 28)

drain the fuel tank and blow out fuel lines to see what happens.

In a lather

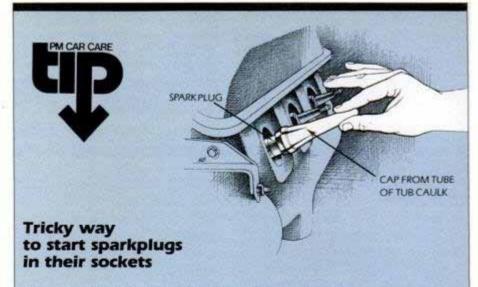
Whenever I look at the oil on the automatic transaxle dipstick of my 1982 Buick Skylark 2.8-liter engine, it's foamy. I've been going back and forth with GM about this since I bought the car. The dealer replaced the transaxle with a new one, but a short time afterward foam reappeared. The dealer is at a loss, and the GM area representative hasn't been helpful. Can you help?—EdwardWajda, Westfield, Mass.

Your car's not unique, Foaming is characteristic of the THM 125C automatic transaxle in 1982 Skylarks, Cavaliers, Celebritys, Centurys, Cimarrons, Citations, Cutlass Cieras, Firenzas, Omegas, Phoenix, Skyhawks, J2000s and 6000s.

Foaming occurs because pressure on oil becomes excessive as oil is pumped through the narrow passage of the valve body. The only problem that transaxle oil foaming causes is an inaccurate indication on the dipstick. It will not cause damage to an automobile if you're using the correct transmission fluid—DEXRON II.

SERVICE TIPS

- Is the hatch of your 1982-84 Pontiac Firebird or Chevy Camaro hard to close? That's because you're working against a large volume of air inside the car. Opening a door or window a bit will avoid muscular strain.
- Chrysler has found the reason for corrosion of sheet metal near the maintenance-free battery of its 1979-'84 rearwheel-drive vans and wagons. Water from rain, road splash and car washing is leaking into the battery through the vent holes, causing overfill thrown out in the form of acid. A shield (part No. 4335558) to block water from vent holes is now sold by dealers.
- There's a new head gasket (part No. E53Z-6051-A) for the 2.3-liter HSC engine of a 1984 Tempo/Topaz if the one now on your car is leaking oil or coolant. TSB 84-16-15 tells FoMoCo service departments the proper way to install it.
- Stick to your guns if you believe your 1984 Honda Civic has too much bounce up front while driving between 35 and 40 mph on a smooth road. Honda has issued TSB 84-037 that tells dealers to replace the left engine mount and the front mount of the transmission if bounce is indeed excessive.
- If you'd like to get rid of a shudder from a 1982 Datsun 200SX when going in reverse at low speed with your foot held lightly to the brake pedal, have a rear wheel bearing shim (part No. 38154-25660) installed.



Elmer Promnitz of St. Charles, Mo., has arthritis in his hands, which makes it difficult to do many simple auto maintenance jobs—one involving sparkplugs. Elmer found it hard to start new plugs into their holes without crossing threads, something even those without arthritis may find hard to do since plug holes are often deeply recessed. Elmer came up with this idea to solve his problem, and it may

help you with yours:

Buy a tube of tub caulk. Slit its flexible plastic cap on each side (see illustration) so you can get the cap over a new sparkplug. This extends your reach and makes it easier to get the sparkplug started correctly. Once the plug is started properly in the threads, pull off the cap and attach your socket wrench and extension to tighten the plug in its socket.

To eliminate foaming, first make sure the transaxle isn't overfilled. Then, have the dealer install newly designed parts. These are a manual valve (part No. 8643316) and an auxiliary valve body (No. 8643326).

If foaming continues, the only way to get an accurate reading is to check transaxle oil level when the transaxle is warm and the engine is running. If the level falls between the FULL and ADD marks, you're safe. When it gets to the ADD mark, add fluid until the level reaches the midway point.

Whistling a sad tune

I like my 1984 Honda Prelude except for one annoying problem: a low whistle between 35 and 45 mph. At 55 to 65 mph, it becomes a high piercing whistle. The Honda service department says, "It's in the fuel system, and there's nothing we can do about it." That's hard to believe. Help!—Murray L. Totty, St. Petersburg, Fla.

This sounds like a wind noise. The dealer is probably confusing it with a noise made by these cars that, until now, has been unsolvable. That noise, more a moan than a whistle, is caused by the two-way valve that controls the amount of vapor sent from the fuel evaporation system's charcoal canister to the fuel tank. A new, quiet valve has been designed and is now available to owners of moaning cars through Honda dealers. The two-way valve noise is heard at low speeds, at idle, and some-

times even after the engine has been turned off, but not at 55 to 65 mph. That's why I say it sounds like wind noise. Suggest that your dealer tackle the problem from this angle.

Lucky John

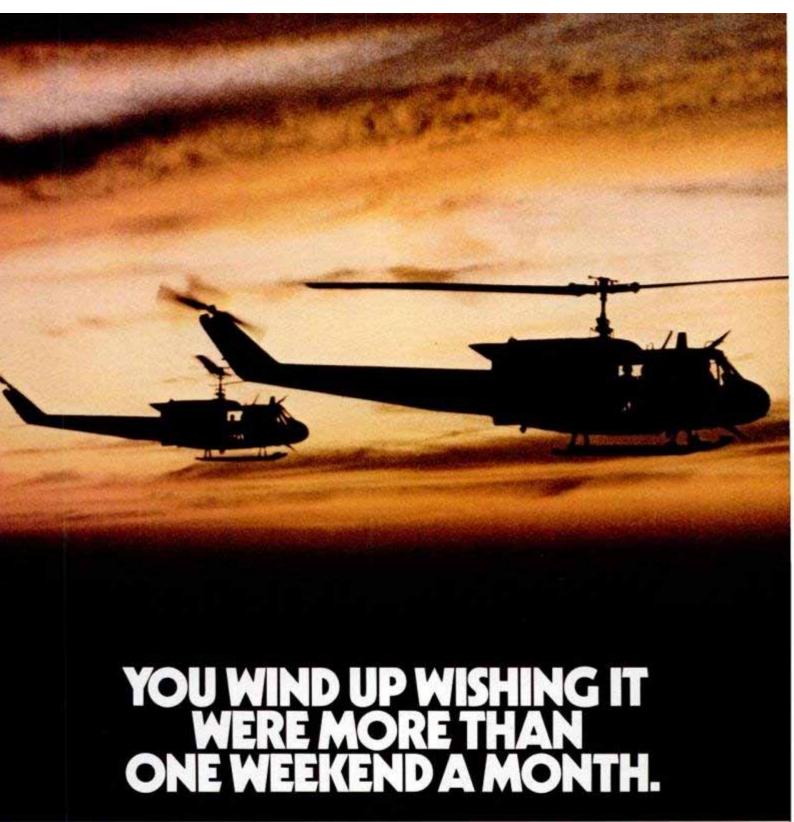
What can you tell me about the Ford FS-6 air-conditioning compressor? Mine is leaking oil, although it has had new seals.—John Fuqua, Salvisa, Ky.

You're in luck, John. Arriving almost simultaneously with your letter was Technical Service Bulletin (TSB) 84-19, which addresses the problem. You and other Ford/Mercury owners having FS-6 compressors in their cars will be happy to know that a redesigned seal is available now from the manufacturer to keep oil where it belongs. Have your dealer make repairs using the Compressor Head and Valve Plate Kit (part No. E4VY-19E580-A).

If your vehicle no longer is covered by warranty, talk to your Ford zone representative, who can be contacted through a dealer or directly (look in the owner's manual for the address). The zone rep may extend the warranty as a show of good faith, since oil flinging past the front shaft seal has been a problem with this compressor.

DO YOU HAVE A CAR PROBLEM?

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



You might find yourself in a chopper, cruising the treetops at 90 miles per hour.

Or doing something more down to earth, like repairing an electronic circuit.
What you won't find yourself doing is getting bored. Because this isn't ordinary part-time work. It's the Army Reserve.

You'll get valuable skill training. Then one weekend a month, and two weeks each summer, you'll put

that training to good use, while receiving good pay and benefits.

But maybe most importantly, you'll come away with a feeling deep down that you were challenged and came through. And that doesn't disappear when Monday rolls around.

See your local Army Reserve recruiter about serving near your home. Or call toll free 1-800-USA-ARMY.

ARMY RESERVE. BE ALLYOU CAN BE.

APPLIANCE CLINIC



Balky dishwasher door gasket

I have a Sears dishwasher, model No. 587-71231, serial No. 117.2840867. I purchased a new door gasket from Sears and after double-checking to see that it was properly installed, I find I can't latch the door. The new gasket is plastic and hard. Nothing in the directions shows any adjustment to the door itself. What am I doing wrong?—Fred Thursby, Sound Beach, N.Y.

I checked the installation instructions for your door gasket. Apparently the instruction sheet has been updated since you made your purchase and now includes a note which deals with your problem. The note states that after installing the new door gasket, it may be difficult to close the door.

To soften and set the gasket, loosen the two screws that attach the lock striker hook to the top center of the tub flange; close the door and operate in "wash" with hot water for five or six minutes. Then retighten the screws.

Moldy door seal

I purchased a Frigidaire refrigerator in February of 1983, model No. FPC119VMLO, serial No. 20AK5153. The problem I'm experiencing is that the door seals have been collecting mold. They must be washed every other day to control this problem.

We live in California and the humidity is low. I've checked the manual, and maintain the settings as it recommends. Can you help?—Sally Hartmann, Fountain Valley, Calif.

It sounds as if the mold may have been formed by some sort of food residue on the door gasket that was accidently spilled on the gasket surface. Another possible explanation is that the mold may be the result of wet insulation in the door.

A third possible cause: The heating element that goes around the inside front of the refrigerator may be inoperative. When this happens, moisture has a tendency to form in the area of the door gasket due to the cooler surface temperature of the cabinet.

By simply washing the door gasket you can't destroy the mold, and in a short time it reappears. To get rid of the mold, sterilize the gasket surfaces with a bathroom mildew remover such as Dow Bathroom Cleaner or Lysol brand disinfectant, and scrub in the crevices with a soft bristle brush. Remove all the residue, then be sure to rinse thoroughly with clear water to avoid any chemical reaction between the gasket and cleanser.

If, after you have thoroughly cleaned the gasket, you still find the mold reappearing, my advice is to call your local Frigidaire serviceman to check the cabinet heater and door insulation.

Dryer starting trouble

I have a Maytag dryer, model No. DE806, serial No. 608442F9. Frequently, I have trouble starting it on the perma-press cycle. The regular dry cycle seems to start promptly. I must hold the starting knob in until the dryer runs for a while and then release the knob or the machine will shut off. Can the problem be the electronic control? Your help will be appreciated.—Nancy K. Schmauder, Tacoma, Wash.

What you probably have is a faulty control switch. This is the long rectangular switch behind the control dial. The switch is part No. 3-2528 and costs about \$20. Replacement parts for your dryer can be purchased from any Maytag parts dealer or appliance parts distributor.

To get at the switch, unplug the dryer from its power source; remove the control panel cover, which is held in place with two Phillips-head screws. This will give you access to the control switch, which is held to the control panel with two screws.

Once the mounting screws have been removed, first lift and then turn the switch 90° to remove the hairpin clip which connects the switch to a solenoid. Then, lift the switch itself up and out of the panel.

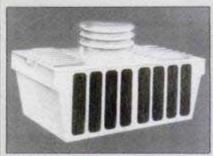
Place the new switch alongside the defective switch; remove one wire at a time and connect it to the corresponding terminal of the new switch. The wires are color-coded to the terminals on the switch.

Once all the wires have been transferred, again tilt the switch to connect the hairpin clip. Then, replace the securing screws for the control switch and replace the cover.

Filtering device for dryer

Tenants just moved into my rental unit. They have an electric dryer, but there are no vent holes in the wall and it's almost impossible to put one in where they want the dryer. They say a friend bought a filtering device that keeps the humidity out of the house. Would you know anything about this device and does it do what is claimed?—Gerard Charette, Biddeford, Me.

I know of no device that can be put on a dryer that will remove all the moisture released during the drying cycle and prevent it from getting into the house. On an average, the amount of moisture released into



For clothes dryers that can't be vented externally, Deflect-O's water-filled trap exhausts lint-free air into room.

the air from one load of clothes is between one pint and one quart, depending on the amount of moisture that has been extracted by the washer. The only real way to prevent moisture buildup in the house is to vent the dryer outside.

There are two products available at appliance parts stores or large hardware outlets to trap dryer lint. These devices attach to exhaust duct tubing when it is impractical to vent the dryer outside.

The makers, Deflect-O Corp., 7035 East 86 St., Box 50057, Indianapolis, Ind. 46250, and Rapro/P G. Assco Corp., 1903 Polymer Drive West, Chattanooga, Tenn. 37421, suggest you open a window or door to avoid excessive moisture.

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



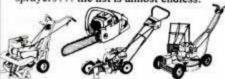
In just a short time, you can be ready to join one of the fastest growing industries in America... an industry where qualified men are making from \$25.00 to \$30.00 per hour... and that's just for labor. Parts, engines and accessories add even more to the profits.



Because the small engine industry has grown so quickly, an acute shortage of qualified Small Engine Professionals exists throughout the country. In fact, it's not unusual for a good small engine man to be three to four weeks behind in the summer and at least a week behind in the winter. When you see how many small engines are in use today, it's easy to understand why qualified men command such high prices as much as \$49.95 for a simple tune-up that takes less than an hour!

65-million small engines are in service today!

That's right - there are over sixty-five million 2-cycle and 4-cycle small engines in service across the U.S.A. That's the official count from the Engine Service Assn., and new engines are being built at a rate of one-million per month! With fully accredited and approved Foley-Belsaw training, you can soon have the skill and knowledge to make top money servicing these engines. Homeowners and businessmen will seek you out and pay you well to service and repair their lawnmowers, tillers, edgers, power rakes, garden tractors, chain saws, mini-bikes, go-carts, snowmobiles, generators, snowblowers, paint sprayers . . . the list is almost endless.



No experience necessary.

You don't need to be a 'born mechanic' or have prior experience. If you can read, you can master this profitable trade right at home, in your sparetime, without missing a single paycheck. Lessons are fully illustrated - so clear you can't go wrong.

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Walter H. Strick Campbell, California

With our famous 'learn-by-doing' training method, you get practical 'hands-on' experience with specialized tools and equipment that you'll receive with your training plus a brand-new 4HP engineall yours to keep!

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NEW

HOME & SHOP

Radiant-heat ceiling panels

Energy-Kote radiant heating panels are a new way to supplement your present heating system or to spot-heat small, uninsulated areas. The easy-to-install ceiling panels convert electricity into infrared (thermal) radiant energy without costly plumbing or ductwork. The heating element consists of a micro-thin composition of lamellar graphite and a copper conductor laminated between Mylar polyester film.

The 1-in.-thick panel is backed with fiberglass insulation and is framed in aluminum.

Available in standard voltages in sizes ranging from 2 × 2 ft. to 4 × 8 ft., the prices range from \$85 to \$397 per panel. For details, contact TVI Energy Corp., 5012 Herzel Pl., Beltsville, Md. 20705.



Lightweight heating panel mounts easily to ceiling. Cutaway (left) shows textured surface, heating element, fiberglass insulation.

Rapid paint-rolling



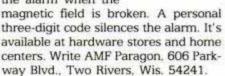
Here's a way to roll paint without having to dip into the paint tray every few strokes. Sears offers the E-Z roller, (Model No. 11828) which has a built-in reservoir that holds up to ½ gallon of paint and feeds it automatically, via a transfer roller, to the 8-in. roller. All parts are washable and the handle has two locking positions for wall or ceiling application. The threaded handle accommodates an extension pole.

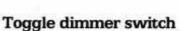
The roller is available for about \$20 at larger Sears stores. For more information, write to Sears, Roebuck and Co., Box 703-PM. Sears Tower, Chicago, Ill. 60684.

The reservoir in Sears' E-Z roller holds enough paint to cover an 8 × 10-ft. area.

Easy-to-install alarm

AMF Paragon has developed an electronic alarm that sounds a piercing siren for intruders, or can be set to just chime for visitors. The battery-operated Door Guard (\$30) installs on a door or window frame without electrical wiring. A magnet positioned opposite the unit triggers the alarm when the





Here's a new way to set mood lighting without using the standard rheostat dial-type switch. Intelectron's toggle dimmer switch slowly brightens lights



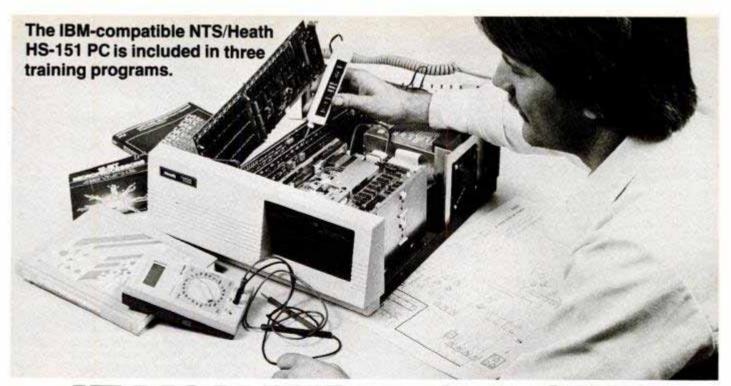
as you raise the toggle from the off position. Available at hardware stores and home centers in standard single-pole (\$8) and three-way (\$9). It's from Intelectron, 1275 A St., Hayward, Calif. 94541. Include \$2 for postage.

Lock-in-place pipe

Flexible drain pipes have made do-ityourself plumbing repairs easier. One example of these pipes is Chicago Specialty's Form-n-Fit flexible tubing system. The polypropylene tubing bends to accommodate offsets up to 4 in. and the accordion folds lock into place without kinking. Since the tube can be compressed or expanded, there's no need to cut to length. The tubing can stand up to hot water, chemical drain cleaners and any type of household cleaning chemical.



The tubing is available in a variety of shapes at hardware stores and home centers. Prices range from \$6.40 to \$8. For more information, write to Chicago Specialty, 7500 Gross Point Rd., Skokie, Ill. 60077.



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Learn PC Servicing By Building Your Own NTS/HEATH HS-151 Desk-Top Computer

NTS Intronic home training gets you right down into the heart of computer circuitry. Learn how microprocessors function, how they operate and are used to solve problems. Your program includes a wide variety of tests and projects you perform as you build your own PC, circuit board by circuit board unit by unit.

The NTS/HEATH 16-Bit HS-151

This remarkable desk-top PC is the most powerful and versatile ever offered in any home study course. Advanced features include:

 128 KB RAM user memory, expandable to 640 KB. This power translates into high speed operation,

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- Two video outputs provide connections for either a color or monochrome video display monitor.
- 16-Bit 8088 microprocessor runs most IBM and MS-DOS software.
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Your NTS training course will teach you how to program on this powerful PC using lessons, texts and diagrams showing you how to make full use of its remarkable capabilities.



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WORKSHOP MINICOURSE



Using a heat gun

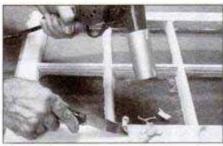
Heat frequently is required for doing certain jobs around the home and shop and all too often the source used is an open-flame propane torch. This method does create some problems because the direct flame can prove too hot for many tasks, which could either harm the surface or create a real fire hazard.

The ideal alternative is to use a flameless heat gun. This useful tool delivers a concentrated flow of super-hot air in temperature ranges from 300° to 1,000° F., depending on the make and model. For standard applications, a flameless heat gun capable of delivering an air temperature of about 750° should be adequate.

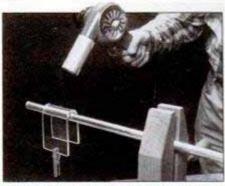
Prices usually run between \$40 and \$80. The gun shown here, Gunlach's 500° to 750° F, model, sells for about \$75. It has an adjustable baffle on one side of the motor that controls the air flow and thus the intensity of the heat. Black & Decker offers a 730° to 833° F, model for about \$40 and a Sears 800° to 1,000° F, model goes for about \$70.

Worthwhile features to look for are self-standing capability and a three position—off. cool. HOT—power switch. The cool position is used before the gun is switched off to prolong heater element life. It is also used to cool off heated work surfaces.

Shown here are a few uses for this handy tool. Other practical applications include defrosting freezers, thawing frozen locks, accelerating the setting time of epoxy adhesives and resin auto body fillers, drying damp surfaces prior to painting or finishing, and welding sheet plastics.—Rosario Capotosto



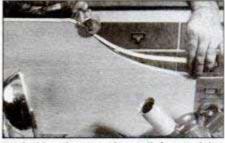
To remove old paint or varnish with a heat gun, aim nozzle at surface and hold in place until paint starts to blister. Then, scrape to bare wood using a stiff-blade scraper.



Acrylic plastic up to 1/4 in. thick can be bent using a heat gun. Choose metal tubing of proper diameter and direct heat at bend.



To remove hardened glazing putty, first soften with heat then peel off with putty knife. This prevents damage to wood caused by chipping out with a chisel.



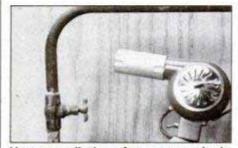
A clothing iron works well for applying veneer tape to straight plywood edges. But for curved edges, a heat gun works better. Just heat strip in place and roll onto edge.



To apply plastic laminate to a small radius curve, first glue the strip to the straight part of edge. Then apply heat to the area of the bend just before making the turn.



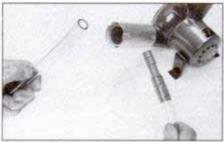
A damaged vinyl floor tile can be removed without harming surrounding tiles. Direct hot air at one corner until adhesive softens. Work putty knife under edge.



Heat gun easily thaws frozen copper plumbing pipes, but avoid alming the nozzle directly at soldered joints. Prolonged exposure at close range could soften the solder.



If a piece of stranded nylon rope has come unraveled at one end, cut the loose strands back to a solid section. Then, heat with the gun until the nylon melts together.



To join thick-walled plastic tubing to a friction fitting, first soften tubing ends with gun. Dip fitting into soapy water—before inserting—to reduce friction between two.



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DETROIT LISTENING POST



1986 Ford and Mercury preview

Shown here are the 1986 Mercury Sable sedan and Ford Taurus station wagon. Jack Telnack. Ford's chief design executive in North America, and several of his designers asked our opinion of the cars in a limited showing.

The Panther-series cars look like the Audi 5000S at first, but we agree with Telnack that the cars are in fact the next aerodynamic step in that design philosophy. Sable boasts an ultramodern sixseater interior of 118.4 cu. ft., with full electronic instrumentation in high-line models. Their flush glass, underbody smoothness and integrated front/rear polycarbonate bumpers help provide a slick 0.29 drag coefficient for Sable, 0.32 for stablemate Ford Taurus and a neat 0.34 for the Taurus wagon. The cars are fwd with four-wheel independent suspension. After a three-month production overlap, the Mercury Sable sedan and Ford Taurus sedan and wagon will replace the full-size Grand Marguis and LTD/Crown Victoria lines.



Aerodynamic front-drive Sable/Taurus sedans (top) will replace big rwd Mercury and Ford. Taurus will come as a wagon, too.

1986 Delta 88

Spy photography is tricky business, especially when the weather is cold and rainy. Sometimes you get the bear—and sometimes the bear gets you.

This time we got the bear. I shot this picture of the '86 GM B-body virtually moments before we went to press, so information on it is only sketchy at present. Careful analysis discloses an Oldsmobile badge on the decklid, suggesting that we've caught the first picture anywhere of the Delta 88 replacement.

Immediately noticeable is that overall length is significantly shorter than the '85 Delta 88 (inset), and the front end is slightly more aerodynamic. The greenhouse is greatly improved for better visibility all around. Height is shorter, though the car carries traditional Olds styling cues in the familiar doors and taller but clearly Oldsmobile taillight treatment. The front-drive platform is shared with the Buick LeSabre, but this two-door roofline is sportier than the four-door version.

mance) version with specific graphics.

front air dam, side skirts, rear spoiler,

Goodyear P225/50VR16 rubber and a

 3.0-liter dohc Six under a power-bulge hood. The sketch referred to a Yamaha

engine, and offered "Marauder" and

'Interceptor" as model names for the

future Mercury and Ford hotrods.

The V8s will likely be supplanted by Sixes, with a diesel option.

Other current B-bodied cars are the Chevy Impala/Caprice, Pontiac Parisienne and the Buick LeSabre.

New car guide

In 1985, buying a new car is more complicated than ever. Just taking into account motor car models built in the United States, there are about 290 vehicles from which to choose, Yes, many cars from one line may be merely badge-engineered versions of vehicles in a sister division's lineup, but the sheer impossibility of digesting a mountain of models, options, engine and transmission choices begs help.

Now, there's a bit of help. The Automotive Information Council has published a pamphlet called New Car Buying Tips, a pocket-sized, step-by-step guide. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to AIC New Car Buying Tips, 29200 Southfield Rd., Suite 111, Southfield, Mich., 48076.

Ear to the ground

Hyundai saddles up: Hyundai Motor Corp. will have a principal office in Detroit when it *begins importing up to 150.000 of its Korean minicars*, perhaps as early as 1985. Hyundai currently sells the Pony in Canada.

CAFE, anyone? Ford will completely

(Please turn to page 42)



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DETROIT LISTENING POST

(Continued from page 40)

restyle the EXP for '86 and revamp Escort/Lynx by 1988, according to Ford sources, to keep the cars viable sellers when Ford needs high-mileage credits in the future. Ford had planned to cancel EXP in 1986.

Penske/Chevy/Indy: Roger Penske, Chevrolet and England's Ilmor Engineering will design a brand new Indy 500 engine for use at the '86 race. The engine will be a 2.6-liter dohc V8. Chevy honcho Bob Burger said, "The project is an opportunity to test the transfer of high-performance technology to mainstream production engines." Also noted: Olds will provide a custom open-top Calais as pace car for the 69th Indy 500 this year.

Stop, thief! Chrysler sources say engine guys are working up a 160-hp turbo-Four police package for late-'86 debut in the Dodge 600 E-body. This prepares for the demise of the V8-powered M-body Gran Fury cop car.

Jersey belts up: The state of New Jersey joined New York State in enacting a mandatory seat belt usage law. New Jersey estimates a 70 percent compliance will save 9,100 lives a year.

Does it fly? Buick will assemble 1,000 special Golden Hawk LeSabres for sale in Saudi Arabia. The car features a gold-plated luggage rack and "Golden Hawk" in Arabic on the flanks.

2wd Cherokee: AMC will sell at mid-'86 a *two-wheel-drive Jeep Cherokee*, primarily in the Sunbelt. Insiders say the unit will sell for as much as \$1,500 less than current 4wd models.

Short drives: The '85 Merkur XR4Ti is a lean, mean, cost-effective high-performance machine. At \$16,400 in the showroom and 31 mpg under hard use on the street, one could spend more money for less car.

We drove the '85 Chevy Celebrity Eurosport in station wagon trim, and found it quick, manageable and fun to drive. It's among the best-looking wagons made in Detroit.

The '85 Pontiac 6000 STE continues its assault on European touring-car buyers. New instrument graphics are obscured by the steering wheel, though, diminishing their utility.

Book of the Month: IACOCCA. An Autobiography, by Lee Iacocca with William Novak, 352 pages, \$17.95 (list). Bantam Books, 666 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10103. After the obligatory family and student history, Iacocca gets down to telling what made him—and ultimately Chrysler—the entities they are today. Chapter XI details his firing by Henry Ford. His remarks in the

"Straight Talk" chapters talk directly to the White House on how to make the nation as well off as Chrysler.

Secondhand ponies: California Highway Patrol's fleet of 5-liter Mustang pursuit cars has turned out to be quite a smart investment. Selling off cars that had been retired from service with 85,000 miles on the odometer, the CHIPs metted an average return of \$4,520 on the original outlay of \$6,868. That's not all, though. The Mustang black and whites averaged 15 mpg in patrol service, 50 percent better than the large cruisers they replaced.

Chill winds: If you like the idea of Ford's high performance turbo Fours but can't warm up to an SVO Mustang, take a look at the new factory over-the-counter intercooler package. Developed by the SVO group, the air-to-air chiller will drop intake charge temperatures up to 125°F. and boost power output up to 10 percent. Kits exist for the T-Bird and Cougar, but we think it'll be most appreciated in the new Merkur. Order the Merkur kit from the SVO catalog under part No. M-6775-E231.

Cray fishing: Ford Motor Co. has followed GM's lead in acquiring a hyper-exotic Cray X-MP/11 super computer for use primarily in finite element analysis. The machine can perform 6 billion calculations per minute.



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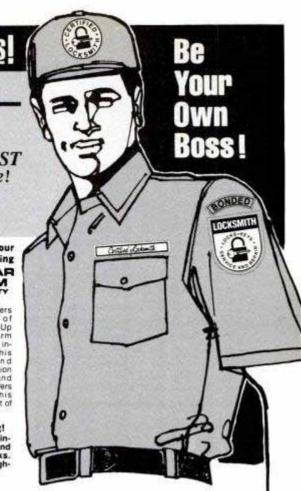
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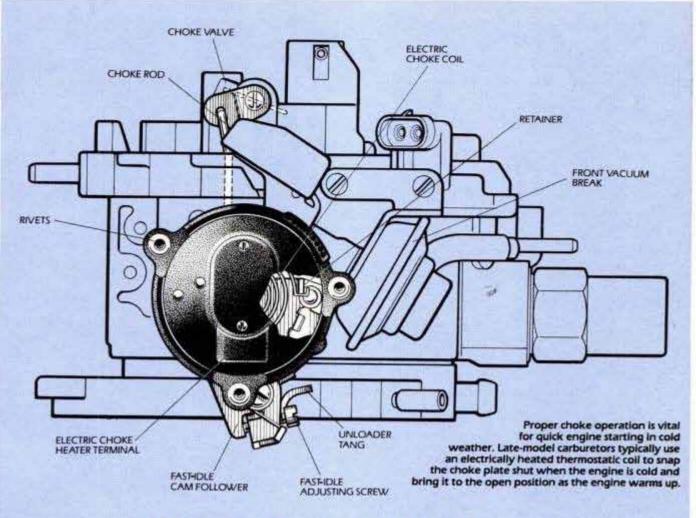
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HOW TO SOLVE COLD START PROBLEMS

BY PAUL STENQUIST; Illustrations by Fred Wolfe

automobiles and extreme cold don't go well together. As the temperature drops, the crankcase oil thickens, making the engine very hard to turn. The battery loses some of its energy. And the fuel puddles, rather than vaporizes.

Today's cars are equipped to overcome these difficulties, but only when everything is as it should be. The lubricant must be of the correct viscosity, the battery must be capable of holding a full charge, the engine must be in a good state of tune and the choke system (or fuel-injection control system) must be functioning properly.

But even if all these variables check

out okay, you might have trouble starting your car if you don't use the prescribed starting technique. Mechanics in cold weather cities tell us that the principal cause of cold-weather nostarts is driver error.

Starting technique

If you don't use the proper coldweather starting method on the first try, it will probably be too late on your second try because the battery quickly loses charge in low temperature and the plugs will be drenched with unvaporized gas. Most carbureted cars must be cold-started in the idle position after slowly pressing the accelerator to the floor one, two or three times. Most fuelinjected cars are cold-started in the idle position without depressing the accelerator. But techniques vary for both types. Read your owner's manual.

If the correct starting technique won't fire the engine, you should look for the cause of the problem (rather than trying to alter your technique to compensate). Both cranking speed and cold-start adjustments are critical.

Cranking speed is affected by both battery charge and oil viscosity. If your oil is too thick, even a fully charged battery won't start your car. Most manufacturers now recommend 5W-30 motor oil for winter use. In some cases, a

10W-40 oil may be too heavy to allow adequate cranking speed. A straight 30- or 40-weight oil is definitely too heavy. Check your owner's manual for a specific cold weather recommendation. Many vehicle manufacturers list recommended engine oil on the basis of the coldest temperature expected.

A fully charged battery is essential when cold weather greatly increases the cranking system's burden. However, even a fully charged battery can't deliver voltage to the starter motor and ignition coil if an accumulation of crud has increased battery cable resistance.

A quick glance at your battery posts should tell you if corrosion is a problem. If the posts and terminals are covered with a powdery white or yellow substance, remove the terminals (negative first) and clean them and the battery with a small brush and a paste made from baking soda and water. If this treatment doesn't get them down to shiny metal, scrape the inside of the cable terminals and the outside of the battery posts with a small knife or a battery terminal cleaning brush. If the terminals are the type that bolt onto the cables, remove them and clean the connection area, or better yet, replace the cables with a set that have terminals molded to the ends of the cables.

Hydrometer 'eye'

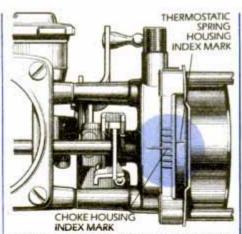
Check the charge level of most maintenance-free batteries by examining the hydrometer "eye." Normally, a dark eye means a drained battery, green is okay, clear or yellow indicates a defective battery.

For the battery to start your car, it must be able to produce at least 9.6 volts for 15 seconds while the engine is cranking (at a temperature of 70° F. or above). At zero to 18° below, it should produce about 8.5 volts, at 30° above zero. 9.1 volts.

Your battery will, of course, discharge if you crank your engine for 20 seconds or so in zero-degree weather. But it should be capable of providing enough juice for the 15-second first chance. If it won't, further battery/charging system troubleshooting and repair is called for.

If, on the other hand, the battery seems to take a charge and checks out okay with a hydrometer but the engine still cranks slowly, you may have starter motor or internal engine problems. Further diagnosis—checking starter amperage draw, or torque required to turn the engine—will be necessary.

If you discharged the battery by cranking the engine for a considerable time, you should remove it (negative



Choke closing tension can be adjusted by aligning the index marks to factory spec.

cable first), take it to a warm place and hook it up to a battery charger. Be careful when handling a battery. If you allow it to come in contact with your clothing, the acid will burn big holes in the fabric. Use old rags or a battery carrying strap to keep it well away from you. Discard any rags that have come into contact with the battery.

A 6- or 10-amp trickle charger will do a good job of charging batteries that have not been drained completely. A battery that still holds some charge may reach full charge in a few hours, but one that is almost fully discharged may require as much as 24 hours.

To determine when full charge has been reached, check a conventional battery with a hydrometer. To determine when a maintenance-free battery is fully charged, check its hydrometer eye as described above. Some fully discharged maintenance-free batteries have to be charged for a long time with a high-amperage service station-type charger. Don't attempt to charge a maintenance-free battery that has a clear or yellow hydrometer eye.

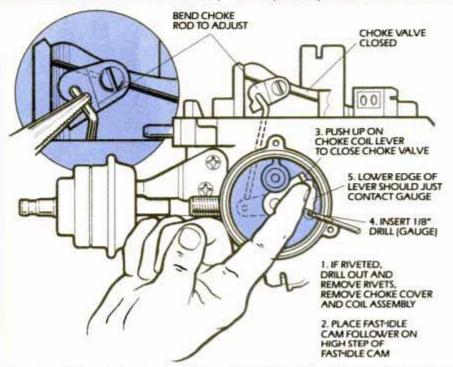
Jump-starting can also help to get you going in a pinch. But it's less effective than a recharge, as your battery will be left in a partly discharged condition if you don't drive the car for a few hours before shutting if off.

Finding the cause

While your battery is recharging, you'll have to try to figure out why the car didn't start on your first attempt. If your engine cranked at an adequately fast pace and wouldn't fire in 15 seconds or so, you probably have a cold-start (choke) system malfunction, a tuneup-related problem (like spark-plugs, distributor cap, cables, filters) or a fuel line freeze-up.

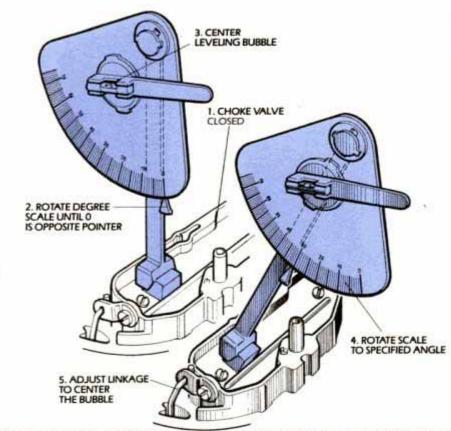
Eliminate the possibility of fuel line freeze-up right away on carbureted cars. Remove your air cleaner or its top cover and climb up somewhere where you can see into the carb. Shine a flashlight directly into the carburetor barrels. Then hold the choke open (if it's already open you have a choke problem) and open the throttle.

You should see fuel squirt out of the accelerator pump nozzles when you open the throttle. If you don't, the fuel line is probably frozen. To thaw, let it sit



On carbs with fixed spring housings, the position of the choke valve lever must be gauged with an 1/e-in. drill. The setting is corrected by slightly bending linkage rod.





To adjust the vacuum break and fast-idle/choke relation angles on late-model GM carbs, use a choke-valve angle gauge as shown above. Auto parts stores carry the gauge.

for half a day or so in a warm place.

You can probably avoid fuel line freeze-up by using a fuel deicer. However, if your tank contains a lot of water (the cause of fuel line freeze), you may have to have it drained.

Choke adjustment

While you're checking to see if fuel is available, pay attention to the operation of the choke plate or valve. Once you've determined that the accelerator pump nozzles squirt fuel, release the choke plate while holding the throttle open. The choke should snap to a closed or nearly closed position.

If it doesn't move smartly into position, the choke linkage may be jammed with crud and corrosion. Try cleaning the external linkage parts with carb cleaner and a small solvent brush.

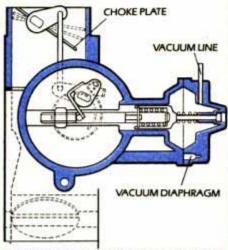
If the choke valve won't snap closed after cleaning the linkage, the malfunction must be corrected. It could be a simple misadjustment, but it's also possible that the thermostatic coil, which closes and opens the choke valve on most cars, is worn out.

On most cars the thermostatic coil is inside a housing attached to the side of the carburetor (see lead illustration). On early model cars, the housing is secured by three screws, but on late models it's held by rivets in order to

prevent tampering. To tamper (which you are allowed to do if you have to fix your choke), simply drill out the rivets. When reinstalling the housing, use self-tapping screws to retain it. These, with their special washers, can be purchased at an auto parts store.

The thermostatic coil within the housing holds the choke plate closed when the engine is cold. As the engine warms, the coil is heated and tension is released. Heat is usually provided by exhaust, an electric heater or both.

On some GM and Chrysler products



Holley-type carbs use a vacuum break to open the choke slightly after car's startup.

the thermostatic coil is located in a heat stove that mounts on the manifold and is connected to the choke plate with a linkage rod.

On cars with a carb-mounted thermostatic coil, choke adjustment usually is accomplished by turning the housing until a specified mark aligns with a pointer on the carb. However, on most late-model GM cars, the cover is installed in a specific position. Adjustment is accomplished by gauging the position of the choke valve lever with a drill bit or plug gauge. The adjustment is corrected by bending a linkage rod until the lever is in the correct position.

On most cars with intake manifoldmounted thermostatic coils, adjustment is made by bending the rod that joins the well to the choke plate lever.

In either case, a service manual is required. You'll find directions and specifications for most models in professional editions of general repair manuals. These books are available in most libraries. Of course, the complete factory service manual for your vehicle is the best source of information. It's available through your dealer's parts department. No serious Saturday Mechanic should be without the factory service manual for his or her car.

While a correct choke adjustment alone may be enough to get it started, the vehicle won't operate properly when cold if you don't make the other choke system adjustments. On most cars, these include choke vacuum break adjustment, fast-idle setting and a fast-idle/choke relation adjustment.

To complete some of these adjustments on 1978 and later GM cars, you'll need a choke valve angle gauge. This is available at auto parts stores.

For most procedures, the gauge is mounted on the choke plate by means of its magnetic base. The choke plate is then closed, and the tool's scale is rotated until 0 is opposite the gauge's pointer. The bubble level on the gauge is then adjusted until the bubble is centered. The scale is rotated to the angle specified for the particular procedure, after linkage rods or other components have been positioned according to the instructions. Check the position of the bubble. If it's off-center, an adjustment must be made. For most carbs, this is accomplished by bending a linkage rod.

Many cars equipped with Holleytype carburetors use a vacuum break device to open the choke slightly after startup. If this is incorrectly set, there will be an over-rich condition while the car warms up, and driveability will suffer. On Ford products, the adjust-



ment is checked by gauging the amount the choke opens when vacuum is applied to the diaphragm, and it can be reset to the shop manual specification with an adjustment screw on the diaphragm. Cars using remote-mounted vacuum breaks generally require slight bending of an adjustment rod to bring the choke plate angle back to spec.

Resetting the fast-idle speed is also required when any choke adjustment has been changed. On most carburetors, the fast-idle screw rests on a stepped fast-idle cam. Position the screw on the proper step as called for in the shop manual. Turn the screw left or right as required to match the rpm level called for by the maker.

Other problems

If you found that choke and chokesystem adjustments were okay, the cause of the cold no-start has not been determined. Although internal damage or other serious problems could be the cause, it may be the engine is simply in need of normal maintenance.

Check the sparkplugs. If the electrodes have eroded or have been fouled, the voltage available under cold-cranking conditions may not be enough to fire them. Clean and gap them if slightly worn or replace them.

If the plugs are wet with fuel, you probably flooded the engine trying to start it. This may be the case if your choke was misadjusted or stuck open. Dry the plugs completely. You'll have to get them into a warm place or spray them with plug cleaning solvent. Then, gap and reinstall them.

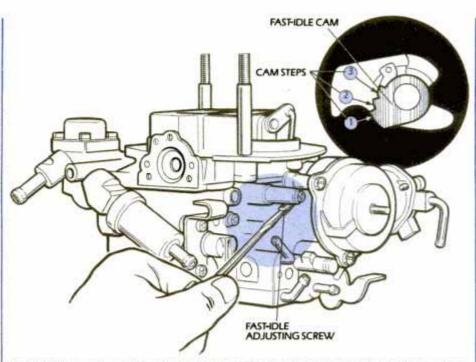
Other problems that might contribute to a no-start include a bad distributor cap, leaking ignition cables or coil tower, a defective coil and other types of ignition failure.

Check the January '85 Saturday Mechanic (page 65) on electronic ignition maintenance and diagnosis for more on ignition problems.

Fuel-injected cars

Most late-model, fuel-injected cars have a cold-start system that is integrated with the engine's electronic control system. If cold no-start is a problem, the self-diagnostic trouble codes have to be checked in the vehicle service manual.

Some manufacturers provide additional checklists that should be consulted when a problem is evident but no trouble code has been set. For example, on cars with TBI, GM specifies 15 different items that should be checked when hard starting is experienced and



The fast-idle speed must be rechecked after any choke adjustment. Set the fast-idle screw on the proper step of the fast-idle cam, as is called for in the service manual.

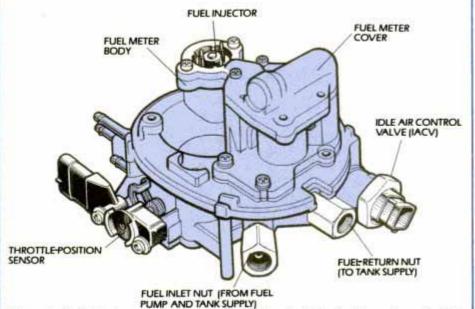
no trouble codes are set. These include checking the fuel pump relay, throttleposition sensor, coolant-temperature sensor and fuel pump check valve.

Imported cars equipped with Bosch L-Jetronic and K-Jetronic fuel injection systems have cold-start valves that provide extra fuel for initial startup. If this valve doesn't function properly, you won't be able to start the engine when the temperature drops.

In general, K-Jetronic cold-start valves are tested by removing the valve, holding it over a container and attaching a current supply to the valve to see if it sprays. (Obviously, this can be dangerous. Don't attempt this test without a factory service manual.)

L-Jetronic cold-start valves are usually tested by hooking a special fuel system pressure gauge into the fuel-supply line. The valve is then activated, and the technician watches to see if pressure drops at the prescribed rate.

Of course, the cold-start valve isn't the only Bosch injection component that can cause a cold no-start problem. Fourteen items are listed as possible causes. A service manual is needed for most Bosch injection problems.



Electronic fuel-injection systems have no conventional choke, but they do use built-in electronic controls to provide a richer mixture for cold-weather starting.

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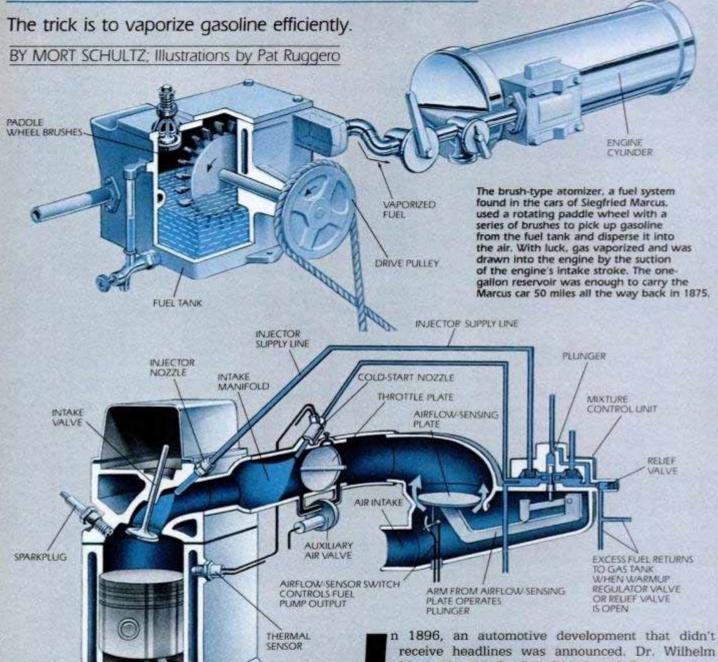
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n 1896, an automotive development that didn't receive headlines was announced. Dr. Wilhelm Maybach and Gottlieb Daimler of Germany had teamed up to build a motor car possessing a new device called a float-type spray carburetor—a "gadget" that's still with us.

According to an 1896 issue of *Automobil-Zeitung*, a German automotive publication, the Maybach carburetor was "a major improvement over the brush-type atomizer and the wick carburetor."

The atomizer was the carburetion device used on the first motor car equipped with a gasoline engine, built by Siegfried Marcus in 1875. Between Marcus and Maybach, Dr. F.W. Lanchester, a British automotive pioneer, built motor cars that used wick carburetors.

The rotary-brush atomizer used by Marcus was an

(Please turn to page 56)

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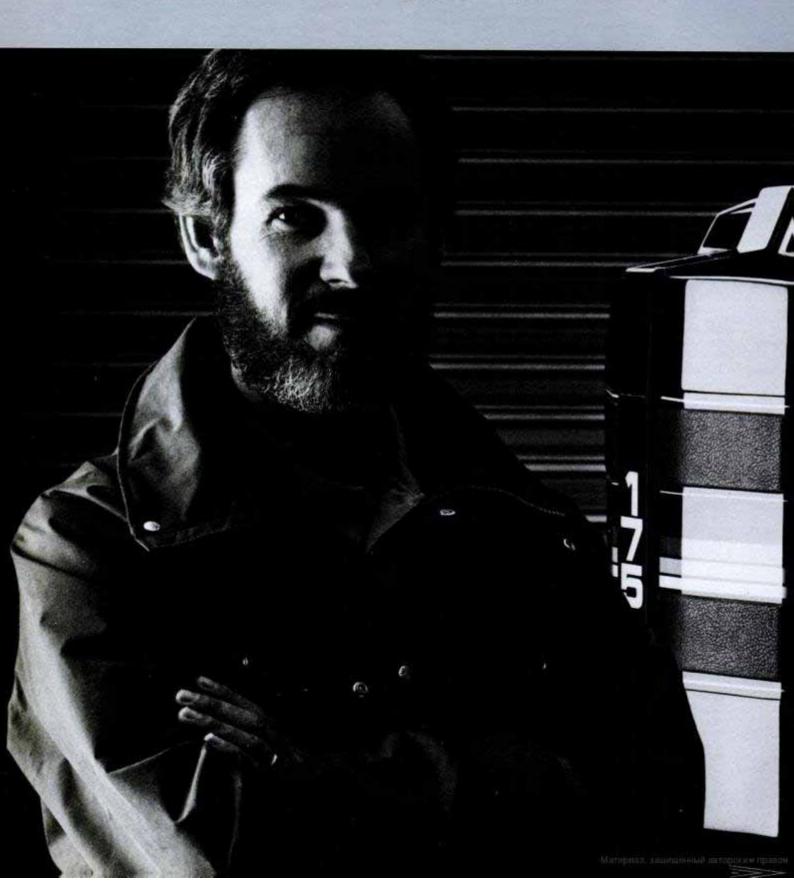
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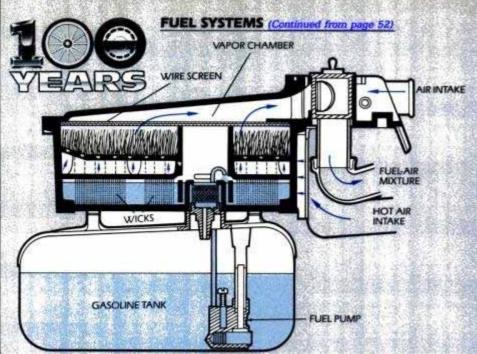
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In the F.W. Lanchester carburetor design, fuel from the tank is soaked up by wicks and carried to the engine by preheated intake air after passing through screen filter.

integrated fuel reservoir and feed unit. As the pulley-driven brush revolved, it picked gas out of the reservoir and threw it into the air. The suction effect created by the pistons drew the mixture into the engine.

Lanchester's wick carburetor improved on the atomizer. It consisted of several compartments. The bottom compartment held fuel. Wicks extending from a compartment above became saturated with fuel.

Getting vapors given off by the wicks to mix with air was achieved by drawing air into the compartment above the fuel storage area. The fuel/air vapors then flowed to the engine, passing first through wire mesh that served to filter out impurities. This was the world's first carburetor fuel filter.

here's a fact about filtration you may find interesting. Until refining methods were improved (about 1910), cars came equipped with swatches of chamois. These were used by car owners to filter impurities from gas before pouring it into the fuel tank. Before drive-in stations, gas was sold by hardware and drug stores.

Maybach's float-type carburetor was, in retrospect, an invention of revolutionary proportions. Its survival for this many years tends to prove this. You probably know how it works: Gas from a fuel supply tank flows by gravity into the carburetor's float chamber or bowl. As gas fills the bowl, it causes a float (Maybach used a float made of sheet metal) to rise. When the float reaches a certain height, it forces a needle valve to close, which halts the flow of fuel to the engine.

The float allowed Maybach to attain a consistent flow of fuel to the engine. Unlike the atomizer and wick carburetors, the float carburetor lessened the tendency of engines to flood.

Maybach's carburetor possessed a second chamber called the mixing chamber. It was there that gas from the float chamber mixed with air. The mixture was drawn up into the engine as pistons dropping in the cylinders created a vacuum.

Note that the fuel mixture was drawn up into the engine. The Maybach carburetor was an updraft unit, an approach to carburetion that lasted until the late 1920s, when the first cam-operated mechanical fuel pump was invented. This invention permitted automakers to move fuel tanks to the rear of their cars and place carburetors high on the engine.

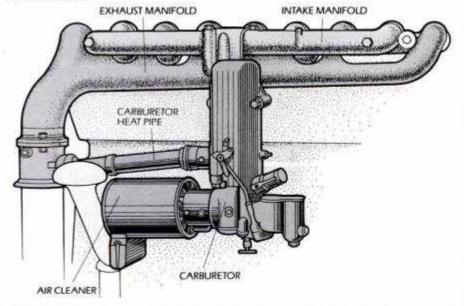
etween the gravity-feed system and the advent of camoperated fuel pumps, fuel was pushed from a rearmounted tank to the carburetor by air pressure. This required large vacuum reservoirs between fuel tanks and carburetors. It's interesting to note what the 1928 edition of The Modern Gasoline Automobile had to say about a disadvantage of this system:

"The air pressure pump system often gives trouble, requiring a hand air pump near the driver in order to return to the garage."

Automakers had to put hand pumps in cars. When the automatic air pump system failed—which it often did—a driver would use the hand pump to feed fuel to the engine.

As we said, the Maybach float carbu-





Bulck cars of the late 1920s got improved fuel vaporization and economy by using exhaust heat to warm the intake charge. The heat riser valve was driver-controlled.

retor was first used in a car built by Maybach and Daimler. This was before Daimler and Karl Benz joined forces to form the company that now builds Mercedes-Benz automobiles. Do you wonder why the cars are called Mercedes-Benz and not Daimler-Benz? When Daimler and Maybach were associated, they were financed by Emil Jellenik. In 1903, Daimler and Maybach manufactured a new car that they named after Jellenik's daughter, Mercedes. The Mercedes name went with Daimler when he joined Benz.

As automaking took off, so did road building and development of more powerful engines operated at varying speeds. Fuel-on-demand became a critical factor that the original Maybach design couldn't fulfill. Refinements came hot and heavy.

One of the earliest was through the efforts of two men—Butler of Great Britain and Venturi of Italy. They didn't know one another. In fact, they lived 100 years apart.

In the 1790s, Venturi discovered that by reducing the bore of a pipe, he was able to increase the velocity of fluid and get it to break (atomize) into smaller particles. Around 1900, Butler applied the Venturi principle to a float-type carburetor. He narrowed its throat (or venturi, as we call it now). Doing this allowed greater protection against engine flooding.

mprovements to the Maybach design between 1900 and the late 1920s led to the jet-compensated carburetor, which is still with us. This unit uses jet circuits, air bleeds, vacuum-operated economizer valves

and throttle-operated metering rods to attain the correct fuel/air ratios for various speeds and loads.

Other significant fuel-system developments were:

- The first dash-mounted gas gauge by Studebaker in 1914.
- The first carburetor air cleaner, introduced on the 1915 Packard Twin Six.
 The 1922 Rickenbacker used the first dry-type air cleaner.
- The first thermostatic automatic choke, which was introduced on the 1932 Oldsmobile. The design has remained basically the same to this day.
- The first four-barrel carburetor—by Buick in 1941.

ack in 1910, Adams Farwell of
Dubuque, Iowa, pioneered a
noncarbureted fuel system
called fuel injection, refined
and adopted for diesel engines. But it
wasn't until after World War II that
thought was given to putting it on
spark-ignited gasoline engines.

In 1949, Automotive Digest said, "Some automotive men feel that fuel injection for passenger automobiles is nearing the climax in experimentation and may soon make its bow to the driving public." What happened? Nothing—the carburetor remained king for another 35 years.

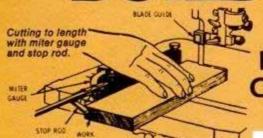
But as smaller engines and greater fuel mileage have become issues, fuel injection is, like so many other automotive inventions, an old development whose time has finally come. By 1986, practically all gasoline engines will have electronically operated fuel-injection systems instead of carburetors. Bye-bye, old friend—it's been fun.



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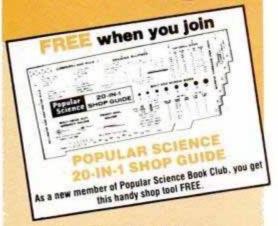


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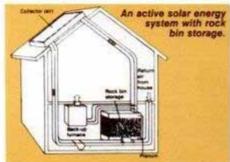
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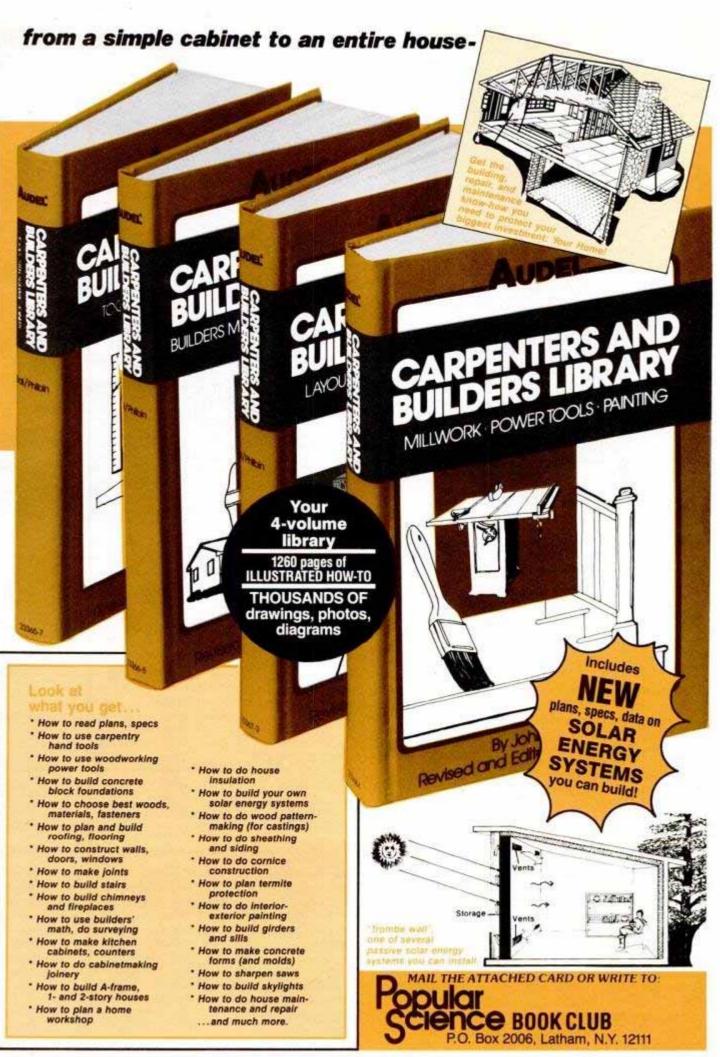
show-how illustrations make it all amazingly easy, even for a novice.

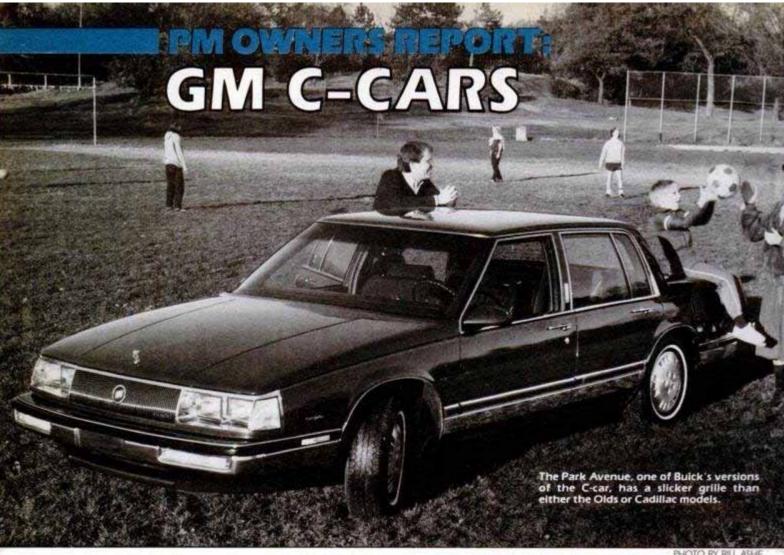
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We did a cross-check of the fwd, full-size models by surveying owners of C-cars from all three GM divisions.

BY MICHAEL LAMM West Coast Editor

he 1985 fwd C-cars from GM went on sale last April. Traditionally, the C-cars are the large and elegant GM flagships: the Cadillac Coupe de Ville, Sedan de Ville and Fleetwood; the Buick Electra, Electra T Type and Park Avenue; and the Oldsmobile 98 Regency and 98 Regency Brougham. These cars have for decades shared chassis and sheet metal, and they continue to share them for 1985. Since they all have the same body shell, running gear, transaxles and other major components, the customer's main choices turn out to be engines, grilles, taillamps, trim and interior appointments.

Cadillac's fwd C-cars come standard with an aluminum V8 engine. The Buick and Olds carry 3.0- and 3.8-liter V6s, while all three offer the 4.3-liter diesel V6 optionally. As in the past, all three fwd C-cars are accessorized to the hilt, with the THM-440 automatic transaxle standard, as are considerable

"The Olds drives very easy. It takes curves without a problem." -ILLINOIS MANAGER

"Everyone looks at my new Cadillac and many people ask about it.

-MICHIGAN SELF EMPLOYED

"We noticed an engine sound like a diesel in our '85 Coupe De Ville. The rest is a horror story. -WEST VIRGINIA RETIREE

"The 1982 Buick Diesel I had was three times the 1985 Buick Limited."

-FLORIDA REAL ESTATE BROKER

The Electra is the best looking Buick since the 50's."

TEXAS ALUMINUM WORKER

power equipment and air conditioning.

Our Owners Report questionnaires went out to equal numbers of Cadillac. Buick and Olds fwd C-car owners and, when we compare the results, a number of interesting statistics pop out. First, all three of these new automobiles appeal to older buyers: more than 75 percent of our respondents were over 50. I'm not sure that's the age bracket GM aimed at, because C-car purchasers

have always been mature-too mature and I think General Motors intended these new, more compact frontwheel-drive models to appeal to a younger crowd-people who cast eyes in the direction of the junior Mercedes, senior BMWs, smaller Lincolns and even Jaguars.

Second, we discovered that our Cadillac owners were generally more pleased with their cars' overall quality and mechanical reliability than those who'd purchased equivalent Buicks and Oldsmobiles. Cadillac's fwd C-cars, according to our respondents, were also

A NATIONWIDE SURVEY BASED ON 965,136 OWNER-DRIVEN MILES

judged quieter and more comfortable.

Not surprising statistics, you might say, since Cadillacs cost more and are traditionally considered "better" than Buicks and Oldsmobiles. But that view hasn't always held in our surveys, especially since prestige-car owners tend to be more critical and demanding than those who buy "lesser" nameplates.

Third, Cadillac owners rated dealer

(Please turn to page 64)

COME ALIVE, COME AND DRIVE MAJOR MOTION



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1985 NISSAN REGULAR BED.

Re-engineered in '85 to give you more pickup, not more pay-out.

• More combined horsepower

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- More value. All standard: 5speed transmission with overdrive; 3-across seating on a new full bench seat; steel-belted radials (full-size spare); black-out grille; front stabilizer bar; and lots more that explain the difference between just trucking and Major Motion.

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lowest sticker price. No other truck works so hard for so little pay. The best extended-service plan available: up to 5 years/ 100,000 miles. Ask about Nissan's Security Plus at participating Datsun dealers.

*Mfr's sug. retail price excluding title, tax, license and destination charges.





OWNERS REPORT: GM C-CARS

(Continued from page 62)

service as better and more responsive than did our other interviewees. Here again, remember that people who drive Cadillacs expect more from their dealers, and apparently they're getting it.

Despite their satisfaction, fewer Cadillac owners said they'd buy another Ccar (or even another GM product) next time. That seems to be because they aspire to even greater prestige and luxury, while owners of Buicks and Oldsmobiles might gladly "settle" for a Cadillac sometime in the future.

But let's see what individual fwd Ccar owners actually had to say about their automobiles. A California attorney viewed his fwd Cadillac Sedan de Ville this way: "It's got the same engine as my 1982 rear-drive Fleetwood did, yet fwd and the lighter body help performance greatly, with a better ride, handling, interior roominess and comfort. I see no logical reason to buy an import like BMW or Mercees when the quality, workmanship and driveability of this car is so high."

An Iowa teacher said this about his Olds 98 Regency Brougham with the 3.8-liter V6: "I really enjoy driving this car because, with the fuel injection, it takes off like a shot. This 98 is a car of the future; never again will we see the 'tanks' of yesteryear." (Actually, Cadillac still produces its rear-drive C-cars, while Buick and Oldsmobile have dropped theirs.)

A Georgia architect: "I owned two Cadillacs previous to this Sedan de Ville and was well-pleased with both. On this new car, fwd was the enticing feature. The only thing I think they might improve is to make it look more like a Cadillac. Plenty of room inside, but the trunk isn't as big as I'm used to."

Here's a California retiree who

bought two fwd C-cars, a downsized Olds 98 Regency and a Cadillac Sedan de Ville: "Of the two cars, the Olds has more gadgets, like the [optional] voice monitor. The Olds, though, wasn't prepped as thoroughly as the Cadillac. When I took delivery of the Olds, the wheels needed alignment, one lighter didn't work, the turn-signal lever came off in my hand and the fuel pump in the tank made a loud humming noise. The Olds has great comfort but not nearly as good as Cadillac's. The Cad is also much quieter; better insulated."

A self-employed Floridian: "One thing that sold me on the 98 Regency Brougham is the fact that it came out six months ahead of all other 1985 models. Quality is superb. Sharper looking than the luxury Lincolns, Chryslers and those ugly foreign jobs. When you spend a lot of money like this, looks do count. Only problem is that the seats

(Please turn to page 66)

Buick	Olds	Cadillac	Workmanship opinion:		-(b.)
Total miles driven	357,911	332,086	Excellent	43.5%	53.29
Average miles per gallon:	221750000	VSSS VST-COSES	Good 41.9	44.7	39.2
With 3.0-liter V6			Average 13.5	10.6	3.8
In town	22.0	-	Poor 0.0	1.2	3.8
On the highway	27.8		Comfort opinion:		
With 3.8-liter V6			Front seats		
In town	20.2	-	Excellent 58.1%	51.1%	68.7
On the highway	27.0	-	Good	44.6	26.5
With 4.1-liter gasoline V8			Average 6.8	4.3	3.6
In town	: ():	18.5	Poor 0.0	0.0	1.2
On the highway	_	25.1	Rear seats		
Engine choices:			Excellent 52.8%	39.8%	61.0
3.0-liter V6	6.8%	-	Good 40.3	58.0	31.7
3.8-liter V6 98.5	93.2	-	Average 6.9	1.1	6.1
4.3-liter diesel V6 0.0	0.0	0.0	Poor	1.1	1.2
4.1-liter V8 0.0	0.0	100.0	Had any mechanical trouble?		
Series choices:			No 55.4%	48.9%	59.5
Buick Park Avenue 82.4%	-	***	Yes 44.6	51.1	40.5
Buick Electra	-	-	What type of trouble?	5257/A	1
Buick Electra T Type 0.0	-		Electrical 21.2%	25.5%	11.8
Olds 98 Regency Brougham	52.2%	-	Transmission 21.2	12.8	14.7
Olds 98 Regency	47.8	-	Air conditioner 15.2	17.0	14.7
Cadillac Sedan de Ville	_	70.6%	Fuel pump 9.1	27.7	0.0
Cadillac Coupe de Ville	-	29.4	Cruise control	0.0	2.9
Cadillac Fleetwood	-	0.0	Power windows 6.1	8.5	14.7
Why did you choose this vehicle?			Dealer repairs satisfactory?		
Styling	50.7%	35.7%	Yes71.0%	62.8%	65.5
Front-wheel drive 41.3	28.8	20.0	No 29.0	37.2	34.5
Roominess/size	24.7	31.4	Dealer service opinion:		
Past experience 15.9	19.2	18.6	Excellent	29.5%	36.0
Price/economy	19.2	12.9	Good 46.4	39.3	42.7
Handling/performance		12.9	Average 21.4	26.2	14.7
Specific likes:			Poor	4.9	6.7
Handling45.6%	41.2%	30.0	Number of vehicles owned:	Grander 11	17000000
Styling	37.6	40.0	This car only	35.9%	37.8
Riding qualities	24.7	40.0	Two cars 45.3	44.6	41.5
Economy29.4	40.0	28.8	Three cars 13.3	16.3	8.5
Comfort 22.1	30.6	26.3	Four or more cars 12.0	3.3	12.1
Front-wheel drive	15.3	13.8	Makes of other cars owned:	222722077	25200154
Specific dislikes:	- Francis	TE GARD	Chevrolet 22.6%	30.5%	23.5
No complaints	12.3%	9.1%	Ford 24.5	5.1	15.7
Rough transmission shifts 5.4	5.5	20.0	Oldsmobile 13.2	22.0	17.6
Not silent enough	24.7	9.1	Buick	10.2	3.8
Trunk too small 7.1	6.8	9.1	Cadillac 5.8	6.8	23.5
Price too high 1.8	6.8	12.7	Pontiac 5.8	15.3	11.3
Poor riding qualities 5.4	8.2	1.8	Dodge 1.9	1.7	13.7
Glove box too small 5.4	6.8	0.0	Honda 5.8	6.8	3.8
Deck lid release unhandy 7.1	0.0	0.0	Would you buy another GM C-car?	227200	neguesa
What changes would you like to see?	ale sad	12 2000	Yes 86.3%	75.6%	82.1
No changes 32.1%	24.6%	33.8%	No 2.7	5.6	4.8
Less noise 7.1	15.9	3.1	Maybe 11.0	18.9	13.1
Smoother ride 7.1	1.4	0.0	Would you buy any GM car next time?	22220	0.000
Bigger glove box 3.6	10.1	0.0	Yes96.0%	86.7%	88.0
Smoother transmission 0.0	2.9	9.2	No 1.3	2.2	3.6
Softer seats 1.8	5.8	4.6	Maybe 2.7	11.1	8.4
How much did you pay for your car?	***		Age distribution of owners:		
Range \$15,000-	\$15,000-	\$19,000-	15-29 years 0.0%	1.1%	1.2
19,000	19,000	23,500	30-49 years 16.0	22.8	21.6
Average \$16,978	\$16,801	\$20,817	50-plus 84.0	76.1	77.1

Wealthy Man Wants to Give You His Wealth Secret Before It's Too Late!

Dear Friend.

My name is John Wright. Not too long ago I was flat broke. I was \$30,000 in debt. The bank repossessed my car because I couldn't keep up with the payments. And one day the landlord gave me an eviction notice because I hadn't paid the rent for three months. So we had to move out. My family and I stayed at my cousin's place for the rest of that month before I could manage to get another apartment. That was very embarrassing.

Things have changed now. I own four homes in southern California. The one I'm living in now is worth more than half a million dollars. I own several cars, among them a brand new Mercedes and a brand new Cadillac. And as of now, I have \$178,000 cash in certificate of deposits in just one of my bank accounts in Beverly Hills.

I'm not really trying to impress you with my wealth.

All I'm trying to do here is to prove to you that if it wasn't because of that money secret I was lucky enough to find that day, I still would have been poor or may be even bankrupt. It was only through this amazing money secret that I could pull myself out of debt and become wealthy. Who knows what would have happened to my family and me.

Knowing about this secret changed my life completely. It brought me wealth, happiness, and most important of all peace of mind. This secret will change your life, too! It will give you everything you need and will solve all your money problems. Of course you don't have to take my word for it. You can try it for yourself. To see that you try this secret, I'm willing to give you \$20.00 in cash. (I'm giving my address at the bottom of this page.) I figure, if I spend \$20.00, I get your attention. And you will prove it to yourself that this amazing money secret will work for you, too!

You probably are asking yourself, why is he sharing his secret with me? My response is, "why not". First, I've already made enough money to retire for the rest of my life. Second, my secret is so unique that we won't be competing with each other. Third, nothing is more satisfying to me than sharing my secret only with those who realize a golden opportunity and get on it quickly.

This secret is incredibly simple. Anyone can use it. You can get started with practically no money at all and the risk is almost zero. You don't need special training or even a high school education. It doesn't matter how young or old you are and it will work for you at home or even while you are on vacation.

Let me tell you more about this fascinating money making secret:

FAST MONEY

With this secret the money can roll in fast. In some cases you may be able to cash in literally overnight. If you can follow simple instructions you can get started in a single afternoon and it is possible to have spendable money in your hands the very next morning. In fact, this just might be the fastest legal way to make money that has ever been invented!

ALMOST NO-RISK

This is a very safe way to get extra cash. It is practically risk free. It is not a dangerous gamble. Everything you do has already been tested and you can get started for less money than most people spend for a night on the town.

"WORK" AT HOME

One of the nicest things about this whole idea is that you can do it at home in your spare time. You don't need equipment or an office. It doesn't matter where you live either. You can use this secret to make money if you live in a big city or on a farm or anywhere in between. A husband and wife team from New York used my secret, worked at home in their spare time, and made \$45,000 in one year.

SIMPLE

This secret is simple. It would be hard to make a

mistake if you tried. You don't need a college degree or even a high school education. All you need is a little common sense and the ability to follow simple, easy, step-by-step instructions. I personally know a man from New England who used this secret and made \$2 million in just 3 years.

AGE DOESN'T MATTER

You can use this secret to make money no matter how old or how young you may be. There is no physical labor involved and everything is so easy it can be done whether you're a teenager or 90 years old. I know one woman who is over 65 and is making all the money she needs with this secret.

NO PERSONAL SELLING

When you use this secret to make money you never have to try to convince anybody of anything. This has nothing to do with door-to-door selling, telephone solicitation, real estate or anything else that involves personal contact.

LEGAL AND HONEST

Everything about this idea is perfectly legal and honest. You will be proud of what you are doing and you will be providing a very valuable service.

NO LONG HOURS

It will only take you two hours to learn how to use this secret. After that everything is almost automatic. After you get started you can probably do everything that is necessary in three hours per week.

I know you are skeptical. That simply shows your good business sense. Well, here is proof from people who have put this amazing secret into use and have gotten all the money they ever desired. Their names are not mentioned here in order to protect their privacy but I have full information and the actual proof of their success in my office.

PROOF

- A woman from Oregon started out by using my secret method in its simplest form. She later reported that it had brought her \$14,000 in cash.
- A man from Rhode Island applied my secret and with the help of his family, made over \$40,000 in a year in his spare time.
- A man from California, who was broke at the time, tried my secret and made \$147,000.
- On the basis of my secret, a husband and wife team from Virginia grossed over \$100,000 cash in eleven months.
- A man from California made over \$265,000 in one year, with this incredible secret.
- I talked to a man from Ohio, who now lives in Santa Monica, CA. He said: "Thank you for sharing your secret... with this amazing, yet simple secret, I received \$220,000 in just two months."

As you can tell by now I have come across something pretty good. I believe I have discovered the sweetest little money-making secret you could ever imagine. Remember — I guarantee it.

Most of the time, it takes big money to make money. This is an exception. With this secret you can start in your spare time with almost nothing. But of course, you don't have to start small or stay small. You can go as fast and as far as you wish. The size of your profits is totally up to you. I can't guarantee how much you will make with this secret but I can tell you this — so far this amazing money producing secret makes the profits from most other ideas look like peanuts!

Now at last, I've completely explained this remarkable secret in a special money making plan. I call it "The Royal Road to Riches". Some call it a miracle. You'll probably call it "The Secret of Riches". You will learn everything you need to know step-by-step. So you too can put this amazing money

making secret to work for you and make all the money you need.

To prove that this secret will solve all your money problems, I'm not even asking you to send me money. Instead, postdate your check for a month and half from today. Obviously it is not actually money because it is not negotiable for 45 days. You can easily stop payment on it any time you want. I can't cash your check for 45 days before I know for sure that you are completely satisfied with my material.

IMAGINE HOW YOUR WHOLE LIFE WILL CHANGE IF YOU USE THIS SECRET TO GET ALL THE MONEY YOU NEED!

- · You won't have to worry about bills.
- You will be master of your own time and fate and nobody can boss you around.
- You will have more time to spend with your loved ones and you will be able to take care of them in emergencies.
- You can have the house you want, the car you want, the vacations you want.
- And most of all, you will finally have PEACE OF MIND!

If you need (or just want) more money, there are a lot of reasons why you should take advantage of this amazing secret. (And I can't think of a single reason why you shouldn't). It will probably solve all your money problems forever. In fact, I am so completely convinced that my powerful secret works money miracles, that I'm willing to give you the most unusual guarantee ever offered. That is, if it doesn't solve all your money problems, I'll return your original uncashed check, plus an extra twenty dollar cash bonus just for doing me (and yourself) the favor of giving the secret an honest try according to my simple instructions.

\$20.00 FREE!

There is no way you can lose. You either solve all your money problems with this secret (in just 30 days) or you get your money back plus \$20.00 in cash

Do you realize what this means? You can put my simple secret into use. Be able to solve all your money problems. And if for any reason whatsoever you are not 100% satisfied after using the secret for 30 days, you may return my material. And then I will not only return your original UNCASHED CHECK, but I will also send you an extra \$20.00 cashiers check just for giving the secret an honest try according to the simple

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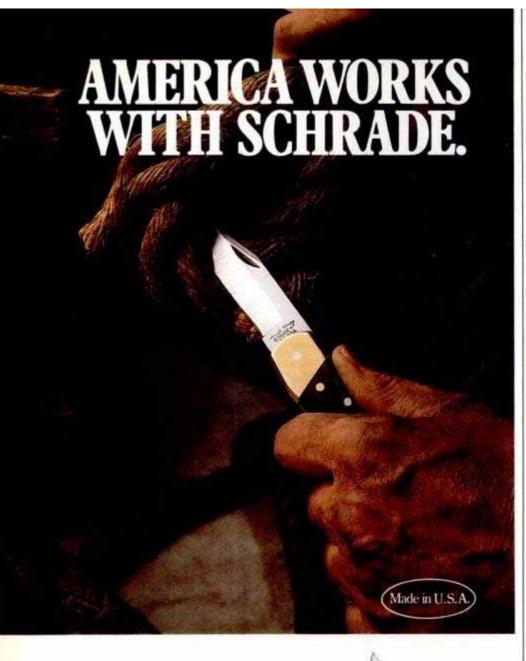
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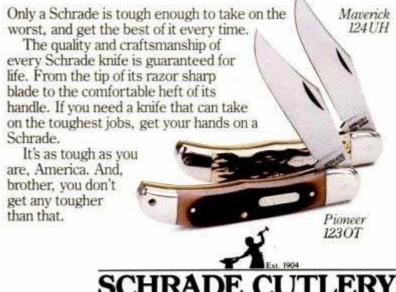
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OWNERS REPORT: GM C-CARS

(Continued from page 64)

could be a little softer. Our '82 Electra had softer seats. In a Brougham, you expect soft seats. Some people are scared because these 'big' luxury cars are so small, but they really aren't. This '85 has almost as much room as our previous '84 98."

Adjusting to new size

A few traditional C-car buyers, though, simply couldn't adjust to the new size. A 61-year-old North Carolina merchant confessed, "I've been driving Cadillacs since 1951, and this new one is a complete change. It doesn't drive or ride like a Cadillac. They took something away. The steering quickness doesn't have that smoothness I'm used to—it's not the same feel. I also like a longer wheelbase."

A Maryland retired personnel manager had this to say: "I have driven Cadillacs for 30 years now, I like their style and performance, and the mileage of this new car is excellent, however they're going to have to do something about the way the transmission jumps and jerks on hills or steep inclines. They'll have to smooth it out before I will buy another one."

In all, 20 percent of our Cadillac owners noted the automatic's rough shifts under power—about four times as many as in Buicks or Oldsmobiles. All three cars use the same THM-440 transaxles, but the Cadillac has a viscous clutch and different controls for the more powerful V8. Cadillac acknowledges owner complaints and has instructed its dealer service people on making adjustments.

An Illinois retiree commented: "If you don't mind risking a ticket, the Buick Park Avenue will cruise beautifully on the freeways all day long at 75 mph—no problems, no overheating, no vibration, no wind noise. I like the mileage, the performance, the ride, the air conditioner and the fast acceleration. I'm not too crazy about the jerky-shifting transmission, because about 45 mph it can't decide whether to go into overdrive or not, nor am I pleased with the digital touch controls. I have to take my eyes off the road to make changes."

And finally, these words from a retired Illinois Air Force officer: "My Electra blends revolutionary style with superb performance. At the price, it's competitive with any auto built, foreign or domestic. I feel that this vehicle is designed and constructed more like a tailormade suit than a production-line item. It has all the modern operational conveniences and comfort anyone could ask for. Indeed, it's the best competitor to date for anything on wheels, anywhere in the world."

PM PHOTO HINTS

Chase darkroom chill



An aquarium heater immersed in a water jacket can maintain proper temperature for your processing chemicals. Use a 6-in.-deep pan to hold the water jacket, and mount the 8-in. heater so that 6 in. of the tube are immersed. Set the thermostat just below the desired temperature. Be sure to mask the amber operating light when film is being handled.—David W. Roberts

Gesundheit!



Subjects can appear overexposed or washed out if shot at close range with a flash. Filter your light by fastening a white hankerchief over the lamp with a rubber band. For best results, experiment with the number of folds needed to achieve the softening effect you desire.—Bob Grewell

Avoid the bends

To prevent prints from becoming dogeared in the mail, use oversized backing material and secure prints in the center by pasting envelope corners to the cardboard.



-A. Weber





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Discover the world's oldest hobby.

Discover the most challenging, engrossing, relaxing hobby you'll ever experience.



Wouldn't you just love to build an historic ship model? A true-to-scale

replica, decked out with gleaming brass fittings, polished walnut hull, delicate rigging — life-like in every detail? Well, now you can! And you don't have to be a skilled craftsman or a descendant of generations of shipwrights to do so.

Even if you've never built a model before, you can experience the relaxing pleasure and the pride of accomplishment that is offered by this fascinating hobby. You can build the two-masted schooner pictured here — an authentic replica of the Swift, a typical Virginia pilot boat that appeared shortly after the Revolution.

The secret is in our kit, especially designed for the first time modeler, with pre-cut parts that make assembly easy, and clear, large-scale plans and instructions that virtually take you by the hand and guide you every step of the way.

It really isn't hard

You'll learn to true a hull, taper the planking, run lanyards through blocks and deadeyes. (And you'll learn what lanyards and blocks and deadeyes are!) You'll build her just like the original Swift was built. You'll fit frames to keel, fasten the planks to the hull, and lay the decking. You'll add deck furnishings, tiller, and rudder. Then you'll set the masts and rig her lines just as she stood at the turn of the century—almost two centuries ago.

Creative? And how! Overwhelming? Not a bit! But be prepared for hours of the most challenging, engrossing, relaxing fun you've ever had. And an astonishingly beautiful, museum quality ship model you can display with pride when completed.

Quality you can see and feel

The materials in our kit may be better than those used in the original Swift. The keel section and frames are pre-cut plywood, ready for quick assembly. The Swift's hull is planked twice; once with thick, flexible limewood for strength, then overlaid again with planks of African walnut for lasting beauty.

You won't have to make the fittings — we've done that for you. Our kit contains ready-to-use blocks and deadeyes of rare, yellow boxwood. We include eyelets, bracers and belaying pins — over 70 parts of solid brass! Even the cabin door hinges are brass, as are the 250 miniature nails you'll use to fasten the planking to the hull and deck. And, since the original wooden Swift had no plastic parts, our kit doesn't either — anywhere!

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We want to introduce you to this fascinating hobby, now! So we've made it easy for you to get started. Our special offer includes the Swift kit plus all the tools you'll need to build her: miniature pliers, hammer, knife, file, tweezers, sandpaper, glue, wood oil, and more. You'll also receive a free copy of "Ship Models from Kits," a 110 page beginner's guide. And we'll even give you a handsome wooden base and brass

pedestals on which to display your finished model. You don't have to buy anything else.

The tools normally cost \$17.00; the book retails for \$8.95. But they're yours FREE



when you buy the *Swift* kit at its regular price of \$49.95 (plus \$5.00 insured delivery). We'll also include our full color catalog illustrating and offering the widest selection of fine wooden ship model kits, cannon kits, and miniature tools available anywhere. Models of

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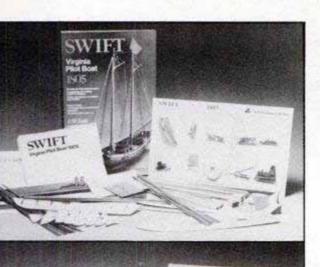
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PM PHOTOGRAPHY UPDATE

Images of electronic future at Photokina fair

COLOGNE—More than 100,000 visitors make the pilgrimage to this West German cathedral town each October to see the latest camera equipment unveiled at the Photokina. But last year's "world's fair of photography" will be remembered for the first demonstrations of photography's electronic future.

PM attended the Photokina for this firsthand report, and no doubt about it, electronics now pervades nearly every aspect of photography. Here, today, are the tiny "chips" that make conventional cameras so smart. Just emerging is the 8-mm videotape camera as a possible successor to 8-mm film movies. And on tap for tomorrow are still-video imaging systems that will replace rolls of chemical film with magnetic diskettes.

Electronic still photography first gained attention nearly four years ago when Sony previewed its Mavica system—a camera that recorded still images on a small magnetic disk for display on a TV screen.

At the Photokina, Copal and Panasonic demonstrated prototype electronic still camera (ESC) systems, and Fuji introduced an electronic imaging product that will come onto the consumer market in Japan next month.

The Copal and Panasonic cameras use the now-standard Still Video Floppy to store 25 to 50 images on a 2-in.-dia. magnetic disk that rotates at 1,800 rpm. There's no danger from exposure to light, and because magnetic images can be erased, the floppy may be re-used indefinitely. No developing is required: The disk simply is inserted in a player and instantly viewed on TV. If desired, color prints may be made from the TV

image, with color and contrast correction possible before printing.

So far, the resolution of ESC

prints is not quite up to the quality of 35-mm film. The color prints Panasonic showed PM had a slight blue tinge, but were otherwise similar to prints made from instant-film cameras. Spokesmen for Panasonic and others agree that

Prototype electronic still camera by Panasonic stores photos on magnetic disk (right).

further refinement is necessary before electronic still photography can match 35-mm film technology. Most companies contend that a marketable ESC product remains three to four years away.

In the meantime, Fuji will sell its Fujix TV-Photo System. There's no camera or printer involved—just a video-floppy player (\$210 in Japan) for

projecting images on TV. Those images come from the customer's own film prints or slides. Fuji processing centers in Japan will tranfer up to 50 exposures onto a disk for \$4 to \$8. Fuji

states that its TV-Photo system eliminates the need for slide projectors, screens and photo albums. The company doesn't expect to offer the TV-Photo service in the United States before 1986. Nor was Fuji able to give a U.S. delivery date for its 8-mm Fujix video camcorder, available next month in Japan for \$1,250.

Sanyo's two-piece

8-mm VCR has slow

speed to double cassette time.

Though previously seen at electronics shows, the new 8-mm video format made its debut to the photography world at Photokina. On hand with 8-mm products were Kodak, Polaroid, Fuji and Sanyo. Philips showed a prototype, and Sony might offer soon its own version of the 4¹/₄-pound camcorder it makes for Fuji. Recent innovations in 8-mm technology bode well for the format. Cassette recording time has been extended to 120 minutes from 90, and three-hour tapes are in development.

Sanyo, meanwhile, has introduced a

portable 8-mm VCR with a second, slower recording speed that effectively doubles cassette time. The Sanyo deck arrives stateside this spring for about \$1,300.

If it seems as though electronics will make film photography obsolete, look again. At Photokina, Britain's Ilford demonstated an experimental black-andwhite film for 3-D hologram images. And, though color-film sensitivity now tops out at ASA 1600 for low-light and fast-action shooting, film companies say much more is possible.

Electronics, in fact, appears to open a new range of possibilities for film cameras. Microprocessors are at the heart of the new 35-mm SLR "program" cameras that adjust automatically.

Among the new models at Photokina was Chinon's CP-5S and Yashica's Contax 159 MM. Each offers an automatic program for fast, stop-action photography (high shutter speed), and another for creative composition (greater depth of field). Even staid Leica has embraced

(Please turn to page 146)



The tradition gets better year after year.

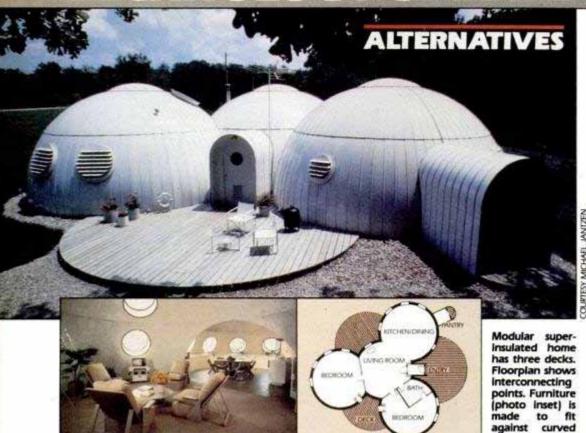
Over the years, full-size Chevrolets like Caprice Classic have been moving more families than any other car of their kind. Moving them in room. In comfort. Moving them

dependably.

And in 1985, the Caprice tradition of value continues. With a new, electronically fuel-injected engine standard in both sedan and coupe. Further refinements to its legendary ride. And a contemporary, beautifully crafted instrument panel.



TECHNOLOGY UPDATE



Dome, sweet dome

Designer Michael Jantzen believes the home of the future will be composed of several interlocking modular domes. He has built an experimental model in southern Illinois. Merging four domes in a "soap bubble cluster," Jantzen's house is superinsulated and computer monitored. To get superinsulation, he constructed one sheet-metal silo roof inside another, leaving 12 inches of space which he pumped full of cellulose. A concrete slab floor provides heat storage. Most of the windows are on the south side of the house. Wood decks are on three sides. Jantzen also designed interior furnishings to fit the home's curved walls. The house can be enlarged or made smaller by adding and removing modules.

HEATING ELEMENTS BRINE FLOW OF AIR COOLED DOWN MAYNE RECINCULATES THROUGH THE ABSORBER TIBE! HEATING HEATING HEATING HEATING HEATING HEATING WARMED LP BRINE

Energy now grows on trees

West Germany's Regitherm company has developed an alternative energy system that collects heat from the sun, wind and even rain. The "energy tree" is a multistory stack of reinforced polyester cones that absorb heat from the outdoor environment. Antifreeze is pumped through circulating pipes running up and down the "trunk." Heat radiated from the cones is absorbed by the antifreeze and carried to a heat pump in a house where forced air circulates heat. The system is expected to be on the market next year.

Olympic car gives TV a charge

walls at home.

A new camera car that was developed for ABC TV coverage of the Los Angeles Olympics is revolution-

izing sports coverage. The Uniq Turbo Electrek is a hybrid that runs on a 43-hp, battery-powered electric motor with a Chrys-

ler 2.2 EFI turbo engine as backup. ABC used it to cover the marathon running event in which all internal-combustion vehicles were barred to prevent exhaust fumes from affecting runners. The 18-ft.-long steel frame and Kevlar body carries 3,000 pounds of camera equipment at speeds up to 60 mph for three hours. The vehicle can cover sports in domed stadiums.



ABC's hybrid car (top) carries 3,000 pounds of camera equipment (bottom) at up to 60 mph for three-hour runs.

MEDICAL



Ultrasound mind and body

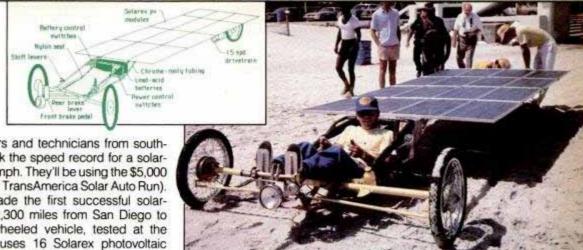
Many lives lost to strokes could be saved if doctors could detect a buildup of cholesterol plaque inside the main arteries leading from the heart to the brain. A new ultrasound device is beginning to help doctors spot plaque early. A sensor is attached to the patient's neck, producing ultrasound images of the inside of the suspect blood vessels. Radiologist Harry Zegel of St. Agnes Medical Center in Philadelphia says he now can view plaque in blood flowing through the artery.

FEBRUARY 1985

SOLAR

Sun car runs cross-country

A team of engineers, educators and technicians from south-western Missouri plans to break the speed record for a solar-powered car this summer—24 mph. They'll be using the \$5,000 TSAR Phoenix (TSAR stands for TransAmerica Solar Auto Run). Last summer, the Phoenix made the first successful solar-powered cross-country trip—2,300 miles from San Diego to Jacksonville, Fla. The three-wheeled vehicle, tested at the Crowder College Solar Lab, uses 16 Solarex photovoltaic modules that can generate 640 watts. With a cruise speed of 15 to 20 mph, the Phoenix made the cross-country trip in 45 days.



Three-wheeled car is powered by a 16-module solar array (inset).

ENGINEERING

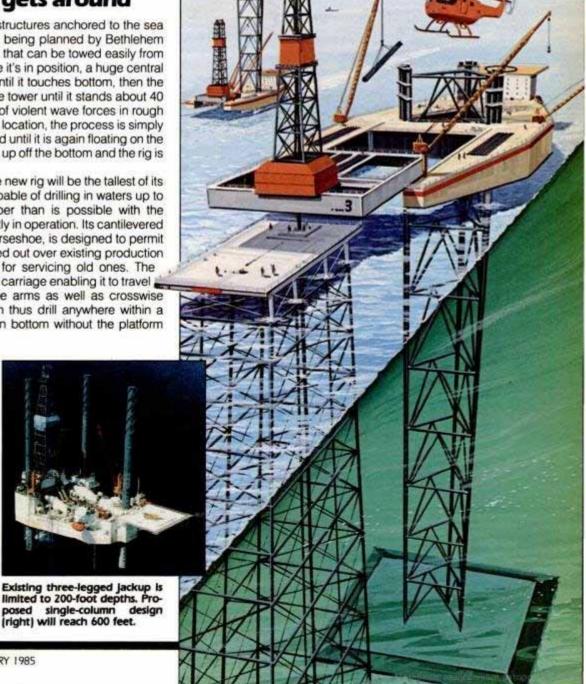
Seagoing oil rig gets around

Most offshore oil rigs are fixed structures anchored to the sea floor. Now, a mammoth new rig being planned by Bethlehem Steel will be built like a boat hull that can be towed easily from one drilling site to another. Once it's in position, a huge central tower is lowered hydraulically until it touches bottom, then the floating platform is jacked up the tower until it stands about 40 feet above the water, well clear of violent wave forces in rough seas. To move the rig to another location, the process is simply reversed. The platform is lowered until it is again floating on the surface, then the tower is jacked up off the bottom and the rig is towed away.

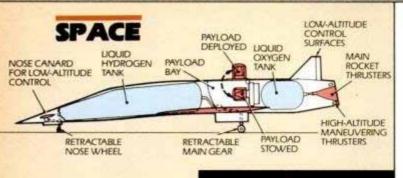
Called the Bethlehem 600, the new rig will be the tallest of its type in the world and will be capable of drilling in waters up to 600 feet deep—200 feet deeper than is possible with the largest jackup structures currently in operation. Its cantilevered platform, shaped like a giant horseshoe, is designed to permit the drilling derrick to be extended out over existing production wells, for drilling new wells or for servicing old ones. The derrick rides in a two-directional carriage enabling it to travel in and out along the horseshoe arms as well as crosswise between them. The derrick can thus drill anywhere within a 4,000-square-foot area of ocean bottom without the platform itself having to be moved.

Everything about the Bethlehem 600 is big. Its platform is larger than a football field, stands four stories high and accommodates 100 crewmen. The triangular support tower measures 110 feet on each side and is 762 feet tall. The massive base on which the tower rests is 300 feet long, 265 feet wide and 16 feet deep.

In its raised position during transit, the tower extends more than 700 feet in the air above the platform. To keep the rig from tipping over, the tower's base acts as a counterweight like the keel on a sailboat.

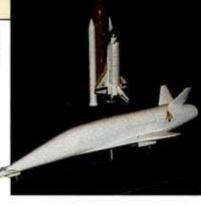


TECHNOLOGY UPDATE



Liquid fuel fills most of the needle-nose, stubbywing HOTOL Model dwarfs U.S. Shuttle.

Spacecraft flies like an airplane



The British may have come up with a stiff competitor to the U.S. Space Shuttle. It's a single-stage, unmanned, remotely piloted spacecraft able to take off and land like an airplane on runways no longer than those used by civilian jetliners. According to British Aerospace, originator of the concept, it could launch a satellite into orbit for half what the Shuttle costs.

Called the HOTOL (for Horizontal Takeoff and Landing), it would use aerodynamic wing lift and air-breathing engines at low altitudes, then switch to liquid-fueled rockets once out in space. This hybrid scheme would provide sufficient lift and thrust without the need for the expensive and expendable booster rockets required on the two-stage Shuttle. But the Shuttle won't have to worry for a while. The HOTOL isn't scheduled for liftoff until sometime after the year 2000.

ENTERTAINMENT

Ride a spaceship to the stars

Would-be space travelers will soon tour the universe without leaving the ground. They'll blast off in a spaceship simulator designed to provide all the fun and thrills of a real journey to the stars. It consists of a 40-seat capsule mounted on telescoping hydraulic legs that allow it to roll and pitch as if in actual flight. During the 75-minute "voyage," passengers will watch the universe pass by as realistic scenes of planets, asteroids and space stations are projected on a giant screen.

The spaceship simulator was developed by Rediffusion Simulation Ltd., a prominent British maker of aircraft flight simulators. The first has been installed in Toronto's CN Tower.



Spaceship interior is shown at top. Hydraulic legs provide motion (lower left), while space scenes are projected on screen (right).

ELECTRONICS

Blue-chip systems save chips

The Pentagon was rocked by a scandal last year when it was discovered that hundreds of defective microchips had been installed in the weapons systems of strategic aircraft. During practice, a half-dozen aircraft failed to open their bomb hatches or fire their missiles. Now, Research Triangle Institute and General Electric have developed systems to inspect microchips for the submicroscopic dust believed responsible for the military chip failures.

Working at the Microelectronics Center of North Carolina, RTI scientists have developed a "super-clean" room where air filtration and chip handling systems keep dust down to fewer than 100 millionths-of-an-inch particles per cubic foot of air. That cuts dust by more than 25 percent. A vacuum-clean electron microscope is used to inspect individual chips at powers up to 6,400X. The microphoto (bottom left) shows a half-micron particle on one of the inspected chips. The particle is big enough to short-circuit memory. With the new system, manufacturers will be able to keep chips clean and pick out the bad apples before they are shipped to users.

Contributions: Shekkon M. Gallager, Solvange De Santis. Robert F. Gallagher, Murae Soygenis, Art Boyt, Kathryn Brockman, Steve Eskow, Ida Beck



Giant bomber gets green light

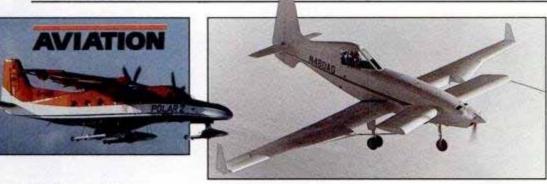
It's been years in the making and many doubted that it would ever get off the ground. But now the mighty B-1B, America's first supersonic, long-range, intercontinental bomber, will soon get its wings. Congress has authorized funding for 100 of the craft to be built by Rockwell International by mid-1988.



Unlike earlier high-altitude bombers such as the B-52, the Mach 1.2, swing-wing B-1B is designed to attack at treetop level, using natural terrain features to mask it from enemy radar. Relying solely on its speed and ground-hugging ability to avoid detection, it carries no weapons for self-defense.

New glass for Molotov cocktails

The technician lighted the fuse on a bottle filled with gasoline and quickly hurled it at a pane of glass about 20 ft. in front of him. The bottle exploded on impact, spilling flames all over the glass. But when the fire died down, there was just a tiny hole and some charred cracks in the window. The glass was coated with a polyester laminate called ArmorCoat. The Defense Department is testing it now.



Polar plane

Most polar exploration aircraft must be fitted manually with skis for operating on snow and ice. Now, a clever new ski-and-wheel arrangement enables this West German Polar 2 to land on either paved runways or polar wastes at the flick of a switch. Slotted skis are hydraulically raised for wheel landings and lowered for snow landings. The Polar 2 is a modified version of Dornier's small 228-100 civilian airliner.

Uncrashable crop duster

Because crop dusters need to fly low and slow, "ag" pilots must constantly be wary of going into a stall from which it would be impossible to recover close to the ground. To lessen this danger, a new agricultural spray plane, called the Predator, is fitted with a stubby canard wing just behind the nose. At low airspeeds or high angles of attack, the canard is designed to stall out first, automatically lowering the nose to regain flying speed before the main wing can stall.

Flaps on the canard also improve low-speed control for greater safety, and the cockpit is set far back near the tail to provide maximum impact protection in the event of a crash landing. The Predator was designed by Burt Rutan, famous for his innovative canard-winged kit planes. It will be produced by the Advanced Technology Aircraft Co. of Hanford, Calif.



Mystery jetliner

When Airbus, a European maker of successful airliners, announced a downsized 150-seat, twin-jet A320 (page 98, Sept. '84), everyone wondered what Boeing would offer as competition.

One answer could be the 7-7, an all-new 150-seat twinjet under consideration by Boeing. The mysterious dash represents an as yet unspecified middle numeral. Since Boeing already has a 767, the new jetliner, if built, might just become the 777.

New crush proof box.

MERIT

Also available in soft pack.

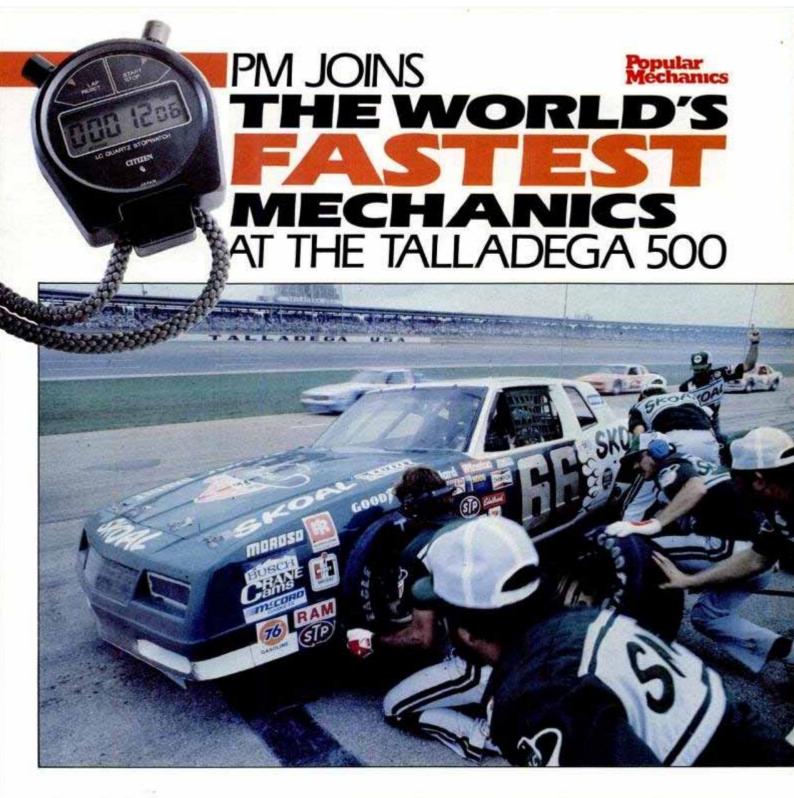
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When the first yellow caution flag of the race comes out on lap 15, crew chief Larry Pollard makes an instant decision. 'Bring it on in for four tires and gas,' he orders Skoal Bandit team driver Phil Parsons. For the regular pit crew, it's just another Sunday service stop, but for me—signaling the jack man in the photo above—it's trial by fire.

BY NORMAN MAYERSOHN Assistant Auto Editor

s temporary team gas catch man, there's plenty to remember: watch for the first gas can to empty, steady and pass it over to the handoff man, catch the overflow from the tank vent, signal the jack man when the refueling is complete. Slowing up the team would make me very unpopular with this otherwise friendly crew, all of whom take this high-stakes business quite seriously. So far, they've managed to hide any doubts about this magazine guy from New York City, and I'm determined not to make them regret letting me join the Johnny Hayes Racing Team at the Talladega 500.

The pit stop goes like clockwork—so fast, in fact, that I really can't tell what's

happening around me. Gas flows into the fuel cell, lug nuts fly, impact wrenches chatter away and all four tires get changed without a hitch. The speed at which it all happens is a surprise—particularly because I am standing in the middle of this whirlwind—coming after a week of slow-building anticipation and the casual pace of life in the hot sun of the Alabama countryside.

Earlier in the week, on tech inspection and practice days, I never would have guessed that the 25-second stop for four tires, 22 gallons of gas, a windshield washing and driver refreshment was possible. Slow moving and ample-bellied mechanics shuffled casually to set up shop in the open-air garages, stopping often for a friendly

THE WORLD'S FASTEST MECHANI



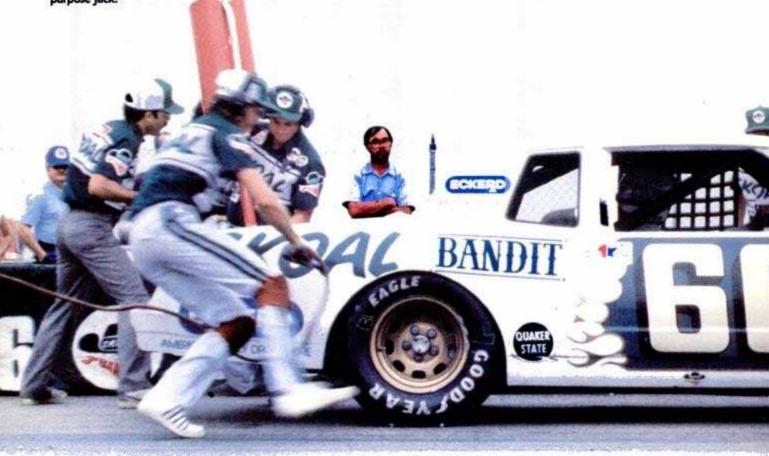
Over the wall and onto the battleground! When the car approaches,

the crew leaps into action, one tire man to each wheel, and the jack man carrying his specialpurpose jack. how-do with the competing teams and to trade hometown news or a wad of chewing tobacco.

For the New Yorker, relieved to be worlds away from his desk and once again surrounded by the din of racing V8s, it's a puzzling situation: How could these snail-paced Southerners really shame the scientific pit row technicians of the Indy 500 and international Grand Prix circuits? On the first day of qualifying, their drawled speech is so syrupy that "it" turns into a three-syllable word; by race day they have all the

urgency of a Wall Street broker trying to clinch a deal 10 seconds before the closing bell.

oing into the race, I knew that there was plenty of sophistication beneath that veneer of country-boy simplicity. After all, it takes plenty of science to make a 3,700-pound Chevrolet Monte Carlo lap the Talladega trioval at 202 mph and keep it on the track for 500 miles. Sure, the engine builder will try to disarm you with an innocent





Jack man quickly locates lifting pad by painted arrow (right) and pumps away. Tire changers

spin off the lug nuts while the driver holds on the brakes. The tire carrier steadles fresh rubber at the front fender—stray tires in pit row can cost teams a cash finel





Right side of the car is lifted in 10 strokes of the jack by using a special hydraulic pump section

(right). Tire carrier proceeds to rear, saving steps by jumping over the Jack. Gravity-feed gas can drains 11 gallons into the tank as gas catch man monitors overflow.





Lug nuts fly and rear tire is removed as tire carrier hands off and helps position the new

wheel. Custom-built 30,000-rpm wrenches never stop spinning, but still grab lug nuts because hand grinding inside sockets (right) provides an engagement ramp.



Материал, элемпренный авторожим прув

"I don't rightly know" when you press for details of the camshaft specifications, but only a fool would believe that his 650-hp, 350-cu-in. V8 hasn't been strenuously developed on the dynamometer, and that the man doesn't know plenty about brake specific fuel consumption and abstract concepts like combustion chamber turbulence.

And only a fool would think that the minds of these wily racers would stop there. When Phil Parsons' number 66 comes off the 200-mph banking, strafing into the pit road at 100, using all the brakes he can muster, a six-man attack force launches over the knee-high pit wall and transforms into a blur of action. The speed is part determination, and in this case, the result of applied science. The tools are specialized: specially built impact wrenches fired by pressurized nitrogen rather than moisture-laden compressed air; wheels prepared with lug nuts cemented in place to eliminate fumbling; turned-down wheel studs to allow quick thread starting; wheelless hydraulic jacks modified with lightweight magnesium side

plates and quick-acting pump units; self-sealing gas filler necks which require no cap; and reworked sockets to allow lug engagement without stopping the wrench. More exotic hardware, like built-in jacks and five-at-a-time lug wrenches are not allowed under NAS-CAR rules.

For the Johnny Hayes Racing/U.S. Tobacco team, preparation doesn't end with the tools, though. The pit crew itself is highly specialized (with the possible exception of the gas catch man

(Please turn to page 122)





goes into place. Job is speeded up by pregluing lug nuts to wheel with weatherstrip cement (right). Driver gets a cool drink on a long-handled holder.

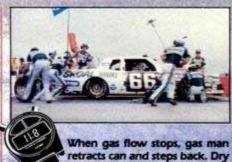


With wheels in place, lug tight-

With wheels in place, lug tightening begins fast and furiously, while windshield man makes a

final wipe of the glass. Lug nuts are able to slide on studs easily (right), since the first few threads have been machined off and a hardened collar pinned in place.





retracts can and steps back. Dry break filler automatically closes, exits from

overflow exits from screened vent. When lug nuts are tight, Jack man lowers car, signaling driver to leave. Total time for a two tire change stop: 12.6 seconds!

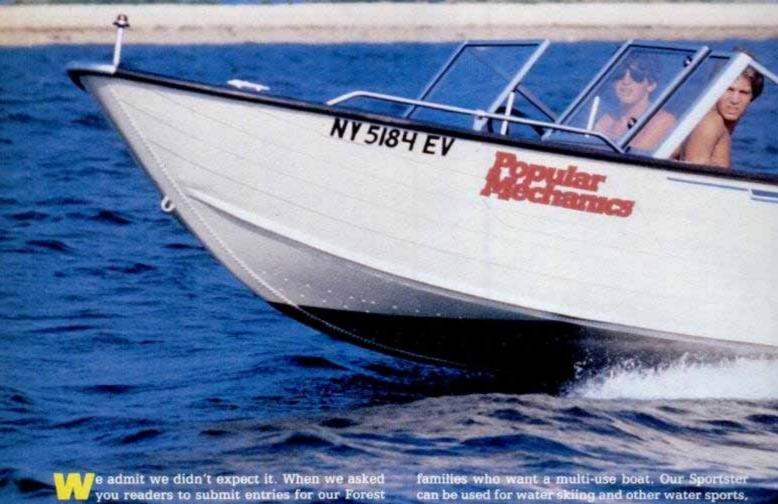


PM'S WATER SPORTSTER

Our latest project fills the bill for water sports, family cruising and fishing.

PM photos by Frank Zagarino and Bill Ashe





e admit we didn't expect it. When we asked you readers to submit entries for our Forest Ranger contest with ideas for our next project vehicle, we expected you all to suggest car and truck based projects. We were surprised to find several hundred of you urging us to do a boat project.

Reader Vern Cole of Vacaville, Calif., summed up the feelings of many hundreds of other readers: "...a nice economical fishing boat and trailer, set up and revamped with the type of practical and cosmetic changes you made on the Forest Ranger truck."

So here it is!

PM's Water Sportster is a small boat that fills big needs and hopefully has some good ideas you may want to incorporate into your own small boat. Overall, our boat is just 16 feet, 3 inches in length. But with 75 hp on tap anytime you want to ram down the throttle lever, it more than fills the needs of most families who want a multi-use boat. Our Sportster can be used for water skiing and other water sports, has the comfort and room to make family or party cruising a real pleasure, and has the utility to make fishing a sport again instead of a chore. Plus, with that much power on tap and a convertible top, you have the push to outrun most weather back to a safe harbor and the protection you need if you don't make it.

We based our project on Grumman Boats' great little Skidaddle Ultrafisherman. Its aluminum hull means maintenance is almost nonexistent, and what is left is minimal and easy. Besides, the high-tech nature of an aluminum hull appealed to us.

The Grumman Skidaddle is the perfect choice for those who want to ski and picnic one day and fish the next. Walk-through windshields, stretch-out comfortable cushions up (Please turn to page 125)



THIRD-GENERATION TELEVISION:

HI-FI FOR YOUR EYES AND EARS

Stereo sound's here. On the way is circuitry that sharpens pictures, corrects colors and exorcises ghosts. Here's how to judge TV's new image.

BY DAVID LANDER

In the beginning, there were vacuum tubes and black and white pictures. The '60s brought solid-state transistor circuitry and affordable color. Now, television's first and second generations are giving way to component monitors, monitor/receivers and high-resolution TV, and broadcasts have stereo sound. Digital circuitry improves imaging and gives new home sets screen within a screen, stop-action freeze frame and zoom focusing.

The switch to digital

Digital signal processing in the form of tiny, microprocessor chips is on the verge of replacing the conventional analog circuitry that now converts broadcast waveforms into sight and sound. This application of computer technology to TV comes at a time when conventional methods are improving—and it's just a harbinger of things to come. Emerging beyond the digital horizon is High-Definition TV, which promises a wide, panoramic display and degree of clarity that rivals 70-mm movie film.

Digital television is the brainchild of ITT Intermetall of West Germany, and since 1983, about 50,000 sets have been sold in Europe and Japan. ITT's technology replaces the conventional TV's many wires and circuit boards with a handful of very large-scale integrated circuits similar to those employed in computers. The chips convert incoming video and audio signals to numerical values and store them in their computer memory for processing.

Once the signals become numbers, all manner of manipulation is possible. The most spectacular aspects of digital TV can be seen in the Toshiba CZ2094, a 20-inch color set just arriving in stores. These special effects include superimposing a smaller, second picture on the main TV screen image. You can use the "picture-in-picture" (PIP) inset (1/4 or 1/16 th the main screen size) to monitor what your VCR is recording

while you watch another broadcast program. The PIP also will freeze a frame from the main display for closer study. You can move the PIP to any corner of the screen. In future models from Toshiba and others, you'll be able to take portions of a freeze-frame and zoomfocus them to the full area of the screen.

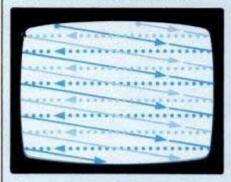
While impressive, these effects do nothing to improve the basic TV image. But digital technology also can be used to correct colors, make ghosts more invisible and cancel distortion caused by outside interference (such as other electrical appliances or signal fluctuation caused by airplanes passing overhead). The chips can even be programmed to monitor the TV's operation, making internal adjustments to maintain consistent performance as parts age.

One of the more confusing designations applied to TV sets today is the term monitor. What makes it different from the conventional TV is its ability to route external video signals (from a VCR, for example) directly to the screen via input jacks, bypassing the tuner (or RF) stage.

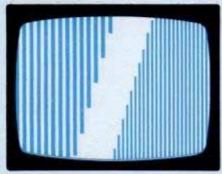
With a conventional TV, you'd have to connect the external source to the antenna terminals for reception through the tuner. This means the video signal must be converted to radio frequencies (RF). In effect, your VCR, videodisc player or computer broadcasts to the TV. Any conversion of signals adds distortion along the way, degrading the image somewhat. Direct connections via jacks avoid this. A true component monitor, in fact, houses only the TV screen and video circuitry. To receive broadcast TV, you'd have to add a separate component tuner. You'd also need an amplifier and loudspeakers to project sound. The newly coined term 'monitor/receiver" describes a monitor (direct video inputs) with TV tuner, amp and speakers in one chassis.

Despite its high-tech connotation, the word monitor doesn't guarantee video resolution superior to the common TV.

How TV Resolution Is Measured



Broadcast standards fix TV's vertical resolution (left) at 525 left-to-right lines running from top to bottom of screen. This 525-line frame is composed of two interlaced fields of 262½ lines each. Electron gun begins at top left corner of screen, zigzags to create first field (dark blue) then races to top center to trace second field



(light blue) between lines of the first. Though vertical resolution is fixed, the TVs horizontal resolution (right) varies with tube quality. Some tubes have fewer lines (left side of screen), but more lines are used right side) on better tubes. Conventional televisions have about 250 lines; monitors have 330 or more lines.



With Toshiba's new 20-inch digital TV, a viewer can place an inset of the picture from another source in any corner of the screen.

Digital Processing Improves Picture



Digital signal processing offers a way to increase TVs vertical resolution without altering broadcast standards. Shown above is a computer graphic photographed from Sony 14-inch, high-resolution monitor now selling in Japan. Left side of image depicts TV in normal 525-line vertical scanning mode. Right side of

graphic shows effect of digital doublescanning—1,050 lines. Digital process interpolates missing information between each of 525 regular vertical scanning lines for higher definition and a flicker-free image. The horizontal resolution is identical for each side of the graphic: The Sony tube will project about 350 lines. Image quality can vary, and you only have "high-resolution" TV when you've got good specs. In TV, as in hi-fi, some published specifications can't be used for comparison because different manufacturers make their measurements differently. The specs you can rely on for TV are overscan, horizontal resolution and vertical resolution.

Overscan

Overscan is a design characteristic that causes some percentage of the picture area to be projected beyond the edges of a TV screen. It's meant to compensate for drops in electrical power, which cause the overall picture to shrink, and often frame the image area with a dark border. Thanks to hefty built-in power supplies, the best TVs need project only 5 or 6 percent of the

(Please turn to page 134)

EARTH: THE GREATEST TELESCOPE

Linking together radio telescopes around the globe, we'll soon get a glimpse of worlds never before seen.

BY WILLIAM HOFFER Illustrated by Dean Ellis

ake a thousand normal galaxies such as our Milky Way, compress them into a space as small as our solar system, and you have a cosmic engine capable of generating strange and wonderful energies. There are such structures in the far reaches of space. We call them quasars, or quasi-stellar radio sources, because in early photographs their images resembled those of stars. We are on the frontier of understanding these hot, massive heavenly objects. Yet the telescopes we have on hand are too weak to tell us all we want to know. The next piece of equipment to take us closer to the quasars will be the planet Earth itself.

For years, radio astronomers have been studying quasars using the best available equipment, and they have uncovered a great mystery. Take Quasar 3C273. Radio-wave "pictures" taken in July 1977 of this strange celestial object in the vicinity of the constellation Virgo showed a central core that had jettisoned a globule of fiery material off to one side. The width of the structure was 62 light-years-thousands of times greater than the distance from the Earth to the Sun, Later pictures showed it to be steadily growing. By July 1980 the mass measured 87 light-years across. It had expanded by a distance of 25 light-years in only

three Earth years, leading to the seemingly Impossible conclusion that this cosmic wonder was expanding at a rate eight times faster than the speed of light!

The discovery spelled trouble for Einstein's relativity theory, which limits the speed of light. In fact, following the 1980 observation, several noted astronomers wondered if the theory of relativity had finally been toppled. Whatever the explanation, scientists need to study quasars in more detail.

"We want to look at the centers of galaxies," says Dr. Kurt Weiler of the National Science Foundation. He explains that galactic cores where quasars exist house "extremely compact engines that convert energy at a fantastic rate."

With the equipment available today, Weiler's hope is just a pipe dream. But a great, new age is dawning for astronomers. By 1987, man will begin to use the entire globe as a telescope, and the results are likely to provide grand insights into the structure of our universe.

Radio astronomy studies hold great promise. Many cosmic bodies emit radio waves in far greater profusion than light waves, and certain massive structures are totally invisible to optical telescopes. What's more, radiotelescopes are much less troubled by atmospheric interference than are optical telescopes, and they can collect radio waves 24 hours a day. With advanced computer graphics, radio waves emitted by heavenly bodies can be translated into visual images that look like slightly blurred photos.

Radio astronomy is hampered by only one physical problem. Since radio waves are much longer than light waves, a radiotelescope requires a far bigger collection surface than an optical telescope to produce the same resolution. A radio dish would have to stretch across a 250-mile diameter to approach the capabilities of Mount Palomar's 200-inch optical telescope.

The solution was a technique called interferometry. When signals are compared between two or more radio dishes, the interference detected can be analyzed to fill in the gap between the dishes to approximate a picture as though received by a single dish spanning the distance between the two receivers. A two-dish system built at Cambridge University discovered the first evidence of rhythmic radio sources in the sky that came to be known as pulsars.

The success of the interferometry technique led, in 1967, to construction of the Very Large Array (VLA) outside of Socorro, N.M., where 27 radio dishes

are aligned in the shape of a Y. By observing continuously for a period of eight hours, radio astronomers utilize the rotation of the Earth to effectively close the arms of the Y to produce a single radio picture as though taken from a dish 15 miles in diameter.

Dreaming ever bigger dreams, astronomers realized that only the size and curvature of the Earth limited the scope of interferometry studies. International teams combined their efforts in a series of majestic experiments called Very Long Baseline Interferometry, tying together radiotelescopes

from Australia to the Crimea. The pictures were spectacular, revealing distant detail invisible even to the VLA. But since some of the dishes were old, the equipment differ-

ent and

coordination difficult, radio astronomy set as its next major goal the construction of a \$61.5 million telescope using interferometry.

Known as the Very Long Baseline Array (VLBA), the system will consist of 10 antennas, each 25 meters in diameter. Construction will be coordinated by the National Science Foundation.

The VLBA should be able to see mass in orbit around a black hole, if a black hole really does exist." NSF's Weiler says. Thus, scientists hope to test relativity, and whether a black hole is merely theoretical.

This amazing radiotelescope system will produce images equivalent to those that could be obtained from a single dish 4,000 miles in diameter.

In the space age, the limits of technology expand to incredible dimensions. Plans are already on the drawing board for Quasat, an orbiting radio dish calibrated to fit into the VLBA system, which will approximate a telescope some 12,000 miles in diameter.

'Quasat may be only an intermediate step," says the visionary Dr. Weiler. 'It's far from reality, but we may eventually put a VLBA dish on the moon."

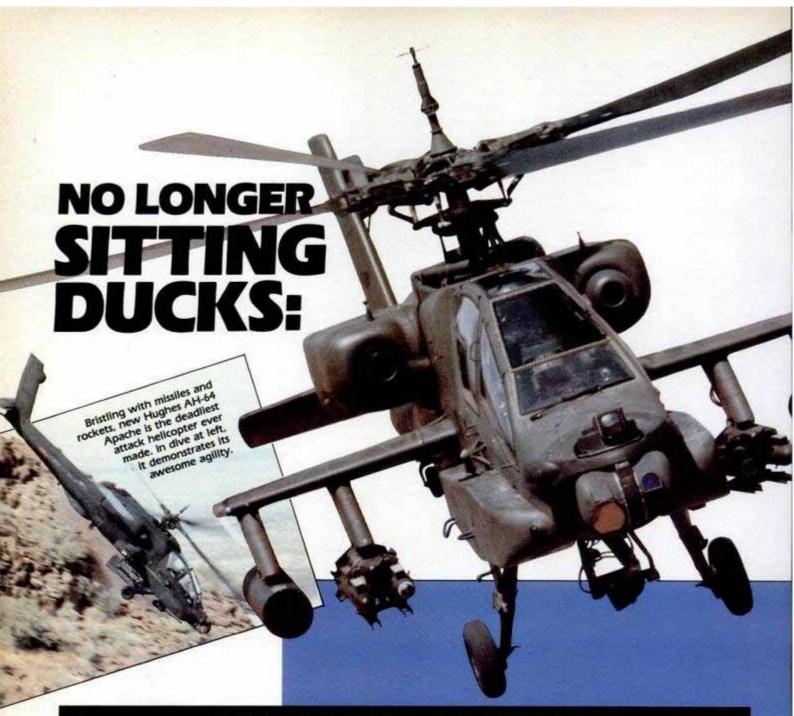
SINGLE DISH 3 MILLION LIGHT-YEARS ACROSS VERY LARGE ARRAY 300,000 LIGHT-YEARS ACROSS PROTOTYPE **GLOBAL TELESCOPE** 3 LIGHT-YEARS ACROSS

Radio "photos" of a single galaxy 3 million light-years wide got progressively more detailed (top to bottom) as more antennas were hooked together for "viewing." Overall view of the galaxy (top) was shot with one dish. Detail of central core (middle) was taken with an array of radio dishes. A prototype global radiotelescope using only four dishes took the bottom photo, which is a closeup detail 3 light-years wide.



能力を

grow faster than the speed of light.



THE LOOK THAT KILLS

hat you see is what you hit. With a new helmet-mounted gunsight developed by Honeywell, all a chopper pilot has to do is look at an enemy target and fire his cannon. The cannon instantly lines up on the target, automatically following his line of sight no matter which way he moves his head.

The heart of this remarkable system is a tiny, transparent eyepiece attached to the pilot's helmet so that it covers his right eye. The eyepiece is electronically coupled to a servo-driven optical scanner held in a movable gimbal mount in the aircraft's nose. The scanner, either a TV camera for daylight use or an infrared sensor for night vision, follows the movements of the pilot's head, looking wherever he looks. The cannon, located under the nose in a similar gimbal mount, is servo-slaved to the scanner so it points wherever the scanner is aimed.

What the pilot sees superimposed on the eyepiece is a brightly defined view of the terrain below, even in bad weather or darkness, making it easy to pick out a target that might otherwise be invisible. Also displayed in the eyepiece is vital flight information, such as heading, speed and altitude, so the pilot can fly the craft without having to look down at his instruments. Because his view is through the eye of the scanner, rather than his own eyes alone, he can, in effect, see right through solid objects. He can look down at the floor and spot a target directly underneath just as if the bottom of the fuselage were transparent.

Called IHADSS (for Integrated Helmet And Display Sighting System), the Honeywell look-and-shoot sight was designed especially for the new Apache antitank gunship, but is also adaptable to other combat helicopters.—S.G.





Now Helicopters Shoot Back

Our choppers took a beating in Vietnam. Now this painful lesson is resulting in a deadly new breed of tank-busting gunships designed to fight back.

BY SHELDON M. GALLAGER AND MURRAY RUBENSTEIN weird apparition suddenly sweeps down over a mountain ridge at nearly 200 mph, belching flame from fanglike missile tubes as it zeroes in on a column of enemy battle tanks in the valley below. The tanks, caught by surprise, have no way of avoiding the withering assault.

This ferocious-looking, fire-breathing monster might be something out of a horror flick, but to American troops on some future battlefield it would be the prettiest sight around. It's the new Hughes AH-64 Apache, the toughest,

meanest, most awesome combat helicopter ever produced. At \$10 million apiece, it's also the most expensive. Bristling with missiles and rockets slung from outrigger arms, it typifies a new breed of fast, agile, hard-hitting helicopter gunships designed specifically to search out and destroy heavily armored vehicles on the ground and hostile helicopters in the air.

The need for such aerial tank killers was learned the hard way during the Vietnam War when the only combat helicopters then available were little



more than civilian models painted olive drab and fitted with a light-caliber machine gun. Lacking heavy weapons for self-defense and armored cockpits for crew protection, they were sitting ducks when exposed to enemy ground fire at low altitudes. Even a few well-placed rifle shots could bring them down. The famed Huey, a utility chopper pressed into military service, performed valiantly despite its limitations, but paid a heavy price. More than 5,000 were lost.

Not anymore. Today's helicopter gunships are counted on to provide our troops with a potent ground-support weapon in any land war to come. In the grim world of battlefield reality, NATO planners calculate that a single attack helicopter will deliver an average of 16 enemy kills before being itself destroyed or disabled. As cold-blooded as this may sound, it is nevertheless significant. It means that a relatively modest force of 600 gunships could account for nearly 10,000 enemy tanks, missile sites or other key targets—a number large enough, it is believed, to turn the tide of battle to NATO's favor.

In fact, a master battle plan, called Operation Deep

Versatile Sikorsky Black Hawk is both a potent tank killer and troopship. It carries 16 Heilfire missiles on outrigger pylons.

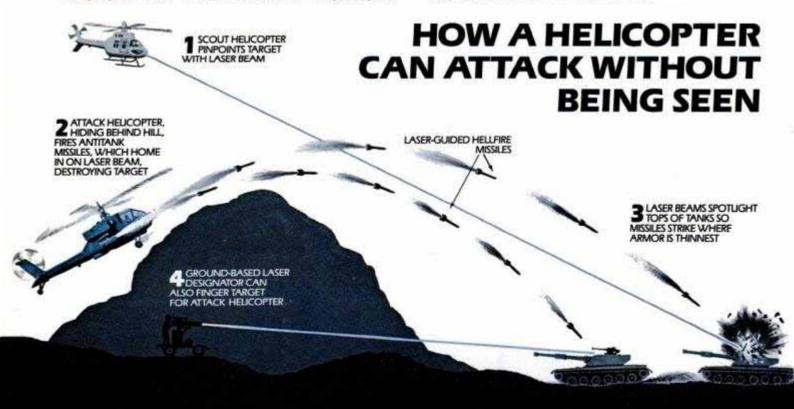
Strike, has already been drawn up by NATO and Pentagon strategists to offset the vast numerical superiority of Warsaw Pact forces. The plan is based on the assumption that current NATO forces could never hope to survive a full invasion thrust in a conventional head-to-head confrontation. Instead, it envisions a modern equivalent of the classic divide-and-conquer tactic. As the first enemy wave attacks, it is deliberately allowed to penetrate NATO lines with little resistance. Once inside the lines, the enemy is encircled, trapped and ultimately defeated.

Meanwhile, massive air strikes are launched deep inside enemy territory to attack and destroy the second, third and fourth waves before they have time to group and advance. Antitank helicopters, along with fixed-wing fighter/bombers and long-range ballistic missiles, would play a major role in these behind-the-lines assaults, helping to prevent the enemy from amassing its full might.

Operation Deep Strike is also seen, somewhat paradoxically, as a deterrent to nuclear warfare. The reasoning goes (Please turn to page 138)



Proposed Navy version of Hughes Apache carries antiship Harpoon missiles and has a target-spotting radome above rotor.



How to hit what you can't see: Armed with laserguided Hellfire antitank missiles, a helicopter gunship hovers unseen behind a hill. It can't see the enemy, but other eyes can. A high-intensity laser beam, called a target designator, is directed at the quarry from either a second, scout helicopter or a hidden ground unit. The gunship's missiles, with a range of more than 7,500 yards, then home in on the laser light, destroying the target while the gunship remains safely concealed as far as four miles away.



ITS BEAUTY IS UNDER THE SKIN

TOYOTA'S MID-ENGINE MR2 IS SO DAZZLING TO DRIVE, YOU CAN ALMOST FORGIVE ITS LOOKS.

BY MICHAEL LAMM West Coast Editor

Toyota calls this a sports car, and there's no doubt about that. The MR2 runs and handles with the best. Too bad, though, that its styling turned out so bland.

Toyota started with all the right mechanical stuff: twin-cam, 16-valve engine placed amidships, five-speed transaxle, all-independent suspension, four-wheel disc brakes, rack-and-pinion steering, full instrumentation and multi-adjustable sport seats. Who could ask for more?

Well, I could for one, and so could Akio Yoshida, head of Toyota's design staff. Mr. Yoshida understands English but speaks it haltingly. When I asked him if the MR2 turned out as he'd envisioned it, he pointed to a big design sketch on the wall—a sketch that was recognizably MR2 but with a lot more character and flowing lines. He then looked back at me with the saddest eyes I've ever seen.

That's how I feel, too: sad that Toyota decided to make the MR2 custard pie instead of chili picante. To me, a midengined sports car ought to look the part. All but two do, the other being the Porsche 914.

I should explain that back in October, Toyota asked a dozen American auto journalists—me among them—to go to Japan to test-drive the MR2. The test



Angular front end with flip-up lights looks like any one of a dozen recent sports cars.



Rear view is the most distinctive, with its ample spoiler, high deck and droop snoot.

drive itself took place on Yamaha's motorcycle test track near Iwata. The track is a dog-bone-shaped, supertight course that has modified hairpin turns at both ends.

What I can't tell you is how the MR2 performs in normal, everyday traffic. We didn't get a chance to drive much below 60 mph nor to simulate real-life road conditions. I can tell you, though, that the MR2 handles very well at speeds ranging from 60 to 120 mph.

The MRZ sails through high-speed corners with good control and no problems up to the limit of tire adhesion. You have to push it very hard—harder than any sane person would—before you reach that limit. Even then you get plenty of warning, because as you approach breakaway you first feel some understeer, then a quick transition to oversteer and, if you still stay on it beyond that, you eventually force all

four tires to let go at pretty much the same time. That's when the rear starts to come around and the car begins to slide sideways, tail first. The only way to regain control is *not* to lock up the brakes, but rather to steer into the direction of the travel.

The MR2 uses 185/60R14 tires on 5.5-in-wide wheels, and these give plenty of footprint for all but dedicated racing. Wider rubber in the rear, as on most mid-engined exoticars, would probably boost the stock MR2's 0.85-g cornering power to, I'd say, around 1.00 g. Toyota points out, though, that it purposely made all four tires the same size so they can be rotated.

Steering response is quick and right on the mark, with 3.1 turns lock to lock and no power assist offered or needed. The four-wheel disc brakes are smooth, positive and free of fade. The

(Please turn to page 144)

Looking at snow under a microscope

Scientists studying snow crystals under a microscope (right) can now discuss cloud temperature and dust conditions by looking at distinct classes of snowflakes. The crystals shown on this page were gathered in hexane liquid to preserve their shape for days so that scientists could trace their origin.





This snowflake, shaped with both planar (flat) and needle-like arms, fell through a very cold cloud with a strong updraft. During fall, shape moved back and forth between planar and needlelike.



Heavy, fluffy snow crystals form in very moist clouds with relatively warm bases. These are the flakes scientists would like to induce in snow-cloud seeding operations.

Typical snow crystal is a planar dendrite, a flat body with delicate branches. The most delicate of these flakes are formed in cloud's gentle updraft.

Age-old mysteries are rapidly melting away as we learn how to clone snow, predict avalanches and make snow clouds.

Writer: Dennis Eskow, science editor Contributors: Bob Sherman, Ottawa; Lee Green, New England; Dianne Driever, Squaw Valley, Calif. charles Knight's heart leaped as he saw it falling—first in a light, powdery dust, then in a howling torrent. Winter had come to the Colorado Rockies a month early, and Knight excitedly ran into the National Center for Atmospheric Research lab offices. He grabbed his down coat and ran up to the small laboratory with the hole in the roof. Closing the door behind him, and adjusting to the room's chill, he began gathering petri dishes half-filled with hexane fluid. Each was placed carefully under the hole in the roof, where snowflakes could be collected for study.

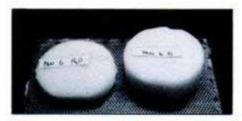
Knight is one of a dozen scientists across the nation studying the nature of snow. The snow science already has led to the creation of "cloned" snow crystals formed on the surfaces of tiny bacteria. Snow science is also developing an avalanche warning system expected to save hundreds of lives a year. And, in the not too distant future, researchers hope to be able to "seed" productive snow clouds to produce more than twice the water that can be squeezed from a "seeded" rain cloud.

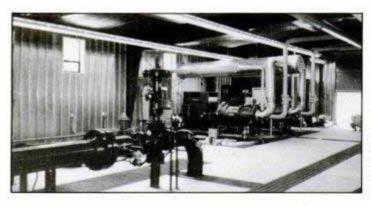
MAKING IT AND BREAKING IT

"The structure of snow crystals tells us a great deal about the conditions under which snow is made," Knight says. "We now have a pretty good idea of how the basic snow cloud mechanism works. But there are gaps in our knowledge we're just beginning to fill in." On a practical level, the most serious question is whether the size and number of dust particles in a cloud or the distribution of temperature in the cloud is the determining factor in how snow crystals form. Once the mystery is unraveled, snow seeding will move from an art to a science.

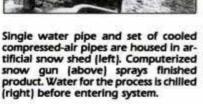
Knight's lab is located on a mountain in Boulder, Colo. The room is refrigerated like a walk-in meat locker down to minus 15° C. Single snowflakes are collected in the hexane-filled petri dishes, where the crystalline shape is maintained for days. After gathering the crystals, Knight places them under a light microscope, photographing each crystal for future study.

Knight and other researchers work at the microscopic level. Over the years, they have connected Footprints lead away from dual dynamite explosion. The blasts were set off to start a mini-avalanche, preventing a major catastrope on a California ski slope. Both chunks of snow (right) are artificial. Chunk at left is made of water and air. The larger chunk uses "cloned" snow technique to make more flakes for a given water volume.











snow-crystal form with physical properties of the clouds that produce them. The most important general property of snow is that all crystals are six-sided, reflecting the arrangement of atoms in a water molecule.

The typical snowflake is a planar dendrite, a flat body with delicate branches. The most delicate of this group are formed in gentle updrafts inside a cloud. At the cloud base, a water droplet picks up a speck of dust around which the crystal will form. Moving up through the cloud, the crystal begins to take the shape of a fleck of ice and finally becomes a snow crystal as it reaches the supercooled upper part of the cloud and begins a slow descent buffeted by an updraft. (You can perform an interesting supercooling experiment in your kitchen. We'll explain at the end of this article.)

If the water content of the cloud is higher, and if temperatures at the base are somewhat warmer, the crystal formed will be heavier and fluffier. It's the heavier, fluffier crystals many scientists would like to generate in future seeding operations, since these would provide more spring runoff and a bigger water supply.

As temperatures throughout the cloud fall, depending upon how strong an updraft the flakes face, the crystal changes from the flat planar form to a more needlelike shape. Longer exposure to colder temperatures returns the shape to planar, and then back to needlelike as the exposure to extremely low temperatures becomes even longer.

While researchers move along with their work on the relationship between snowflake shapes and cloud conditions, others have been working on ways to create artificial snow on the ground.

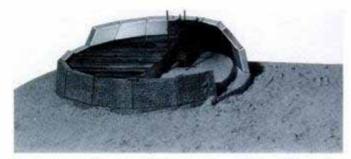
The traditional method—simply mixing chilled water with compressed air—has been used for decades on the ski runs of New England and Colorado. It produces something that is almost, but not quite, as good as the real thing for skiing. The real drawback with artifical snow is the waste of water and energy it takes to make it. But new, genetically engineered SnowMax is changing all that this year. The product, made from *Psuedomonous syringae* bacteria, produces at least 20 percent more snow from any given amount of water than the old compressed-air and chilled-water method alone.

SnowMax, created five years ago by Advanced Genetic Sciences of Greenwich, Conn., is a freezedried powder made from the crushed bacteria that were raised under laboratory conditions in a fermenting tower. The "broth" in which these bacteria grow is designed to kill off other bacteria so that all you get from the fermented soup is *Psuedomonous syringae*, a one-celled creature that grows naturally on the plants normally found near ski slopes. The bacteria produce a chemical catalyst that speeds up the formation of ice

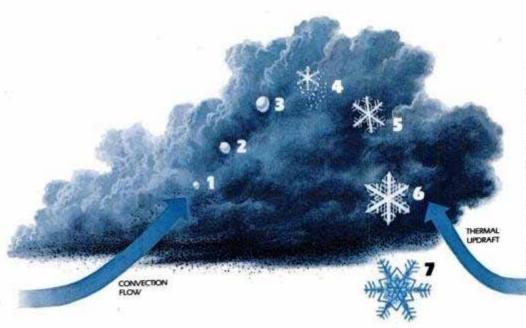
BUILDING AN IGLOO



Igloo is made of bricks from snow similar to the type that helps start avalanches. Bricks are cut in blocks 2 feet long, a foot high and 6 inches thick. A typical igloo is 10 feet in diameter.



As courses of brick are laid, bottoms are cut at increasingly steeper angles, causing the walls to bend toward the middle. Wood placed atop platforms made of snow provides sleeping area.



BIRTH OF A SNOWFLAKE

Convection carries water droplet through cloud base, where it picks up dust particle around which crystal forms (1). As it rises in cloud, crystal picks up moisture and freezes (2). In higher, cooler region of cloud, it reaches largest mass (3). As it begins descent, crystal picks up supercooled water vapor, forming branches (4). Depending on strength of updraft and local temperatures, crystal will continue development (5) or go from flat planar form (6) to needlelike structure (7) several times before it leaves ice condensation level just below cloud. Research is leading to new cloud-seeding technique.

crystals. Add the bug to the compressed-air/water system and you have snow that is the closest yet to the real thing. The cloned snow has been tested for three years at Colorado's Copper Mountain and for one year at Stratton Mountain in Vermont. For the current ski season, the first commercially available SnowMax is being used at a dozen resorts in New England and Colorado. With or without cloned snow, a vast majority of ski spas will resort to artificial snow sometime this season.

"Snowmaking is scientifically planned and brutally executed," says snowmaking pioneer Jeff White, consultant for the 1988 Winter Olympics. His Group Delta engineering firm, based in Ottawa, has helped design snowmaking systems for ski runs from New England to Austria. One of the sleekest systems inspired by White is running at the Killington ski area in Vermont.

Electric-powered vertical turbine pumps bring chilled water into the system. Compressed air, cooled in water-jacketed devices and dried out in a cyclone separator tower, runs through a pipe parallel to the water pipe. The air and water are mixed at a hydrant. A 1½-inch fire hose runs the mixture from the hydrant to a snow gun designed at Killington. Under optimum conditions, it takes about a foot of manmade snow to create skiing conditions provided by 3 or more feet of natural snow.

Even natural snow varies in its packing ability. And that is the root of understanding avalanches, something U.S. Forest Service researchers are on the verge of doing near Fort Collins, Colo. Monitoring avalanches along Berthoud Pass about 130 miles from town, Dick Sommerfeld and his colleagues think they've developed a system that will warn of a deadly snow slide hours before it happens.

Avalanche forecasters to date have watched weather conditions and taken reports of small avalanches from a network of observing stations to get their data. But usually deadly avalanches arise so quickly that the existing system fails to make a prediction.

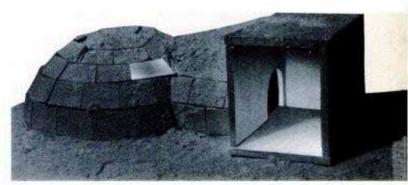
Summerfeld's team places sonar sensors on the experimental station path and then reads a computer printout. "Noise" from nearby roads and ski lifts is accounted for. The remaining noise is recorded as a subsurface, avalanche-causing crack.

"Noise from snow has very little character," Sommerfeld says, noting how difficult it is to pick out the pre-avalanche sounds from the background. But after eight years of research, he believes the experiments have yielded a mathematical system to spot a subsurface crack forming hours before an avalanche starts. The sonar system may be in commercial use before the end of this decade.

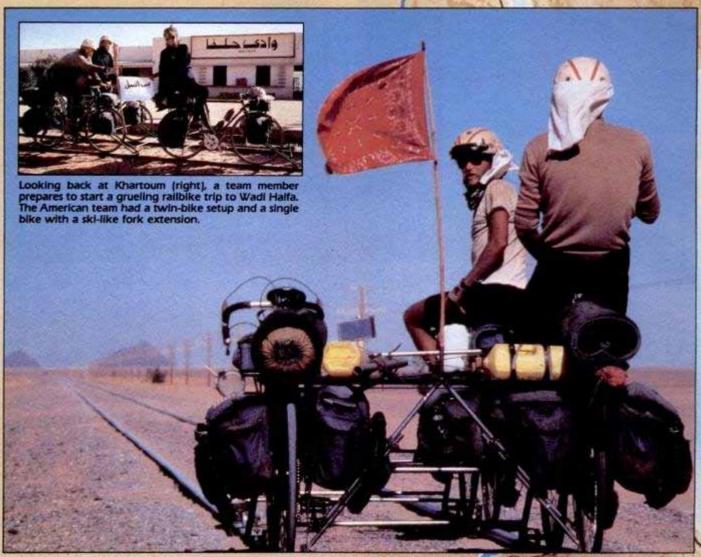
The deadliest avalanches are "dry slab" events in (Please turn to page 120)



Final igloo shape includes an entrance crawlway. Inside can be lined with insulating animal skins. Temperatures inside rise up to 80° F. The walls melt so slowly that no puddles form.



A side-facing entrance can be attached to the crawlway to help cut down arctic wind entry to igloo. Windows made of frozen lake water also are added. Some igloos even contain a hanging heater.



BIKING THE NUBIAN DESERT

Their bicycles were rigged to ride the rails across 500 miles of African desert.

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY TIMOTHY YOUNG

Red line on map shows railbike route from Khartoum to Wadi Halfa in Sudan. Cairo, Egypt, is 600 miles north of Wadi Halfa.

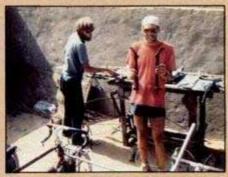
CAPETOWN



Using homemade welder and mask, team member builds a part to gulde the wheel.



Guide bars were built to run along inside of the railroad track up to the bike's axies.



Team member compares guide-wheel adjusters after recutting to ride switch track.

The author is part of an American team touring the world on foot and on modified vehicles of every conceivable kind. Last year, the team crossed the Nubian Desert of East Africa on bicycles. They found the sandy earth inhospitable to two-wheelers, but with a little modification, and that old milmed line.

Desert would be a challenge when we set out on our bicycles from Khartoum, the capital of Sudan. Still, we pressed on for six days, carrying and dragging our bikes through the sand at a crawl of about 10 miles per day. In exhaustion, we stopped at a small village in the northern outskirts of Khartoum to rethink our plan. Staring us in the face was a seemingly endless stretch of hostile sand with few streets and one hardly used and very ancient railroad line. The rails, cleared of sand by occasional passing trains, gnawed at our imaginations until a plan began to emerge. We would have to scramble for nuts, bolts and piping, but the idea of modifying the bikes to ride those old rails quickly became our only option. It took us 10 days and \$25, but the delay was worthwhile.

When we had first rolled into the village, completely exhausted at the end of the sixth day, the first person we

met was Abdel Hamid, an ancient carpenter who greeted us in Arabic. With a friendly clasp, his enormous hands took us in for a huge Sudanese meal and hot sweet tea.

Later, the smell of lumber shavings filled his shop, our first stop on a tour of the town, and we told him our ideas. We went past the mosque and market areas and found a collection of fix-it shops and small manufacturing shops. At one shop, people were working on Bedford truck bodies half-built on old but working frames, engines out here and there. There were chair factories where steel was twisted to shape as welder's sparks flew in the air. And there were supply stores, like Mohammed's auto parts store. Mohammed was a graduate in physics and mathematics from Khartoum. Against the odds of the Sudanese supply system, he was able to keep his store stocked full.

The next day Mohammed showed us his private shop, where we could work. "You have to have a name for this," he said. "How about Bint el Nil? It means daughter of the Nile in Arabic." And so, our strange vehicle was christened even before we started building it.

We settled on doing two machines out of three bicycles—one a parallel double, and one single. A trip to the track revealed the rail was 43 in. inside to inside measure and 2½ in. wide. This old British narrow-gauge system was put in 50 years ago to carry goods and people over the Nubian Desert—one of the harshest places on the globe, with summer temperatures of 120° F. common.

The parallel double was first. Two of our bicycles are the same size, so we stood these up 44¾ in. apart at the tire center line. Armed with tubular steel, angle iron, threaded bar stock, nuts, bolts and brazing rods from the fix-it area, we started.

Bicycle-to-bicycle support bars were attached at four places on each bike: the front and rear axles, head tube and rear carry rack. We measured the correct distance, then added a small amount of length adjustability in the clamp system.

This kept the bikes upright. Now we had to create a way to steer on the track, and it took us 14 tea stops and the better part of a day to get across in Arabic what we wanted. A breakthrough came when we found that Nile river water pumps used a bearing that might do the trick. And best of all, the used bearings could be had for free.

Armed with a stack of "beelies," or driveshaft bearings, we manufactured a fork extension. From the front axle it

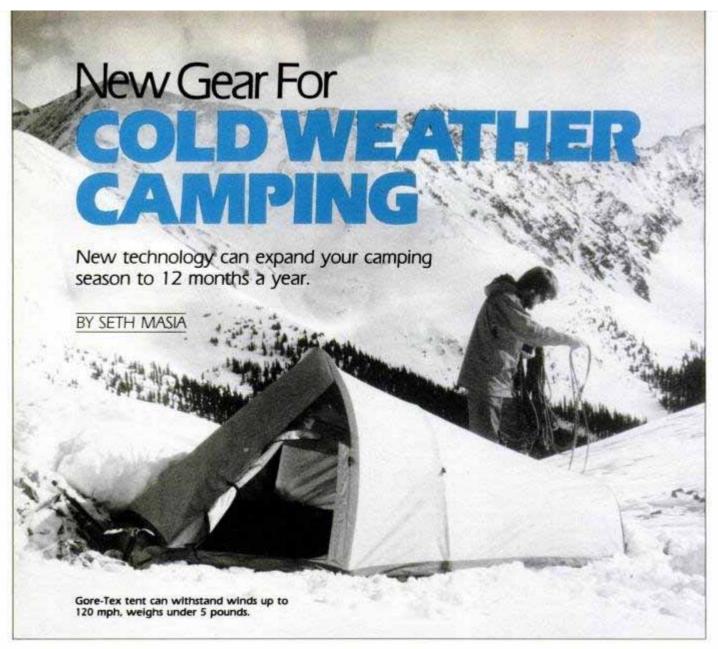
extended at an angle to the rail, an identical one on each side, and it ran in wheelbarrow-like fashion on the rail top using the old water pump bearings. An additional bearing was attached on the extension. This ran along the inside of the rail, perpendicular to the top bearing. An adjustable tie rod connected the new forks rail to rail. Rear guides were added that ran from rear axle to rail, with a guide bearing on each inside rail edge.

Another bicycle, the single one, was next. In most ways it was similar, but because it was a single, we first had to build a narrow 4-foot "ski" with a bearing wheel rolling the rail on each end. Supports were made from ski to bike to act as an outrigger for balance. The rectangular pattern of four guide wheels on the inner track edges—limiting travel in four directions—was the same.

On test day, we lashed the steel tubes to our bicycles and rode 5 kilometers to Mohammed's father's house, which, as luck would have it, sat next to the tracks. "Whoever thought of this is a very smart man," said a dust-covered friend of Mohammed's as he climbed off his camel for a closer look. Moham-

The single bicycle rode the tracks with its fork extension on one rail and an outrigger for balance attached to the other rail.

(Please turn to page 137)



when autumn fades to winter, the crowds disappear from America's national parks and forests. Heavy snow makes much of our mountain wilderness inaccessible by car, but you can still see ski and snowmobile tracks disappearing into the woods. There are intrepid campers out there, savoring the wintertime silence. If you're equipped to camp in the snow, the wilderness is truly yours alone.

During a week-long ski trek through Idaho's Sawtooth Wilderness last winter, we had a chance to try out some of the newest snow-camping gear. Among a 15-member group led by Bob Jonas of Sun Valley Trekking Co., we toured the 10,000-foot Sawtooth Range. Jonas and the guides who work for him try out new equipment on most trips. "We're always looking for gear to make back-country travel safer and more fun," Jonas says.

Winter camping should not be taken lightly. Winter weather can be fatal to the camper who doesn't have the skills to protect himself. Winter search and rescue is difficult and dangerous. Avalanches kill back-country travelers each year. But camping equipment manufacturers, especially the makers of highquality mountaineering gear, have designed tents, sleeping bags, packs, stoves and ancillary equipment to make winter camping an exhilarating sport instead of a struggle to survive.

The most important thing to remember when camping is to stay dry in order to stay warm. Most insulation used in camping gear can lose half to all of its insulating value when soaked. Fortunately, unless you fall through the ice into a lake or stream, it's relatively easy to keep your gear dry. The colder the weather, the drier the snow. In freezing rain, the most hazardous winter camping weather, sleeping bags and parkas should be protected by waterproof shells.

The second key point is to stay out of the wind as much as possible. The wind-chill factor is a reliable index to the risk of hypothermia, a condition where exposed body parts actually begin to freeze as a result of subnormal body temperatures. Modern winter camping gear is designed to minimize exposure to both wind and wet.

Sleeping bags

The key to a comfortable winter camp is a good high-lofting sleeping bag. Loft simply refers to the thickness of the insulation, and most winter mountaineers agree that 3 to 4 inches of loft is adequate for snow-camping. The insulation can be top quality goose down, in a bag weighing about 3 pounds, or it can be one of the good polyester fibers-DuPont's Quallofil or Hollofil, or Celanese PolarGuard-in a bag weighing 5 pounds or more. Down, the favored choice among expert climbers, is lighter and more durable than the polyester insulations. It also compresses into a smaller stuff sack for easy packing. But it's expensive. A well-made goose down bag costs \$300 to \$500.

Manufacturers of polyester bags, selling in the \$120 to \$150 range, point out that their products dry out quickly after a wetting, which provides a significant margin of safety. Down bags, once soaked, lose all their insulating value, and can take days to dry properly. For this reason alone, polyester bags are the logical choice for summer camping

(Please turn to page 114)



TOUR DE FORCE

ike the mythical Camelot, some cars live in a never-never land.

They are more than mere transportation. Some are true works of art.

Such a car was the 1924 Hispano Suiza built to run in the Targa Florio road race in Italy. The eight-liter H6C was driven by Andre Dubonnet, and it finished a respectable fifth overall. But the racing record of this Hispano Suiza is not what interested most people. The true center of attraction was its unique wooden body made by the Nieuport aircraft factory. It was a one-off tulipwood masterpiece highlighted with bright copper rivets.

This special car provided the inspiration and challenge for a new company called Camelot Classics of Ventura, Calif. Camelot was formed by Fritz Huntsinger to showcase the coachbuild-

Steam-bent mahogany strips are attached to this replica car's body with 5,000 brass rivets.

BY JIM GILBERT Photos by David Gooley



Aluminum boat tall speedster body is covered with carefully matched mahogany strips, riveted in place (above). Rumble seat has lift-up cowling. Interior features dash levers recast from Hupmobile designs, and a mock shift lever attached to the Ford automatic transmission (left). A velvet-lined tool drawer fits under the front seat. Sun glints off mahogany, brass rivets and chrome.

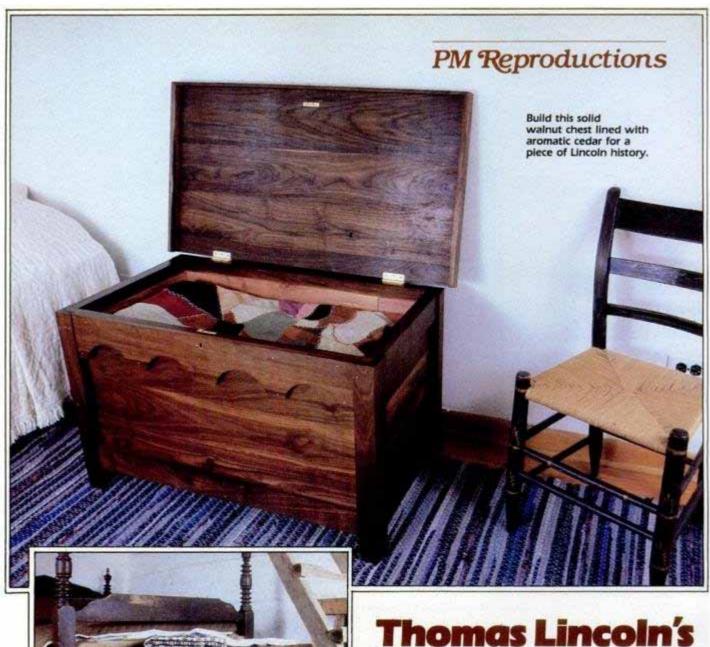
ing talents of Ray Kinney. The challenge was to reproduce the Hispano Suiza faithfully in light of modern technology. "If I could build that," said Kinney, "I could build anything."

He had to study woodworking skills to match his already proven metalworking skills (Kinney was part of the Clenet and Sceptre design teams). Learning how to select and match grains, steamshape and finish hardwood paid big dividends. Kinney's work rivals that of the original Nieuport aircraft body.

The replica is named Phariance in honor of the French Knight of the Round Table who greeted King Arthur in France. The name fits well with the Camelot theme. The Phariance is built on a 1928 Chrysler towncar chassis with a 136-in. wheelbase and 63-in.

(Please turn to page 117)





Thomas Lincoln's BLANKET CHEST

Crafted by Abe Lincoln's father, this simple chest makes an appealing reproduction.

Original blanket chest built by Thomas Lincoln in 1845.

BY DAVID A. WARREN

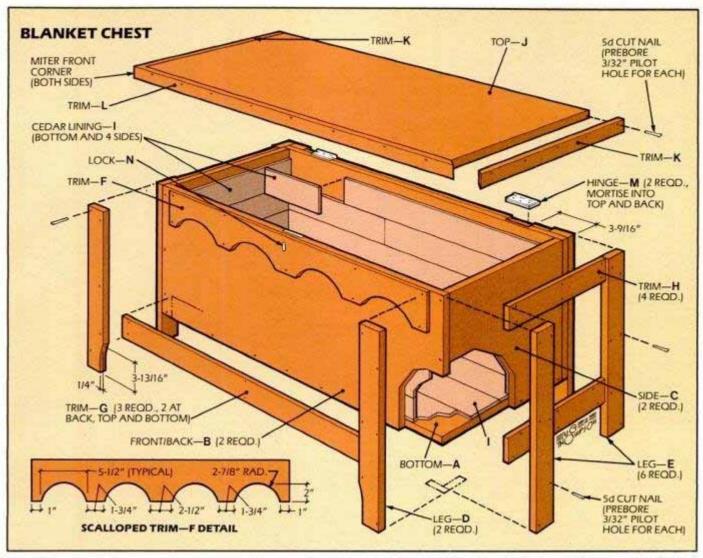
In the early 1840s, when Abraham Lincoln was a newly married young lawyer in Springfield, Ill., his father, Thomas, occupied a farm in the east-central part of the state where he built a two-room cabin. It was there that a neighbor helped him cut down a large black walnut tree, saw it into boards, and stack it for seasoning.

After curing the lumber, Thomas and his neighbor, Rueben Moore, used it to build two identical blanket chests, one for each of them. Thomas designed the chests, using the rich black walnut grain primarily as decoration. Each chest stood 22½ in. high, 37 in. long and 20½ in. wide.

Thomas died five or six years after the chests were built, making these among his last furniture pieces. He had been an outstanding furniture maker for much of his life.

Thomas Lincoln's farm, 8 miles south of Charleston, Ill., is now restored as the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historical Site. One of the two surviving blanket chests is preserved at the site. PM was

Construction: David J. Warren Photos: William Lasky Photo styling: Virginia Howley Technical art: Eugene Thompson



MATERIALS LIST-BLANKET CHEST

Key	No.	Size and description
A	1	13/16 × 17 × 311/4" walnut (bot- tom)
В	2	13/16 × 17% × 323/4" walnut (front and back)
C	2	13/16 × 17 × 177/h" walnut (sides)
D	2	% × 2 × 2111/1s" walnut (legs)
E	6	% × 2 × 2111/16" walnut (legs)
F	1	1/2 × 43/4 × 30" walnut (scallop trim)
G	3	1/2 × 23/4 × 30" walnut (front and back trim)
Н	4	1/2 × 23/4 × 151/4" walnut (side trim)
1	18	3/6" tongue and groove cedar plank
	bdft.	(lining)
J K	1	13/16 × 197/4 × 353/4" walnut (top)
K	2	% × 1½ × 20½" walnut (top side trim)
L	1	% × 1½ × 37" walnut (top front trim)
M	2	Stanley No. 289 (with nonremova- ble pin) 21/2 × 21/2" butt hinges
N	1.	brass chest-lid lock
220- linse	grit abr	and 5d common cut nails, 120- and asive paper, orange shellac, boiled /O steel wool. available from Constantine's Inc.

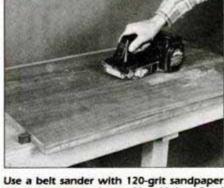
granted special permission to photograph and measure this easily crafted relic for reproduction.

The blanket chest looks like panel construction, but in fact, it's a simple box nailed together. There are no dovetails or other complex woodworking joints in Thomas's design. This greatly simplifies reproduction. Our chest is an

(Please turn to page 128)



Straighten board edges with a Jointer, then match for pleasing grain. Glue and clamp, alternating clamps top and bottom.



Use a belt sander with 120-grit sandpaper to remove excess glue and level joints. Sand entire surface evenly to avoid low spots.



Cut front, back, sides, bottom and top boards to widths and lengths in materials list using a radial-arm or table saw.



Assemble chest with glue and 5d cut nails; attach trim with glue and 4d cut nails. Bore ³/₃₂-in. nail holes to avoid splitting wood.

PM's GUIDE TO USING THE JOINTER

From jointing board edges to cutting precise cabinet joints, here's how to get the most out of your jointer.

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY ROSARIO CAPOTOSTO

piointer may not be the *first* tool to buy for a woodworking shop, but it is a versatile woodworking machine and a valuable complement to a table or radial-arm saw.

A jointer is used primarily to smooth rough, irregular board edges prior to edge-gluing into panels or ripping on a saw. Cut the boards with the straight, joined edge against the saw fence. You can also use the jointer like a planer to smooth the faces of narrow boards.

Jointer mechanics

A jointer is simple in both design and operation. A base supports two independently adjustable tables. Positioned between the tables is a cylindrical-steel cutterhead that holds removable knives. The cutterhead is driven by a belt connected to the motor. An adjustable, tilting fence guides the workpiece and a retractable guard covers the cutterhead. Caution: In several photos the safety guard has been removed for photo clarity. Never operate any power tool unless the protective guards are in place.

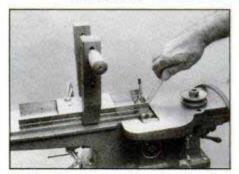
The jointer's front, or infeed, table is adjusted for the depth of cut. The rear, or outfeed, table is, for most operations, positioned at the same height as the knives to support the workpiece as it passes the cutterhead.

A jointer requires few adjustments, but these must be made carefully to obtain optimum performance.

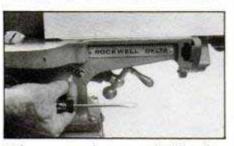
First, check the position of the knives in the cutterhead. The knives must

Technical art by Eugene Thompson

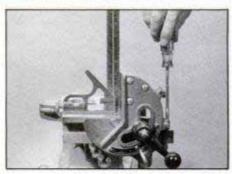
The author executes a recess cut on the jointer while making a furniture leg (above). Note use of an extension table and auxiliary fence to support the work. Clamp stop blocks to the fence to control the length of the recess. The assorted workpieces shown to the right were all shaped on the jointer.



Check knife alignment by clamping two steel rules to the rear table, as shown. Pencil wedged alongside cutterhead keeps it from rotating. Adjust knife to touch both rules.



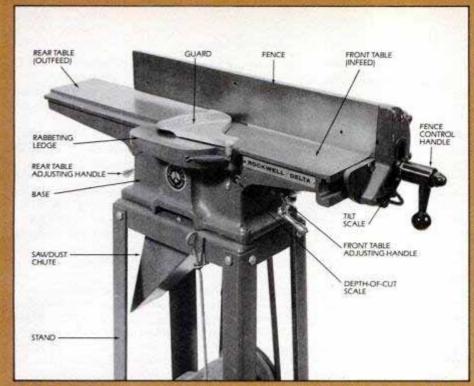
Make a test cut in a premarked board to check the accuracy of the depth-of-cut scale. If cut and line don't match, adjust the front table accordingly, and set indicator.



Use a square to check the accuracy of the tilting fence. Fence should be exactly perpendicular [90°] to the table. Adjust the automatic stops and indicator, if necessary.

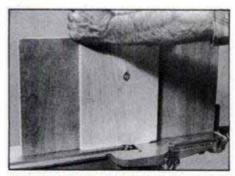


Keep knife edges keen between sharpenings by honing them with a fine stone. Clamp pulley so that stone rests on knife bevel. Paper around stone protects table.



The 4-in. Jointer, shown with its major parts identified, is a good choice for the home shop.

align with each other and be level with the table. To check knife alignment, clamp two 12-in. steel rules to a wood block that's about 1 in. narrower than the cutterhead. Unplug the power cord and remove the guard. Next, elevate the rear (outfeed) table slightly above the knives. Then, clamp the rules/block assembly to the rear table, so the rules overhang the knife edge by ½ in.



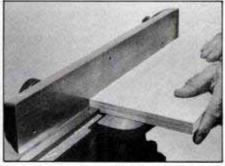
Joint end grain with slow, shallow passes. To prevent splintering the rear edge, first make a short cut, then turn the workpiece around and make a full pass, as shown.



The safest way to cut bevels is with the fence tilted in to form a closed angle. This makes it easier to keep the workpiece in close contact with the fence and table.

Now lower the jointer's outfeed table until the rules touch the knife. If only one of the rules makes contact, then the knife isn't level with the table. Loosen the locking screw and adjust the knife so it touches both of the rules. Rotate the cutterhead and align the remaining knives to the same 1/s-in. marks.

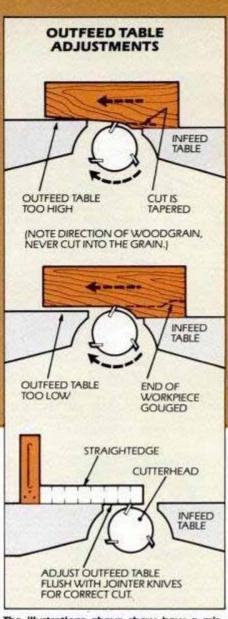
Next, check the front (infeed) table's depth-of-cut scale and indicator, or



Cut a rabbet by passing the workpiece over the end of the cutterhead. Support the work on the rabbeting ledge. Position the fence to control the width of the rabbet.



Here's a quick and easy way to make an octagon: Set the fence to 45°. Then, chamfer the corners of a square workpiece. Make the same number of passes for each corner.



The illustrations above show how a misaligned rear, or outfeed, table affects the workpiece. Adjust the jointer so that the table is at the same height as the knives. Use a straightedge to check table height.

pointer, for accuracy. Set the jointer for a ¹/s-in.-deep cut. Then, accurately scribe a ¹/s-in. line on a test board. Make a partial cut and see if the line and cut match. If not, adjust the table as required. Repeat until the cut is exactly ¹/s in. Now set the indicator to ¹/s in.

Check the accuracy of the tilting fence using a square. At 0° the fence should be exactly perpendicular (90°) to the front table. Also, check the fence at 45°. Adjust the fence and indicator as necessary.

Jointer operations

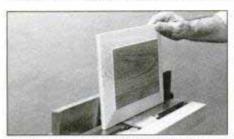
Edge-jointing is the most common of all jointer functions. First, determine the wood grain direction. Whenever possible, you should cut with the grain, not against it.

Next, hold the stock firmly on the front table and against the fence. Advance the workpiece into the cutter and

JOINTER



Cut raised panels for cabinet doors on the jointer with the aid of a push stick. Clamp a wood block to the rabbeting ledge to support the workpiece at the desired angle.



Cut the cross-grain bevels first; any splintering will be removed by the edge-grain bevel cuts. Then, make light, edge-finishing cuts to complete the door panel.

onto the rear table while applying pressure with your left hand. As the rear end of the stock nears the cutter, apply pressure with your right hand.

When edge-jointing extra long pieces, employ the aid of a helper or build the extension table shown in the color photo on page 100. First, set the jointer to the desired depth of cut. Then, run a long 1×4 halfway through the jointer to form the auxiliary fence. Screw short 1×3 sections to the bottom ends of the auxiliary fence to act as extensions of the jointer tables. Now screw through the jointer fence and into the auxiliary fence.

End-grain jointing is a little trickier than edge-jointing. Feed the work slowly and take shallower cuts to avoid kickback. To prevent the workpiece back edge from splintering when the knives exit, first make a short cut into one end. Then, turn the workpiece around and make a full pass.

Rabbeting on the jointer is possible if your machine has a rabbeting ledge.

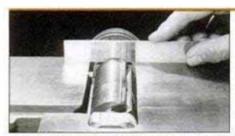
The ledge extends from the front table around the end of the cutterhead. Caution: Since the guard is removed when cutting rabbets, keep your hands well clear of the cutterhead.

Position the jointer fence to control the rabbet width. Adjust the depth of cut to determine the rabbet depth.

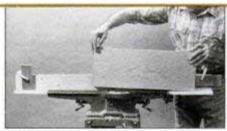
Bevels and chamfers are executed with the jointer fence tilted in (closed angle) or out (open angle). Whenever possible, tilt the fence in to form a closed angle. When working with the fence tilted out, be careful not to exert too much downward pressure or the work will slide away from the fence.

Raised panels can be made using any of several woodworking tools, including the jointer (see *How To Build Cabinet Doors*, page 104, Jan. '85).

First, set up for standard jointing operations—rear table level with the knives, front table adjusted for a shallow cut. Next, clamp a wood block to the rabbeting ledge to support the workpiece at the desired angle. Make a



Lower the front and rear tables equally when cutting recesses or stopped chamfers. Check the table alignment by placing a straightedge across the table tops.



To control the length of a recess cut, clamp start and stop blocks to fence. Then, butt the workpiece end against the start block and lower it slowly onto the cutterhead.



Advance the workpiece slowly past the cutterhead to the stop block. Install an auxiliary fence with extension tables, as shown, to support oversized workpieces.



Here's how to cut end tapers: Butt the workpiece against a stop block clamped to the fence. Then, slip a wood block under the raised leg end to maintain this angle.



Now, with the block nailed to the workpiece underside, stand in front of jointer and pull the work across cutterhead. Block thickness determines the degree of taper.



After tapering the ends, cut recesses to form a furniture leg. Cut a short recess, then turn the leg around and feed it in the other direction to prevent splintering.



Contouring workpieces into irregular, freeform shapes is possible on the jointer. First, make a series of shallow chamfer cuts to form the basic shape of the piece.



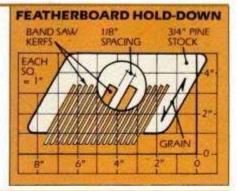
Continue to make shallow cuts while rotating the workpiece slowly. Keep a firm grip on the workpiece at all times. Decrease the depth-of-cut as the piece takes shape.



Finally, finish-shape the workpiece with the jointer adjusted for very shallow cuts. Use the fence to guide the piece straight. Handsanding completes the project.

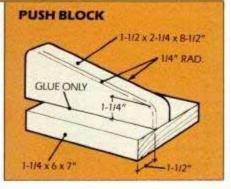


The featherboard hold-down is a necessity when jointing thin stock. Cut the feathers on a band saw. Clamp the hold-down directly over the cutterhead and rear table.





Make a wide push block for cutting tenons. Assemble the block using glue only. Masking tape applied to fence indicates where to stop advancing the push block.



shallow cut on all four panel edges. Lower the front table and repeat until the bevel is raised.

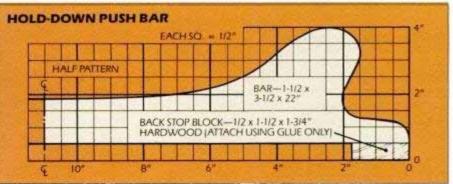
Recesses are stopped cuts (cuts contained within the workpiece) that are made on board edges with the fence perpendicular to the table. First, lower both the front and rear table equal amounts below the cutterhead. Then, clamp start and stop blocks to the fence to control the recess. Next, butt one end of the workpiece against the start block and hold the front end above the cutterhead. Once the piece is set, turn on the jointer, lower the workpiece and make a short cut. Then, lift the board, turn it around and feed it in the opposite direction. This two-cut technique prevents splintering the trailing end.

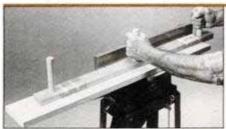
Tapering stock on a jointer is a safe, accurate technique. The most common is the straight taper, which tapers the entire length of a workpiece. When tapering a board that is shorter than the front table, carefully place the front end

(Please turn to page 118)

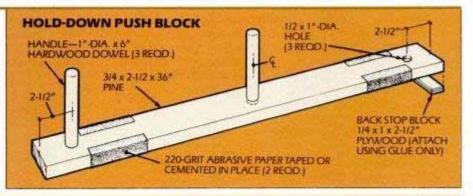


A push block should always be used to surface plane boards on a jointer. Shape this block on a band saw from a 2×4 . Add stop block to the underside with glue only.



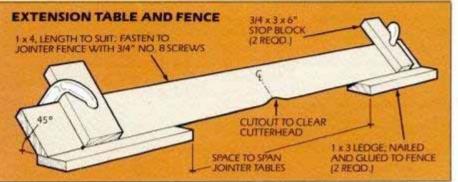


Make the three-handle block for surface planing long stock. As the work advances across the cutterhead, shift your hand from the lead handle to the middle position.





Build this auxiliary fence with extension tables at a 45° angle for chamfering long pieces. Note that a small cut is made in the fence center to clear the cutterhead.



4 HANDSOME

CLOCKS

FROM KITS

Clock building from kits has become a popular pursuit. It will save you money and time.

A ssembling a clock from a kit results in an heirloom-quality timepiece without the big price tag of a store-bought clock. Kit assembly is also very satisfying for those who don't want to build a clock from raw materials because of limited time, experience or tools. Since most kits are precut, you won't spend time measuring and cutting parts. In many cases, assembly can be done on a worktable with screwdrivers, a drill and clamps. The many suppliers who offer kits and parts are an indication of the popularity of clock kits. Some of these suppliers are listed at the end of this story.

VIENNA REGULATOR

This Vienna Regulator is a reproduction of those elegant clocks built during the 19th century, primarily in Vienna, Austria. It has the characteristic tall slender case, graceful turnings and moldings seen on many of the originals.

The 1340-W42 Vienna Regulator kit (\$379 plus \$20 shipping) comes with walnut parts, movement, dial, glass and hardware. A separate finishing kit (\$8.95 plus \$2 shipping) contains paste stain, paste varnish, sandpaper, gloves and instructions. You provide glue.

The assembly directions are easy to follow. A helpful addition would have been to list the tools needed to assemble the clock—for example, the diameter of the drill bits and the sizes of C-clamps—so you could round up these tools before beginning work.

Also, the brief comments at the end of the case instructions about installing the movement should be deleted, since there is a separate and quite detailed booklet of movement installation instructions.

The pediment, door, side and bottom frames are entirely preassembled, and the other parts fit together beautifully, with many of the fastener holes already bored. The only hitch I found in this area was that the counterbored holes for the gong fasteners were too small to accommodate their washers—I substituted washers that had smaller outside diameters.

As with many kits, only finishsanding is required. But you should take extra care with this step to achieve a uniform surface. The final finish on the clock will look better for the effort.

The paste stain and paste varnish provide a lustrous, nearly fail-safe finish. The paste consistency allows you to work on a small area at a time without fear of leaving drips or overlap marks.

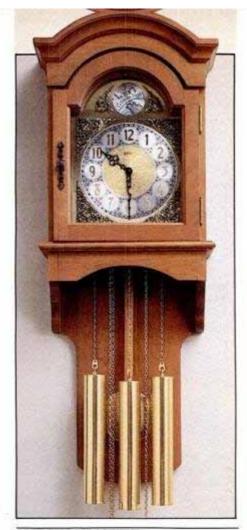
The instructions for installing the movement leave no guesswork, and since movement installation is such a specialized job, this is particularly important.

The final result is an heirloom treasure with design details such as a solid-brass movement and fulllength, side-glazed openings found on the authentic clocks.

The Vienna Regulator is from Craft Products Co., which is located at 2200 Dean St., St. Charles, Ill. 60174; 32-page catalog, free; 100-page catalog, \$2.—P.S.

Photos: Harry Hartman Stylist: Gabe Herick





WESTMINSTER CHIMING WALL CLOCK

The Emperor Clock Co.'s Westminster Chiming Wall Clock Kit comes with nearly all you'll need to make a striking timepiece. Instructions are in short, simple steps and are accompanied by clear, detailed illustrations. The kit (\$199.50 plus shipping) includes precut and mitered cherry wood, hardware, an attractive solid-brass dial face and movement. A replacement suspension spring is included, so be on the lookout for this small but critical link between pendulum and suspension arm. You supply glass for the door, wood filler and finish.

Finish-sand all wood pieces as the company recommends. You may have to trim pieces slightly for a good fit.

The company's finishing kit (\$10.95) postpaid) includes complete directions, your choice of finish, sanding materials, a bristle brush and foam brush that makes applying a thin, even coat of varnish easy. My kit contained a walnut stain which, when tested, did not take well to the cherry wood. (It left black streaks.) I finished the clock with an antique cherry stain; however, the manufacturer was quite willing to send a replacement. The Westminster Chiming Clock is available assembled for \$299.50. For a free catalog, write to Emperor Clock Co., Emperor Industrial Park, Fairhope, Ala. 36532.

-Maryann Calendrille

SHAKER TALL CLOCK

Most novice woodworkers shy away from a project of this size, even in kit form.

But in this case, the manufacturer, Mason & Sullivan, has designed the clock so that any do-it-yourselfer can obtain satisfactory results.

I ordered the precut kit, No. 7612C (\$366 plus shipping), which contains all the cherry parts cut and ready for assembly, hardware, and instruction booklet. The dial (\$14.85), clock movement (\$114) and weights (\$22) are



purchased separately. You provide glue and finish.

The Shaker Tall Clock is also available in an uncut kit (\$296) and a components-only kit (\$78) that contains no flat lumber. Or you can buy the hardware (\$34.50) and a blueprint (\$9).

Start assembly only after reading the instructions thoroughly. As invaluable as the instruction booklet is, I found that it could be improved by clearer, more detailed step-by-step writing.

The cabinet joints are assembled with Lamello spline fasteners. These football-shaped compressed beech splines fit into prerouted recesses. Apply glue to the cabinet parts, insert the splines into the recesses and clamp the cabinet together.

After assembly, finish-sand the clock and bolt the fully assembled movement in place. Then, hang the weights and pendulum. I applied two coats of varnish to bring out the cherry's natural beauty.

For a catalog of clock kits, movements and hardware, send \$2 to Mason & Sullivan, 586 Higgins Crowell Rd., West Yarmouth, Mass. 02673.—J.T.



EARLY AMERICAN WALL CLOCK

This Early American Wall Clock is made of solid white oak and can be used as either a mantle clock as we show it or—with the addition of an extra base piece—as a wall-mounted clock. It has a battery-operated quartz pendulum movement.

The kit I received included all the parts necessary for building the clock, along with glue and sandpaper. The optional finishing kit contained steel

(Please turn to page 133)



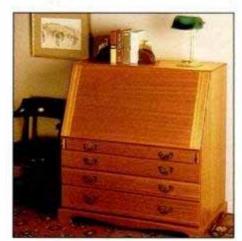
desk was to create a traditional furniture piece that could sensibly accommodate today's home computer equipment. We also wanted a piece that would function on its own as a home office desk, unlike most computer furniture. The result is shown on these pages with a discussion of the design process on pages 110 and 111.

We chose a secretary desk because its configuration provides the most interior space for our components. The drop-down lid works as a spacious writing surface when the computer is not in use, and the desk style complements the furnishings of nearly anyone's home. By mounting the processor and monitor on one slide-out shelf and the printer and paper tray on another, the desk achieves maximum versatility.

If you're working at the keyboard but not printing, the adjacent lid surface is available for taking notes or holding reference books. If, on the other hand, you are printing a great deal of material, but not working at the keyboard, the components on the left side of the compartment can be pushed back into the cabinet, leaving the lid surface underneath free for work.

If you are right-handed, this setup will probably work best; however, if you're left-handed you may want to reverse the position of the components so you can write on the left side when working at the keyboard.

The computer chosen for this desk was the IBM PC, which has a remote keyboard. But other popular home computers will work in this unit as well—even those with a built-in keyboard like the Apple IIe. For the latter, the only



When closed, this computer furniture piece looks like a traditional secretary desk that complements any room in your house.

A CLASSIC DESK FORYOUR COMPUTER

This mahogany secretary desk—designed in the American Chippendale style—has room for all the components of a modern home computer.

BY ROSARIO CAPOTOSTO

change required is to make the sliding shelf longer to accommodate the keyboard/processor unit and to build a separate sliding shelf above for the monitor so it can be adjusted for comfortable viewing.

The pigeonhole storage compartment at the upper right is great for storing mail, bills and small notes. But, if you use a telephone modem in conjunction with your home computer, eliminate the pigeonhole dividers and

Black and white photos: Rosario Capotosto Technical arts Eugene Thompson Color photos: George Ratkal Photo stylist: Gabe Herick IBM Personal Computer: Courtesy of IBM Corp.



As the piece unfolds, it yields a 40-in.-wide lateral file (bottom) and a standard drawer (above) for supplies and manuals.

use the remaining shelf for storing the modem unit. Then, simply slide the phone receiver into the appropriate spot on the modem.

Last but not least, we incorporated a full lateral file drawer that holds over 40 in. of files and a utility drawer above for stationery supplies and assorted home office paraphernalia.

With all this said, the one great advantage of this piece over other examples of computer furniture is that if you don't have a home computer, you may want to build this attractive desk anyway. Just follow the construction details.

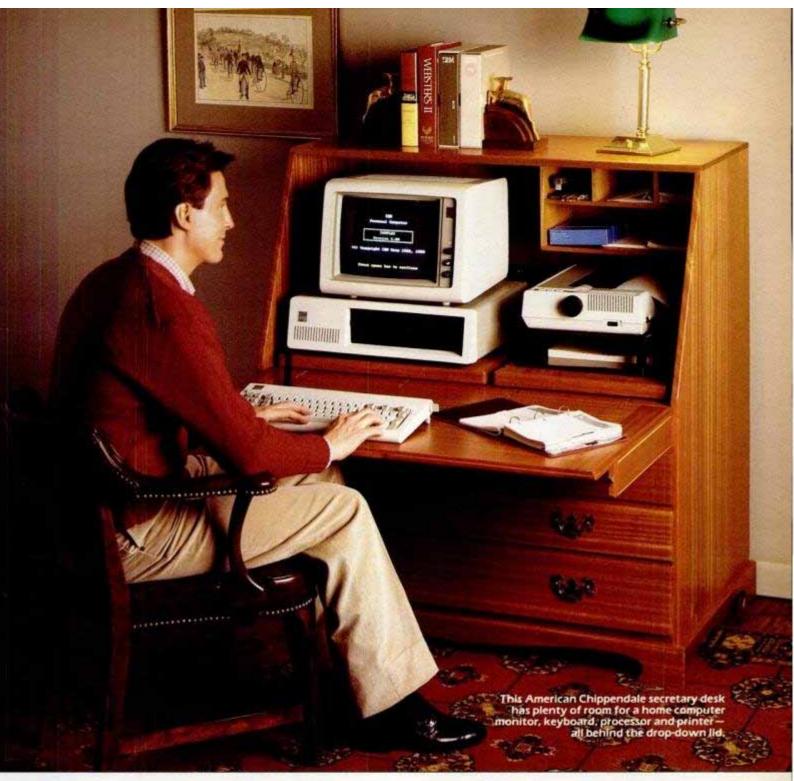
Construction procedure

Build the desk from ³/₄-in.-thick, ribbon-stripe Philippine mahogany and lauan mahogany-veneer plywood. Select straight, warp-free lumber, since edge-joining is necessary to form the wide desk parts. Make the desk sides and top by edge-gluing two or three solid mahogany boards together. But, note that the three desk shelves and bottom are made from birch, or fir, plywood with a solid mahogany front edge. This is a less expensive alternative to using solid mahogany or mahogany-veneer plywood throughout.

Cut the boards for the sides and top slightly longer and wider than necessary to permit final trimming with a portable circular saw. Smooth the board edges on a jointer or with a hand plane to produce tight-fitting edge joints. If the boards are cupped slightly, alternate the cup direction of each board during assembly to prevent cumulative, gross cupping (see *Three Simple Ways To Join Boards*, page 113, Oct. '84).

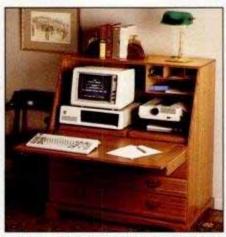


After removing reference material from the drawers below, close the drawers then pull out two solid-wood lid supports.

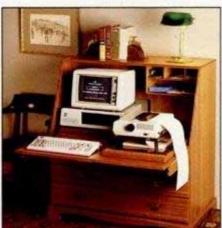




When the desk lid is pulled down on the supports, all components are immediately accessible from the user's sitting position.



To begin work, place the keyboard on the desk lid, then pull the monitor and processor into a comfortable viewing position.



To print documents, pull the paper tray and printer over the desk lid until both clear the side of the upper desk compartment.

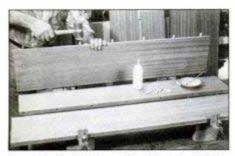
Next, arrange the boards with their edges butted together. Then, mark dowel pin positions approximately every 6 in. Be certain not to place a dowel pin where it will be exposed when the angled cut is made in the desk side pieces. Use chalk to key each board with

a letter or number to help arrange the boards properly during final assembly. Now, use a doweling jig to bore holes in the board edges for accepting 3/8-in.-dia. x 2-in. fluted or spiral-grooved dowel pins.

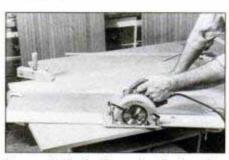
Apply glue to the walls of the holes

and insert the dowel pins. Then, apply glue to the board edges. Clamp the boards into panels using long bar or pipe clamps. Position clamps under and over the work to distribute clamping pressure evenly and to deter warping.

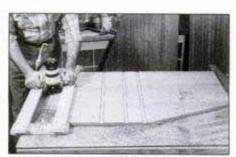
Next, assemble the desk shelves and



Form the desk sides and top by edge-joining mahogany boards into wide panels. Use a dowelling jig to centerbore the board edges. Install %-in.-dia. × 2-in. dowel pins.



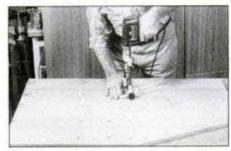
Use a portable circular saw to trim the edgeglued panels to size. Make the angled cut in the desk sides with the help of a two-piece straightedge guide, as shown.



Cut the rabbets and dadoes in the sides using a router and straight bit. Be sure the interior surface is facing up. Build a guide, as shown, to keep router on course.



Bore screw pilot holes in the center of the dadoes and bottom rabbet. Position a scrap board under the desk side to prevent splintering caused by exiting bit.



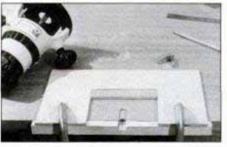
Turn the desk side over so that the dadoes face down. Now counterbore each screw location for ½-in.-dia. mahogany plugs. Use a drill guide to keep the bit perpendicular.



Assemble the desk with shelves and bottom in place. Then, bore screw pilot-holes. Place shims under the shelves to hold their front edges flush with the side pieces.

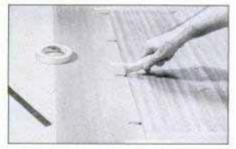


Make this jig for routing hinge mortises. Notch the ¼-in. plywood piece to accept your router's base. Then, cut recess for the hinge leaf using a ½-in. straight bit.



Insert a narrow wood strip to limit the router's travel. Increase the depth-of-cut and make a second, deeper pass. This is necessary to accommodate hinge knuckle.

3/4 x 3 x 42 3/4" mahogany (cleat)



Transfer hinge mortise positions from main shelf to the lid using a utility knife. Tape parts to prevent shifting. Rout lid mortises using the knife marks as guides.

MATERIALS LIST-COMPUTER DESK

Key	No.	Size and description (use)
A	2	3/4 x 26* x 421/4" mahogany (side)
B	1	3/4 x 17 5/8* x 42 3/4" mahogany (top)
C1	1	3/4 x 16 11/16 x 411/2" birch plywood (main shelf)
C2	1	34 x 9 x 411/2" mahogany (shelf front)
D1	3	3/4 x 19 11/16 x 411/2" birch plywood (middle shelves and desk bottom)
DS	3	3/4 x 6 x 413/2" mahogany (shelf front)
E	2	1/4 x 3 x 38 1/4" mahogany (stiffener)
F	2	3/4 x 31/4 x 8 3/4" mahogany (divider)
G		1/e"-thick mahogany edge-band
H	1	1/e x 3/4 x 38 1/e" mahogany (filler)
1	1	1/4 x 42 1/16"-wide x 421/4" lauan mahoga- ny plywood (back)
J1	2	3/4 x 2 13/16 x 25 3/4" mahogany (lid support)
J2	4	1/s x 3/4 x 25 3/s" maple (edging)
J3	2	3/4 x 3/4 x 2 15/16" mahogany (facing)
14	2	1/2 x 3/4 x 2 3/6" maple (stop block)
K1	1	34 x 22 x 36 1/4" mahogany (lid)
K2	2	3/4 x 2 3/4 x 22" mahogany (lid end)
L	1	3/4 x 4 x 441/4" mahogany (base front)
M	2	3/4 x 4 x 25 3/4" mahogany (base side)

1/4 x 31/2 x 441/4" mahogany (base back)

P 2 3/4 x 3 x 19" mahogany (side cle Q 4 11/2 x 11/2 x 3" fir (corner block)	eat)
Q 4 11/2 x 11/2 x 3" fir (corner block)	
	President .
R 1 3/4 x 2 7/8 x 38 1/8" mahogan drawer face)	y (false
S 1 3/4 x 4 3/e x 41 3/e" mahogany drawer face)	(upper
T 1 1/2 x 3 1/8 x 40 3/8" lauan plywood front)	(drawer
U 1 ½ x 3 % x 40 % lauan plywood front)	(drawer
V 2 3/4 x 3 3/8 x 24" lauan plywood side)	(drawer
W 1 1/4 x 24 x 40 3/8" lauan plywood (bottom)
X 1 34 x 11 34 x 41 3/4 mahoga drawer face)	my (file
Y 2 1/2 x 9 x 39 7/s" lauan plywood front and back)	(drawer
Z 2 %4 x 9 x 13 ¼4" lauan plywood side)	(drawer
AA 1 3/4 x 121/4 x 39 1/6" Isuan plywo tom)	od (bot-
BB 1 3/4 x 8 3/4 x 91/4" lauan plywo support)	ood (file
CC 1 1/4 x 8 2/4 x 12" lauan plywood ((base)
DD 1 3/4 x 161/2 x 211/2" lauan plywood	

		tor platform)
EE	2	3/4 x 1 3/8 x 161/2" mahogany (side)
FF	2	3/4 x 1 3/8 x 22" mahogany (front)
GG	1	34 x 161/2 x 22" lauan plywood (printe platform)
HH	2	3/4 x 1 3/8 x 22" mahogany (side)
п	1	3/s x 1 3/s x 17" mahogany (front)
JJ	2	1/2 x 9 3/8 x 171/2" lauan plywood (pigeor hole storage cabinet top and bottom)
KK	2	1/2 x 81/2 x 9 7/s" lauan plywood (side)
LL	1	1/2 x 9 7/4 x 16 3/4" lauan plywood (horizontal divider)
MM	2	½ x 3 ¾ x 9 ¾ lauan pływood (vertica divider)
NN	2 pr.	14" full extension drawer slide (Gran heavy-duty No. 3320)
00	1 pr.	22" full extension drawer slide (Gran heavy duty No. 3320)
PP	2	5/a"-dia. brass knob (No. 73A904)
00	8	3" Chippendale pull (No. KC5)
RR	4	flip-top hinge (No. FFT)
SS	353	% dia. x 2 dowel pin
TT		2" No.10 fh screw with wood plug
UU		11/2" No. 10 fh screw
VV	4	1" No. 8 roundhead screw
ww		3/4" No. 6 roundhead screw

Misc.: Carpenter's glue. Knobs, pulls and Wood-Glo finish available from Constantines, 2050 Eastchester Rd., Bronx, N.Y. 10461. Flip-top hinges are available from Armor Products, Box 290, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729. *Edge-join boards into wide panel using dowel pins.

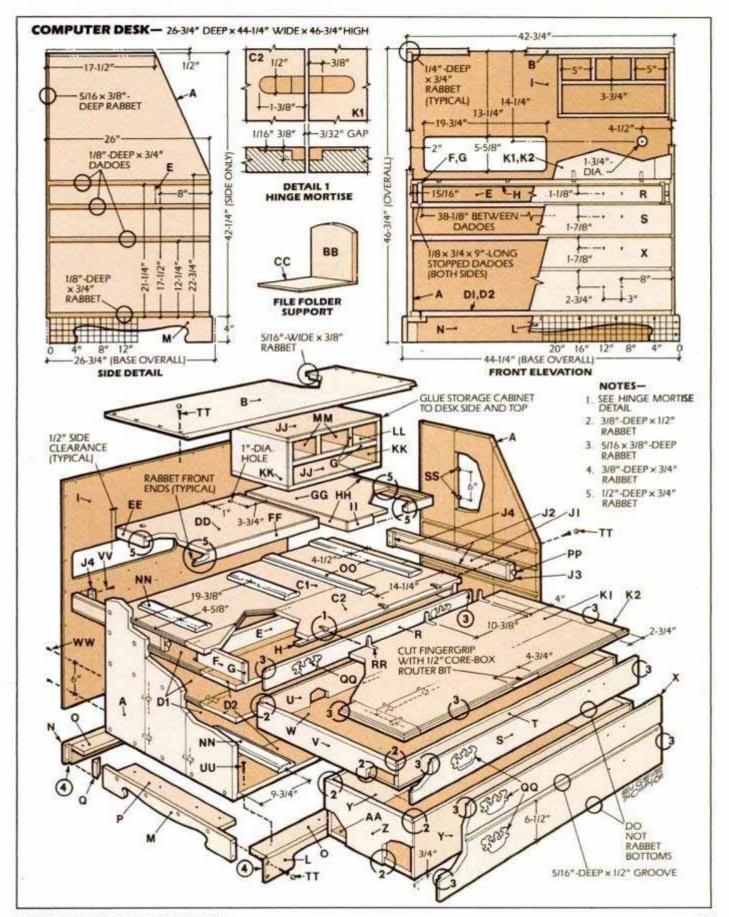
bottom. Join the mahogany front edges (parts D2 in the materials list) to the plywood panels using the glue and dowel-pin method used for the sides.

After edge-joining the desk top, bottom, sides, lid and shelves, trim the parts to size using a portable circular saw. Cut the desk top (B) to the finished length, but leave it about 1 in. wider than necessary. Then, bevel the top's front edge to match the slanted desk sides. Trim the width later, during assembly. Next, cut the desk lid (K1) to size and attach the lid ends (K2) with

dowel pins. Then, rout the rabbets and dadoes in the desk sides, lid and top with a ³/₄-in. straight bit.

Assembly

Bore pilot holes for No. 10 screws through the dadoes and rabbets in the



sides and top. Then, counterbore $^{3}/_{16} \times ^{1}/_{2}$ -in.-dia. wood plug holes for each screw. Temporarily clamp the desk together and continue boring pilot holes into the shelves and bottom. Now bore screw-shank clearance holes.

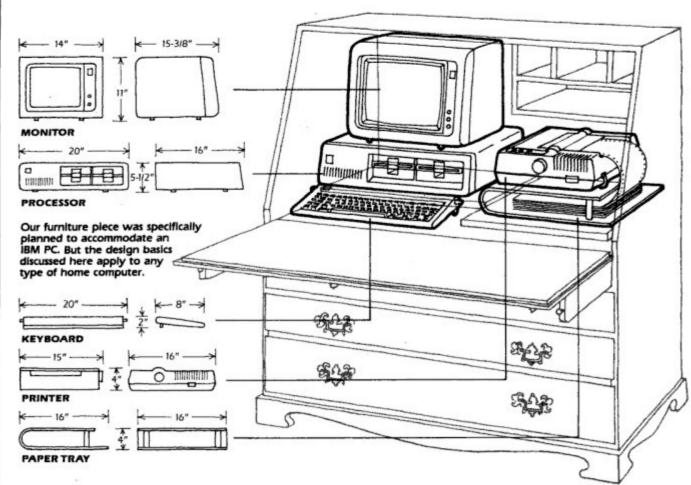
Next, position the desk top with its

beveled edge flush with the desk sides. Mark the back edge where it meets the sides and then trim the top to the finished width. Finally, rout a blind rabbet in the top's back edge to receive the desk back (I).

Disassemble the desk and rout the

hinge mortises in the main shelf using a ¹/₂-in. straight bit and a router jig, as shown. Make the first cut to accommodate the hinge leaf. A second, deeper cut is necessary to accept the hinge knuckle. After routing the four hinge mortises in the main shelf, transfer the

How To Design Your Own Computer Furniture



ur goal here was to design a system—a center for doing things—not just a piece of furniture for storing computer gear. Unlike a furniture designer in a factory who has to create an average piece for the average person doing the average thing, we all have a chance to design something that fits us, doing what we do the way we want to do it.

The first step is to assemble everything you intend to use when you work with your computer, not just the computer hardware itself. This means pencils, papers, files, a dictionary, instruction manuals, magnetic diskettes or cassettes, a desk light, and maybe pigeonholes for correspondence—even a convenient place to set a cup of coffee. In making this list, run through every step of an activity just to make sure you remember all the things you use when you do it.

Armed with this list, imagine for a moment that you can suspend everything in space without any physical support. Further, imagine that you could move these things around at will and they will stay in any position you choose. Of course, doing such a thing is impossible, but it can be simulated by making a "breadboard" model. It's not going to be pretty; it doesn't have to be. It's just a full-scale rough model that will help you refine your requirements.

The first thing needed is the chair you plan to use, because your computer furniture must be developed around your seated dimensions. The standard compressed height of the seat of a chair is about 17 in. However, this dimension can vary as much as 1 inch up or down. Pick a chair that's comfortable for you, preferably one with some vertical adjustment.

Once you are established in the

chair, begin to organize the items on your list. The two most important ones—the keyboard and monitor—come first. The top of the keyboard should be somewhere between 27 and 29 in. from the floor. The table height, of course, should be lower to allow for the height of the keyboard itself. Establish the table height by spanning a pair of sawhorses with a piece of 3/4-in.-thick plywood or other material that's sturdy.

Put the keyboard on this "table" and sit down and try it. If it's too low, slip some blocks between the horses and the table top and try again. Keep going until you are comfortable. Remember, the final height probably will be found only after you spend a few hours working at the keyboard.

Next, experiment with the monitor. A good position for the top of the screen is about 15° below your eye level and about 20 in. away from your eyes. Use

mortise positions to the lid. Butt the main shelf to the lid on a flat work surface. Hold the two parts together with masking tape. Then, transfer the mortise positions to the lid using a utility knife. Use these marks as guides to rout the hinge mortises in the lid.

While the desk is disassembled, rout the short stopped dadoes in the main shelf and second shelf for installing the lid support dividers (F). Finish sand the interior surfaces of all the parts.

Reassemble the desk using glue and screws. First, attach the three shelves to one desk side, then screw the second side in place. Attach the desk bottom and then the top. Now glue 1/2-in.-dia. mahogany plugs in place to conceal the screwheads. When the glue dries, belt-sand the plugs flush.

Glue the support lid dividers (F) into

this only as a starting point. Move the monitor up and down, back and forth, and side to side using wood blocks to support it.

Now, it's time to look at the other things that are frequently used. As you've been working with your equipment, you've probably noticed that the most used items end up close at hand while those less important migrate farther away. This is important. You may also have noticed that the processor-in our case-and the printer are really only used at the beginning and end of a job, certain manuals while seem to be open to one page or another almost all the time.

Now begin exploiting the unoccupied space above and on both sides of the to accommodate these things. If you sit at the keyboard and extend your arms, you can define the space that's available. Nothing you use often should be any more than an arm's reach away. The processor, for instance, can go just about anywhere. It can even be

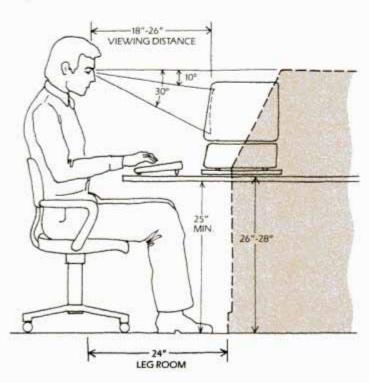
aligned vertically on its side—just be sure you don't obstruct any ventilation ports. Of course the most popular items should be the easiest to reach, while progressively less important items should move farther from the center.

Again use boxes and blocks of wood and plywood to support these items. The object is to gradually bring everything you need within reach so the furniture works for you.

As you utilize the storage potential, clutter on the table surface will diminish, as will the minimum table space you need to get everything done. This process won't happen in one night, but will evolve with every hour you use your equipment. And, because you have not invested a great deal of craftsmanship in this model, you won't be bashful about changing it.

The next component to consider is the printer. It's position depends on

The Basics Of Ergonomic Design



The dimensions given on this drawing should be used as a starting point when you design your own computer furniture. They were formulated to reduce body and eye strain that may be caused by prolonged use of this equipment. They were also formulated for the average person. If, however, you are talier or shorter than average, you should feel free to make adjustment that better suit your own needs. Also, plan on using an adjustable chair because a comfortable seating position should be the first requirement for any good desk design.

what you intend to do with it. For instance, if you plan mostly word processing, you will probably be using single sheets of paper and inserting them manually. If you are using continuous-feed paper, you'll need allowance for new paper supply and a place to collect the paper after it's printed. Either way, you want to avoid putting the whole system into a restrictive cubby hole where it's difficult to operate.

Once again, try the printer in a number of different positions, then use it for a few days. Watch yourself and make notes as you go, then make changes until you are comfortable with what you have developed.

After the system has evolved for all the components and related items, it's time to move to the actual design. The first step is to measure the position of all the items supported by your bread-board model. Do this in three dimen-

sions, noting the height of each, the depth relative to a vertical plane—to correspond to a house wall—and the width of each including the space between components.

If you are not familiar with drafting, draw these on graph paper using the grid to maintain proper scale. Do not draw any of the breadboard model parts, just the computer system. You'll need a plan (top view), a front elevation (front view) and a side elevation. Make these drawings fairly large—a good scale is 1/4 in. equals 1 in.

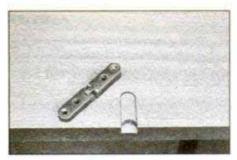
Armed with these drawings, you are now ready to proceed with the design. The actual style of the furniture piece you choose will depend on your taste, your home furnishings, your budget and your ability as a cabinetmaker. You will also be limited by the space available in the room where you plan to use the piece. Other compromises are also inevitable. You will discover immediately that certain kinds of furniture do not lend themselves to being used for a home com-

puter setup. They are too low, too shallow or too narrow.

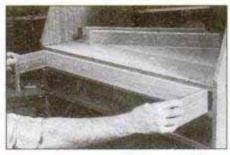
To begin your furniture design, overlay the component drawings with a piece of tracing paper and draw your various furniture options—in scale—onto it. It's a good idea to establish a floor line on both the component drawings and the tracing paper, so the two will be easier to align. As you refine the furniture drawings, slide them over the component drawings to check for various fits.

You will find yourself pushing and pulling the components around, discovering what looks great from the front doesn't fit from the side at all, or vice versa. You will have to decide issue by issue whether the computer's function will be compromised to accommodate the furniture, or the other way around.

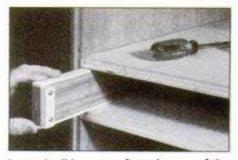
-Arthur T. Sempliner and S.W.



This close-up view shows the completed hinge mortise. Rout the long, shallow cut first, to accommodate the hinge leaf. The short, deep cut is for the hinge knuckle.



Install the lid support dividers and stiffener as one unit. Glue the dividers into the stopped dadoes routed in the shelves. The parts could also be installed separately.



insert the lid supports from the rear of the desk after installing the dividers. Glue maple strips to the support edges. Then, attach a maple stop block, as shown.



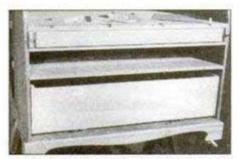
Mount the hinges with the lid resting on the extended lid supports. Place 3/32-in.-thick spacers between the main shelf and the lid. Bore pilot holes for the mounting screws.



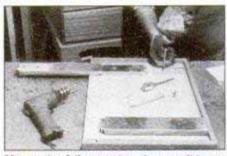
Since pencil lines on mahogany are difficult to see, make paper templates of the shaped base members. Here, the two base sides are cut simultaneously on a band saw.



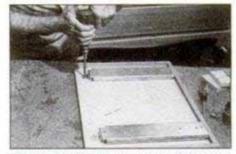
Groove the file drawer face using a dado blade or router. Then, round the groove edges with a block plane. Rout the drawer face perimeter with a rounding-over bit.



Dry-fit the false drawer face in the upper opening, but don't install it until after the finish is applied. Install the file drawer, as shown, then mount the drawer face.



Mount the full-extension drawer slides to the underside of the sliding platforms, as shown. Then, extend the slides and screw them to the main shelf.



Bore holes in the rear of the monitor/processor sliding platform to gain access to the mounting screws. This is necessary because the platform overhangs the slides.

the stopped dadoes. Cover the divider ends with ¹/₈-in.-thick mahogany edgeband. Position the stiffener (E) between the dividers to prevent the main shelf from sagging under the weight of the computer. Install the stiffener separately, or nailed to the dividers, as shown. Drive a few finishing nails through the main shelf to hold the stiffener in place.

Next, install the two slide-out lid supports (J1). Veneer the supports' top and bottom edges in maple (J2) to help them slide easier. Then, mount the lid hinges (RR) with the lid placed across the extended lid supports. Insert 3/32-in. spacers between the main shelf and the lid. Now position the hinges in the mortises, bore screw pilot holes and install the hinge-mounting screws.

Next, cut the base members on a band saw. Attach the cleats (O,P) and corner blocks (Q) and assemble the base. Ease the edges of the desk with a router and a 1/4-in. rounding-over bit. Now you should rout the fingergrip in the lid's top inside edge using a 1/2-in. core-box bit.

Drawer construction

The desk houses two working drawers: a utility drawer, second from the top, and the bottom file drawer. Note that the file drawer's face (X) is divided to simulate two shallower drawers. The upper-most drawer face (R) is a false drawer that conceals the stiffener (E) and dividers (F). First, build the two drawers, as shown, from lauan mahogany plywood. Since the utility drawer operates without drawer slide hardware, cut the back (U) ½ in. higher than the sides. This prevents the drawer from tipping down when its's opened.

Next, make the drawer faces from ³/₄-in. mahogany. Cut a ¹/₂-in.-wide groove in the file drawer face (X) with a dado blade on a table saw or with a router. Mount the drawer slides to the bottom of the file drawer and then screw the slide to the desk bottom. Install the

utility drawer between the second and third shelf. Now install the faces.

First, drive two 1-in. finishing nails through the drawer fronts from the inside so that the points project about ½ in. Next, hold the drawer face against the drawer and have a helper push on the back of the drawer until the nail points indent the face. Now install the drawer face with glue and nails using the nail-point marks as guides. Install the false drawer face (R) after the desk is finished using glue only. Glue a mahogany filler strip (H) to the underside of the main shelf front (C2) to close the space above the false drawer face.

Next, build the sliding platforms (DD,GG) from ³/₄-in. mahogany plywood. Attach the drawer slides to the platform first, then to the main shelf. Construct the pigeonhole storage compartment separately, then glue it in place. Finally, cut the desk back (I). Cut out a section of the back to feed wires through and install the computer.

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COLD WEATHER CAMPING

(Continued from page 96)

by boat or canoe. And wilderness outfitters like Jonas, who lend or rent sleeping bags to their paying guests on backcountry trips, prefer polyester bags because they are easier and safer to wash than down bags.

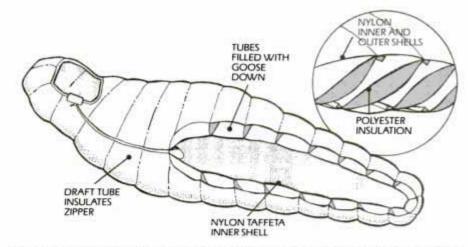
In recent years, many top sleeping bag makers have begun sewing down bags with exterior shells of nylon backed with a Gore-Tex laminate. Gore-Tex is the brand name for a thin film of expanded polytetrafluroethylene (Teflon) glued to a fabric to make it waterproof. Because the film has been mechanically stretched to create microscopic pores, water vapor can pass through it if driven by osmotic pressure. That is, if the air is more humid on one side of the laminated fabric than on the other, water vapor will pass through the damp side to the dry side. Water won't pass through because the pores in Gore-Tex fabric are too small. Gore-Tex fabrics also are impervious to wind. Gore-Tex nylon fabric is used to protect down insulation from both snowmelt and wind chill. A Gore-Tex shell can add about \$80 to the cost of a bag. But when combined with two pounds of good goose down, the bag can be used comfortably in as low as 20° below zero temperatures—even without a tent.

You can't simply drop your sleeping bag on the snow and crawl into it, even if it does have a waterproof shell. If you do, the insulation under you will be pressed out flat, and body heat will be lost.

Like all backpackers, winter campers carry a foam pad, usually of Ensolite, for ground insulation. Jonas introduced us to a better product, a self-inflating air mattress called a Thermarest. The Thermarest contains a lightweight network of springy plastic fibers. When you open the rolled mattress flat and open its air valve, the fibers force the walls of the air mattress apart, inflating it. A couple of extra breaths into the air valve provides enough pressure for comfortable sleeping. In the morning, the air valve can be opened to let the air escape as the mattress is rolled back up for stowing. Then the valve is closed again so the pad won't reinflate while you travel.

Tents and snowcaves

On this trip, we carried no tents. Instead, each of us brought along a lightweight collapsible snow shovel in order to dig snow caves each evening. The Life-Link shovel uses a blade of Lexan polycarbonate, with a breakdown aluminum handle. It stows easily on top of a rucksack or in its own fanny pack.



Cutaway of mummy-type sleeping bag shows construction details for a sub-zero rating.

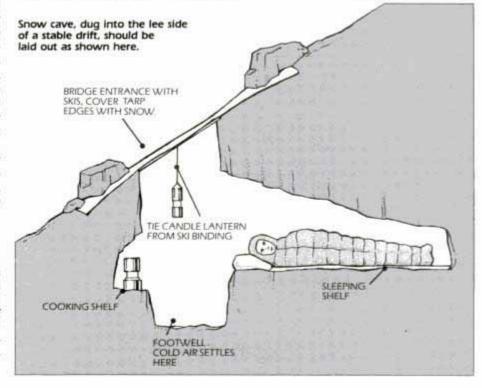
A snow cave is simply a tunnel dug into the lee side of a stable drift. In a properly built snow cave, you're protected from the wind and, with several snoring campers cozily arranged on the sleeping shelf, the temperature in the cave may never drop below 25°. During dinner one night, with several candles lit and the stove roaring under the soup, we measured the air temperature in our cave at a comfy 45°. Naturally, some water dripped off our walls, but as soon as the stove went out it froze into a hard, protective skin of ice.

The terrain and snow conditions are not always right for snow-caving. Most expeditions do carry winter tents. Mountaineering tents are generally dome shaped, for several reasons. First, they are aerodynamic, and a few models have actually stood up to 120 mph winds.

Second, they provide more internal room for the weight carried than a traditional A-frame or pyramid tent, with less surface area to radiate heat. Igloos are dome-shaped for the same reasons. Winter campers require more space inside their tents than summer campers because they need their packs indoors and space to cook. Typically, two winter campers will use a three-person tent. It should be equipped with a zippered cook hole/waste hole so you don't have to prepare dinner directly on the nylon floor.

Most high-quality tents are of double-wall construction, with an uncoated nylon canopy and a waterproof, wind-proof coated fly to protect it. A few inches separate the two layers to provide a little insulation and allow the moisture passing through the inner wall to circulate out. A number of tent makers now offer single-wall tents made of Gore-Tex laminate. They are light, windproof and efficient. But, in many states that require tent fabrics to be treated with a flame-retardant chemical, Gore-Tex tents can't be sold. The Gore-Tex laminate is not flamma-

(Please turn to page 116)





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COLD WEATHER CAMPING

(Continued from page 114)

ble itself. But, since it reinforces the nylon, it prevents the nylon from heatshrinking away from a flame—a normal part of the flameproof quality of nylon.

Cookstoves

Cooking is a critical issue in a tent or snow cave. Every snow camper needs a hot meal a couple of times a day, and the stove also is used to melt snow for water. Nylon fabrics have a low melting point, so it's important to keep your ministove away from the tent wall and away from sleeping bags. The stove should rest on its own small pad of Ensolite, to keep from melting through the snow and out of sight. In snow caves and tents alike, it's necessary to provide some ventilation when a gasoline stove is burning. The stove produces carbon monoxide. Sealing in the gas can be fatal. Coleman, Optimus and Svea white-gas ministoves are the most common choices for winter camping. By the way, propane gas cartridges often won't produce enough pressure at below-freezing temperatures to keep the fuel feeding.

Clothing and footwear

On the move, the same rules apply. Stay dry and protect yourself from the wind. Staying dry does not mean overdressing. Jonas made us stop to take off clothing whenever a stiff climb threatened to soak our insulation with sweat. Most climbers and mountaineers dress in layers to permit fine adjustment of insulation to the work being done. Next to the skin is a thin knit suit of polypropylene, a hydrophobic fiber which will wick perspiration away from the skin.

Then, there's a layer of polyester or acrylic pile or bunting, which absorbs a fair amount of moisture and retains its insulating value—it was first popularized by North Atlantic fishermen who valued their foul-weather gear. In bitter cold, a goose down parka or vest can go over the pile jacket and pants. The outer garment is typically of Gore-Tex laminate, windproof and waterproof.

Traditionally, boots for outdoor use have been of leather. Mountaineers use double boots, with a leather shell and insulated wool felt innerboot. On this trip, we used heavy leather cross-country ski boots, covered with waterproof nylon knee-high gaiters.

In recent years, several boot makers have introduced mountaineering boots with outer shells of hard nylon plastic, much more rigid than leather but also impervious to water. Some leather boots now keep water out with a layer of Gore-Tex film built like a seamless sock, laminated to the inside of the leather shell.

TOUR DE FORCE

(Continued from page 97)

front/rear track. It's totally refurbished. yet contains the original Chrysler running gear, including Hartford friction shock absorbers and leather-bound semi-elliptical springs. The 19-in. wire wheels were specially made in England and mount 6.50 six-ply tires.

A rebuilt '63 Lincoln V8 with 430 cu. in, and a smooth-shifting Ford automatic transmission have been mated to the vintage Chrysler frame.

Mahogany body

To build the body in true coachbuilding fashion, Kinney first steamed and hand-bent a "buck" frame of hickory. Then, an aluminum skin was laid over the hickory to provide anchor points for the rivets. Finally, the body of Honduran mahogany began to take shape.

Kinney built his own steam cabinet to facilitate the laminating and bending of the hickory and mahogany. The mahogany planks were chosen carefully, and some pieces run from grille to boat tail. To match the pieces and the grain, Kinney prepared a numbered grid and labelled the pieces.

Each piece was steamed and hand-fit to the body. When it was ready-and right-it was pop-riveted in position and allowed to cure. After curing, every pop-rivet was drilled out. The mahogany was sanded and an epoxy finish was applied to both sides. Then it was reriveted into position for further curing. Once this was done, and every piece was examined for a perfect fit, Kinney drilled out the rivets, countersunk the holes, and reattached the mahogany with brass rivets-over 5,000 of them.

Two years to build

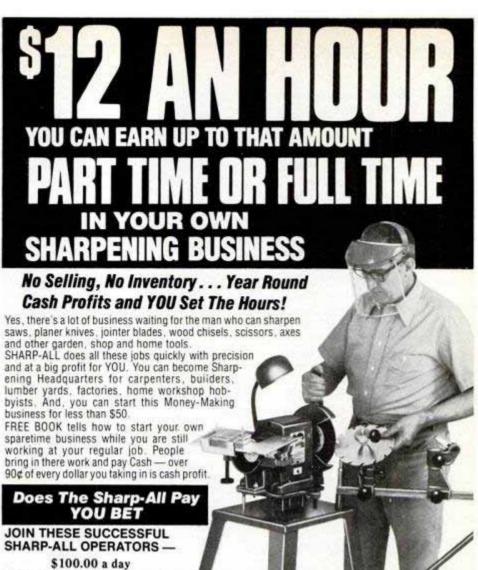
Its that kind of persistence and attention to detail that separates the Phariance from other cars. It is also one of the reasons it took two years to build.

Huntsinger and Kinney believe this first effort is a resounding success and confirms their initial belief that a very special and one-of-a-kind car using the best Old- and New-World craftsmanship can be a viable proposition.

Calling themselves "Old-World coachbuilders for hire," Camelot will build one new car a year, each a different design, and every one presented in a collector's environment-at a museum or art gallery, for example.

Huntsinger will put no definite price on the Phariance, or on the cars to follow, but the best guesstimate runs well into six figures.

"You wouldn't set a dollar value on a Rembrandt," says Huntsinger, "because the value is determined by the appreciation of the purchaser. That is how I want the Phariance sold."



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USING THE JOINTER

(Continued from page 103)

on the rear table just beyond the cutterhead. Then slowly lower the board onto the front table and advance it past the cutterhead.

When tapering long workpieces, there are two options: add an extension table to the jointer or use the following procedure. First, divide the board into equal parts. Make each part slightly shorter than the front table. For example, if the front table is 13 in. long, divide a 24-in.-long board in two. Then, divide the desired taper into the same number of parts. In this example, to obtain a 1/4-in. taper, set the depth of cut to 1/8 in. and make two passes.

Make the first pass with the division line positioned over the cutterhead. Lower the board and advance it past the cutterhead. Next, place the workpiece front end on the rear table just beyond the cutterhead. Lower the board and make a full-length pass. The resulting taper will equal 1/4 in.

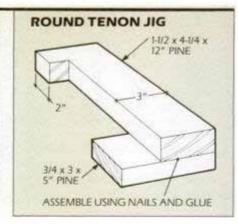
The jointer also is the best tool for cutting end tapers. First, mark the workpiece where the taper is to begin. Rest the workpiece end on the front table with the starting line of the taper directly above the knives. Then, clamp a stop block to the fence against the end of the workpiece.

Now, while holding the workpiece at this angle, position a support wood block under it. Attach the support block to the workpiece with brads. Turn on the jointer, butt the workpiece end against the stop block and pull it over the cutterhead. Reposition the support block and repeat the procedure for the remaining sides.

Tenoning on a jointer is accom-



Cutting round tenons is handled easily with the aid of an L-shaped jig. Clamp the jig to rabbeting ledge. Push the work into the spinning knives and rotate clockwise.



plished with the aid of a push block. Assemble the simple block using glue only, as illustrated. Adjust the jointer fence to determine the tenon length. Advance the workpiece past the cutterhead with the push block firmly against the fence. To prevent splintering the workpiece rear edge, first establish the tenon shoulders by sawing a kerf on a radial-arm or table saw.

Round tenons are made easily with the aid of an L-shaped block. Clamp the block, as shown, to the rabbeting ledge so that the workpiece will engage the knives on the downward rotation.

Tapering-in-the-round is a quick way to produce round, tapered furniture legs. Build the sliding jig, as illustrated, to accommodate the workpiece.

With the fence tilted 45°, shape the workpiece into an octagon. Then, mount the workpiece in the jig. Note that the locations of the pins that hold the stock determine the degree of taper. Position the rear pin lower to form the narrower, tapered leg end. Place the workpiece front end on the rear table just beyond the cutterhead. Then, lower the workpiece and make a full-length

pass on the jointer. Rotate the work slightly and repeat the procedure. After a full revolution, increase the depth of cut to reduce the taper more.

SOURCE LIST

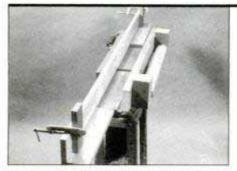
Contact the following jointer manufacturers and suppliers for specific information.

- Advantage Machinery Co. Inc., 40 Whites Path, South Yarmouth, Mass. 02664
 Black & Decker, Box F, 626 Hanover Pike, Hamp-
- Black & Decker, Box F, 626 Hanover Pike, Hampstead, Md. 21074; combination planer/thicknesser
- Conover Woodcraft Specialties, 18125 Madison Rd., Parkman, Ohio 44080
- Delta Machinery Corp., 400 North Lexington Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15208
- Foley-Belsaw Co., 95017 Field Building, Kansas City, Mo. 64111
 Hitachi Power Tools, 4487-F Park Dr., Norcross,
- Ga., 30093; planer/jointer
 Inca, Garrett Wade Co., 161 Ave. of the Americas,
- New York, N.Y. 10013

 Makita, Donna Robichaud, 12950 East Alondra
- Blvd., Cerritos, Calif. 90701; planer/jointer

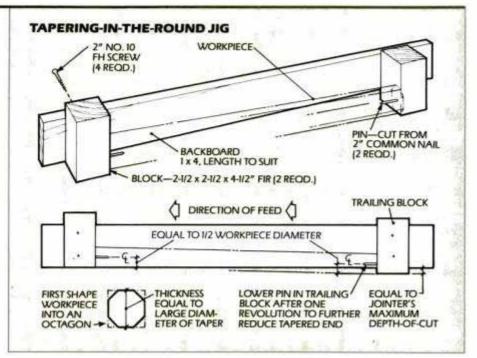
 Powermatic, Morrison Rd., McMinnville, Tenn.
- 37110
- R.B. Industries, Box 108, Pleasant Hill, Mo. 64080; jointer attachment for a planer
- Ryobi, 1158 Tower La., Bensenville, Ill. 60106; planer/jointer
- Sears, Roebuck and Co., Sears Tower, Dept. 703-PM, Chicago, Ill. 60684
- Shopsmith, 6640 Poe Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45414;
 jointer operates off the Shopsmith Mark V.
- jointer operates off the Shopsmith Mark V.

 Wolfcraft, 1107 Lunt Ave., Schaumburg, Ill. 60193
 Woodmaster Tools, 2908 Oak St., Kansas City, Mo.
- 64108; jointer attachment for Woodmaster planer
 Woodworks International Inc., 2001 West Main St., Suite 140, Stamford, Ct. 06902



Use the tapering-in-the-round jig in conjunction with an auxiliary fence and extension tables (above). Mount the workpiece in the jig and slide it across the cutterhead. Rotate the stock and repeat.





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SNOW: MAKING IT AND BREAKING IT

(Continued from page 93)

which a brittle layer of snow sits beneath a wetter outer layer. A weak surface in the snow-where two lavers don't bond together well-can start cracking under the weight of the outer surface.

When the ground is much warmer than the surface air, the snow closest to the ground becomes "depthoar," a type of snow that looks like hoar frost and cracks easily.

Avalanche guessing game

As a crack radiates outward, the bond between the outer layer and ground layer of snow is broken and the cracking undersurface begins to slip. Now an avalanche is in progress. The depthoar can build up over a period of days, but without sophisticated sonar equipment experts are really only guessing at the makeup of the snow on any mountain.

In California's Squaw Valley, Jim Mott and crews of up to 24 ski patrol members make regular visits to traditional avalanche sites. If the conditions suggest a snow slide, he places a 2pound dynamite charge inside a hole in the mountain and uses no more than 45 seconds to take cover. The blast starts a mini avalanche that clears the heavy pack away from the depthoar before the snow ever amounts to full avalanche conditions.

"The stiff snow that makes up the depthoar might be good packing material for igloo building," Sommerfeld says, "but it is a disaster sitting on the side of a mountain."

Secrets of the igloo

While physical scientists are working on the snow question in labs and on mountainsides, anthropologists are adding a new dimension to our knowledge of snow by studying Eskimo igloos.

Despite the fact that the snow the Eskimos use in many ways resembles depthoar, it still has great construction properties in arctic climates.

Eskimos build their igloos in areas where the snow is packed just loose enough to make a footprint, but not so loose that it blows away in a high wind. After construction, an igloo can house three to six people in temperatures ranging up to 80°F.

Why doesn't the igloo melt from the inside heat?

Why doesn't it fall in the face of strong arctic winds?

The igloo walls do melt, but very slowly. Heat absorbed in surface water droplets moves swiftly out through the igloo's snow-brick construction to the colder air outside. As the melted water trickles down the igloo's inside wall, it refreezes.

Eventually, the igloo is glazed over inside. Some igloos are lined with animal skins placed along the walls and floors. The insulation keeps heat flowing out very slowly so that the igloo stays warm and the walls melt at an imperceptible rate.

Texture of the snow

The biggest reason why an igloo stands up to structural challenges is the texture of the snow from which it is made. Unlike the depthoar of avalanches, igloo snow is exposed to air directly. Chilly winds harden and strengthen the material.

A typical igloo is roughly 10 feet in diameter. It is built of several courses of well-packed blocks each 2 feet long, a foot high and 6 inches thick. The bottom surface of each block tilts slightly inward when set into position. The angling of the bricks gets steeper with each course until the dome is complete. Many Eskimos even add a window to their igloos, a section of frozen lake

In many ways, we are rapidly solving long-shrouded mysteries of both the making and breaking of snow. This form of precipitation may be a nuisance to drivers, and a plaything to children, but to science, snow is a key that is about to unlock many doors.

Make Your Own Snow Crystals

Supercooled water freezes at temperatures below 32° F. If the water is free of particles and is frozen gradually, it can get down to below freezing temperatures before turning to ice. When it does freeze, supercooled water turns hard in the blink of an eye. To perform a supercooled water experiment you'll need a bottle of distilled water, a sterile test tube (available at most pharmacies), a mixing bowl, ice, table salt and water. Fill the bowl about one-third with tap water and put in enough ice cubes to bring the water line just above halfway. Liberally sprinkle salt over the ice cubes and let stand a minute. With rubber-gloved hands, open the sterile tube and the distilled water. Pour in the water to the top of the tube and seal it. Very gently place the water tube inside the bowl with the top sticking out of the ice water. Insert the thermometer next to the test tube. When the temperature falls to 18° F., tap the test tube gently. Before you remove your finger, the water in the tube will turn to ice, and the cork should gently pop off the tube. Do this experiment and you'll have duplicated the formation of a supercooled snow crystal. -D.E.



INDOOR/OUTDOOR

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Both the Rascal and the CycleChair have lightweight aluminum frames which are guaranteed for life, solid-state controls and modular design, which makes them easy to transport in the trunk of your car.

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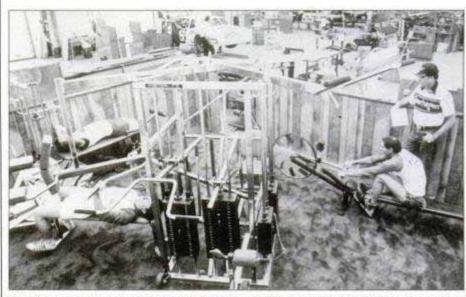


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THE WORLD'S FASTEST MECHANICS

(Continued from page 79)



The Johnny Hayes Racing shop has a complete gym for all of the crew members to work out in to develop the muscles that they need most to perform efficiently during pit stops.

Dr. Impact Wrench



Howard Hurd tests a reworked impact wrench's output on his portable dyno.

If you want to be fast on the tire changes in NASCAR circles, you'll have to get to know Mr. Howard Hurd. As the traveling representative of Ingersoll-Rand Co., Mr. Hurd (the only proper form of address) is the dean of high-performance impact wrench science.

This 72-year-old grandfather of 11 started in the business by building a hot-rod tire wrench for the famous Wood Brothers team back in the early 1960s. That was all the advertising he needed.

Mr. Hurd modifies the wrenches by enlarging the airflow passages in the air motor. When he's done, the tool will spin 30,000 rpm and generate 600 ft.-tb. of torque. He specifies compressed nitrogen for power to eliminate the moisture problems of regular compressed air, and he's also responsible for the quick-lifting hydraulic jacks most teams use. Mr. Hurd is one of those background figures you rarely hear about, but without his innovations the pit stops would certainly go a lot slower —N.S.M.

this weekend). Realizing that seconds saved in the pits were every bit as valuable as cutting lap times on the track, the crew underwent a motion-study analysis last winter by a team of sports researchers that also helps Olympic athletes hone their styles.

After the pit stops were filmed with high-speed cameras, the Olympic Sports Medicine team assembled a frame by frame reconstruction for study. At this pace it was easier to spot ways to trim tenths of seconds by eliminating wasted motion. Some jobs had room for major improvement. For example, the tire carrier now leaps over the jack to deliver the fresh rear rubber, and the jack man lifts the front tire into place while the tire man pushes the old one out of the way. Times are improved and far more consistent.

The study didn't stop there, though. The Hayes crew strives to excel, so the members underwent rigorous testing to determine endurance, strength and heart rate. Led by Dr. Charles Dillman, the consultants developed exercises for each man and an eight-station gymnasium was installed in the North Carolina shop.

Why stop there? The sports physicians also got the crew onto a proper diet appropriate for their short bursts of work. Their high fat, low carbohydrate diet was converted to a healthier regimen of fruits, salads and vegetables. Juices replaced soda, and sweets are nearly absent from the race-day pit area. The first sign of real results has been better showings in the Ingersoll-Rand Tools Pit Crew Championship contests, run at 10 of the NASCAR races through the season. Salt intake has also been cut down, and warm-up

(Please turn to page 124)

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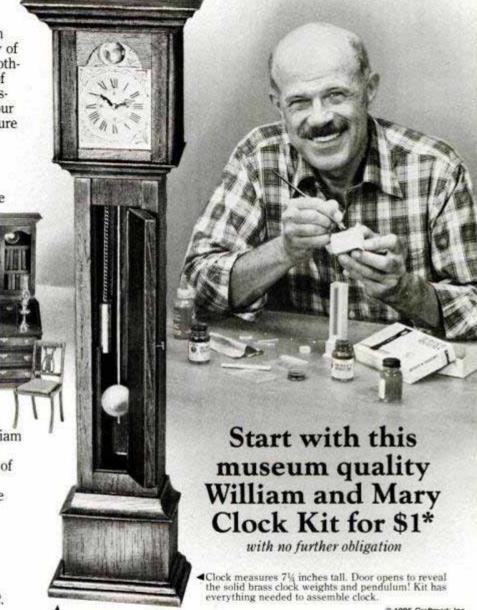
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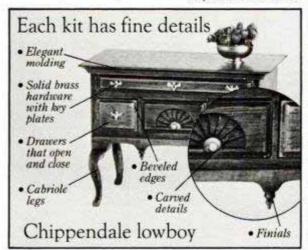
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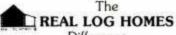
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FASTEST MECHANICS

(Continued from page 122)

exercises help the guys spring into action after a solid week of wrenchwork and hauling around the country.

Of course, all this healthful preparation is just so much talk back in the garage-where it counts is when the car comes rearing in for a pit stop. Coordination between driver and crew is the key here, and that job has been made much easier with radio communications between pit and car. Skoal Bandit driver Phil Parsons has also been helped greatly by the tutoring of big brother (and NASCAR legend) Benny Parsons, driver of the Copenhagen car on the Hayes team.

trategy still plays a key role, though. Stops are best under the yellow caution flag, when passing is not allowed due to a mishap. The driver has to come in as fast as possible, yet stop in just the right place so he won't be penalized for overshooting the pit spot. Ideally, he'll come in close to the wall if only right side tires are being changed, and be headed slightly outward in case another car pits directly in front of him. At 5 miles per gallon, and 20 to 24 tires to be changed in the course of the Talladega 500, a couple of seconds saved can be the difference between winning and losina.

Pit stops are often needed to fix other problems as well. Suspension adjustments of chassis load or "wedging" can be done through the rear quarter windows in a few seconds. Windshields are trashed by flying pebbles in a few laps, but if they crack badly the team can swap one in 40 seconds. Bigger jobs, like replacing the rear end in the Parsons car when a universal joint broke, can be whipped in nine minutes. That was using hand tools, because the job had to be done back at the team truck while all the pneumatic tools were out at the pit spot!

It took until the third or fourth stop of the 500 before I had enough confidence to look around and see what was going on in the brief seconds that the car was stopped. Then the realization hit me square between the eyes: these guys weren't hurrying at all. No, they are a well-practiced, expertly choreographed ballet of lightning fast mechanics, each doing their own job and never crossing paths with one another. The gas catch man has the catbird seat for all the action, never having to really move. But the rest of the crew covers a lot of territory in a little time, and making it all look easy because the routine is so well prepared. After all that practice and training, the speed just comes naturally.

PM's WATER SPORTSTER

(Continued from page 80)

forward, back-to-back passenger sleeper seat with storage amidships, drink holders, lockable glovebox and handsome wood trim on the console are standard, as are a 19-gallon aerated livewell, bow grab rail and plenty of locker storage. You can switch to a pure fishing boat easily by replacing the cushions with an optional bow platform and pedestal seat arrangement.

The hull form has a good deal to do with the utility of PM's Water Sportster. The design is called a modified-V and has a one-piece bottom to eliminate the possibility of through-hull rivet leaks caused by trailering or beaching. The modified-V hull shape means that the Grumman Skidaddle runs somewhat bow (front) high. But the flared front of the hull rides far enough up in the air to catch most of the spray that you'd fling up on a reasonably bouncy day.

Motor and controls

A monumental part of the appeal of our project boat is the easy-starting Mariner 75 outboard motor, manufactured by Mercury Marine. It kicks over about as easily and dependably as the family car, with a flick of the key. Shifting and tilting-trimming of the motor are a cinch, too, with the full-control remote box conveniently at the driver's right-hand position.

One thing we knew we wanted to add was some sort of top. We wanted emergency protection from unexpected inclement weather, and the capability of sleeping on the boat occasionally. Sort of like a beach camper.

The right type of top was available from Grumman Boats as a camper top. Completely snapped and zipped in place, the top complex—shelter, after cover, side curtains and tonneau—make the boat a snug, tight place in which to spend the night or wait out a thunderstorm. Installation of the top really was a snap.

Setting up a trailer

We went to the people at Cox Trailers of Grifton, N.C., for one of their Fisherman series Model CF-1600V trailers, which required no modification to fit the Grumman boat. We wanted a trailer that would guarantee economy and quality, have a tilt bed for stress-free launching and hauling of the boat, fully adjustable rollers and bunks, fenders we could stand on, and a completely galvanized frame to resist rusting.

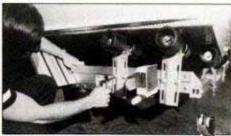
First job of adjustment is to lay a long, straight wood 2 × 4 down the line of keel rollers, loosen the bolts which hold each roller and move them up or down to get level keel support.

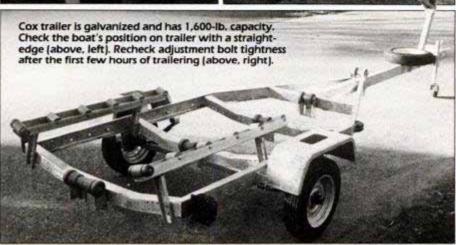
Then get the hull up onto the trailer. Position it so the rearmost roller comes just under the bottom edge of the transom (the back panel of the boat). Use a block of wood held against the transom as a straightedge and mark to fine-tune the boat's position. Then bolt the winch stand tightly to the tongue of the trailer.

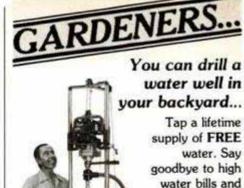
To complete the adjustment, block the hull absolutely level with supports down to the ground, and adjust the side bunks to bear solidly against the hull at a point on either side that is equidistant from the centerline keel. At this point,

(Please turn to page 126)









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PM's WATER SPORTSTER

(Continued from page 125)

we took the rig to Chic's Marina in Bolton Landing, N.Y. Ray Chicarella had his ace mechanics fine-tune the engine, check the installation of the steering and install a marine battery, fuel tanks and other safety equipment. Ray's assistant, Todd Leach, took our Water Sportster out on Lake George for a thorough test session and declared it fit and ready.

When the entire rig was completed, we checked the tongue weight of the trailer. We were aiming for a trailer tongue weight of approximately 50 pounds, plus or minus 5 pounds. It was right on the money—however, we could have varied the weight by moving the axle forward or back, as needed. Do not vary tongue weight by moving the boat on the trailer.

Adding accessories

Now it was time for the real funadding all the special accessories that make a particular boat special to its owner.

We hate the standard boat boarding ladder setup, but on a boat as small and light as the Grumman Skidaddle, there just isn't enough space to install a large swim platform. And you need one, as you know, if you've ever tried to get back into a boat in deep water. So we installed a deluxe model Step-On fold-up boarding ladder and platform made by Step-On Inc. of Fort Pierce, Fla.

Because the Step-On has a stainless steel framework and would be down in salt water at least a part of its life, and because the boat is made of a dissimilar, nonferrous metal (marine aluminum), we knew that a galvanic or battery-like interaction between the two metals could take place.

Therefore, wherever the platform's stainless steel tubing or the mounting brackets might contact the aluminum hull, we placed a barrier plastic tab and a fiber washer under the head of each bolt or lag.

While our PM Water Sportster isn't any macho raceboat, it does have a nice turn of speed—better than 30 mph, depending on winds, seas and load—and it's nice to know how you're doing. Aqua Meter Instrument Corp. supplied us with an Aqua Meter Ensign surfacemounted tachometer specially adapted to wire directly into the front of the Mariner outboard's control box.

Our next quest, for both a depth and fish finder and a speedometer, netted us one of those surprising two-in-one finds which can be so rewarding. Aqua Meter also produces a brand new computerized fish flasher called the Graduate. It features a precise depth-finding capability and readout both on a threedigit LCD display and on a traditional circular flasher display. It offers a total of eight depth ranges from 0-12 to 0-800 feet. The speedometer function is optional, but who could resist it?

Installation of the Graduate head, the part containing the memory, microprocessor and readouts, was very straightforward. The hot lead is fused for you. But there are some sticky installation points to watch out for.

For instance, rivets can cause turbulence over the face of the transducer, which will negate accurate performance. We were careful to locate the unit between rivets.

Communications gear

When you have the equipment so you know how well you're doing, often it's fun to know how other people are making out. Are the fish biting, has the baby sitter arrived, when do you expect to be home?

That implies communications, and one of the top marine radiotelephones on the market is the CTX-2060 by Cybernet Marine division of Kyocera Corp. in Warren, N.J.

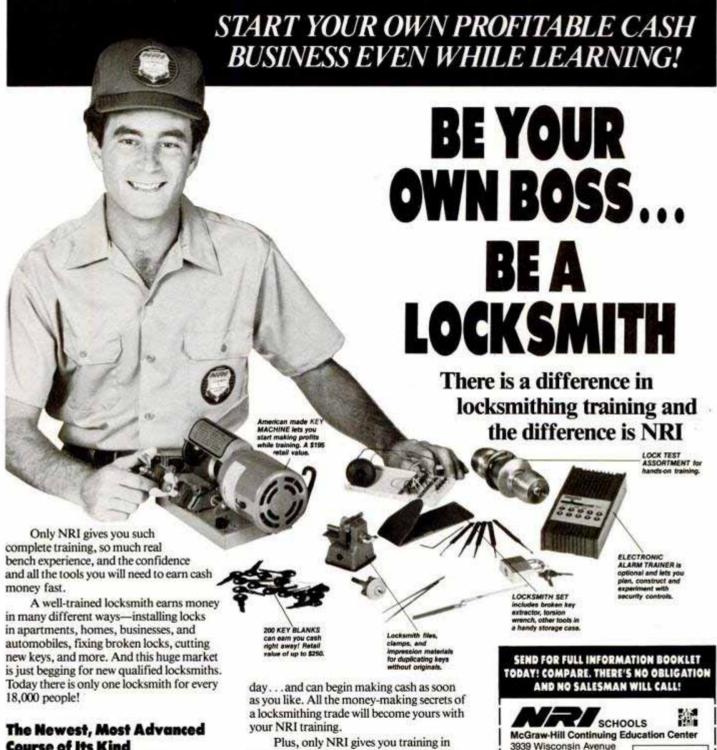
A handsome unit with its pushbutton controls and digital readouts, the Cybernet operates on the VHF-FM (Very High Frequency) marine channels. It gives a full 40-channel capability, and you can program the channels into four memory groups for easy access.

Of extra value aboard the PM Sportster is our ability to hail other boats over water, especially where other boats don't have radio communications or where the channels are too crowded, with traffic for other use. We used a 30watt Electro-Voice PA30Am paging projector, connected to the HAIL jack on the back of the Cybernet VHF-FM amplifier/radio unit.

We asked Mitsubishi for their audio equipment recommendations for a small boat. The Mitsubishi people recommended their Model CZ-727 AM/FM cassette unit, Model CU-241 power amp and two Model SG-13CD speakers. The speakers were installed beneath the two consoles and, following an insider's tip from Mitsubishi, we sprayed the cones with Scotch-gard repellent so that they would be more moisture proof.

Topping off the PM Water Sportster were two pieces of equipment which did not need installation. One was a 54-quart Thermos cooler in bright red which can be used as an extra seat when we need it.

And stashed in the side-deck lockers, just for those times when the mood is right and the fish are biting, repose two special Zebco combination rod-and-reel setups. They're ready whenever the mood strikes and we're afloat in PM's exciting Water Sportster.



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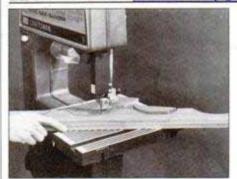
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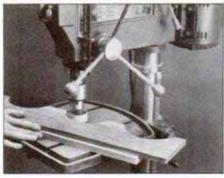
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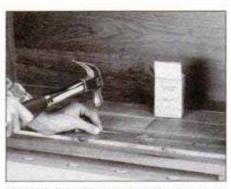
BLANKET CHEST (Continued from page 99)



Lay out the scallop pattern for the front horizontal trim as shown in the drawing. Cut with a band saw or sabre saw.



Sand the scallop with a 3-in. drum sander installed in a drill press. Check with a straightedge for uniform valleys in scallops.



Line interior with tongue-and-groove aromatic cedar, working from bottom. Use either 2d cut nails or 2d finishing nails.



Mark locations for brass butt hinges in both the chest top and the upper back edge. Cut mortises for hinges using a 3/4-in. chisel.

exact replica, except that it has been lined with aromatic cedar. It is assembled with cut nails in the manner that Thomas used. However, if you're not concerned with replication, you can avoid the exposed nailheads by simply gluing and clamping the trim and legs in place. If you use this method, mount a triangular 1 × 1-in. glue block in the lower inside corner of each leg.

The chest is built of American black walnut; about 40 board-feet are required. It pays to shop around for this beautiful but expensive wood. Using the Yellow Pages, we located a lumber dealer who would sell walnut, milled to 13/18-in. thickness, at about one-third the usual mail-order cost. Another possible source might be local cabinetmaking shops that buy wholesale. Common cut nails are available from Tremont Nail Co., Box 111, Wareham, Mass. 02571, at \$1.95 per 1-pound box.

If you elect to line the chest with cedar, the 18 board-feet required can be obtained through the Home Closet Planning Service, 221 North LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill. 60601.

Building the chest

We had to glue up several boards to achieve the widths needed for the six sides of the box. Run the boards through a jointer to achieve flat, square edges. Match color and graining, then edge-glue and clamp the front, bottom,

back, sides and top boards. Alternate the direction of the end growth rings of the boards. Also, alternate clamps from top to bottom, as shown in the photo, so that the glued panels stay flat. Scrape off excess glue with a chisel after it has set for about 30 minutes. When the glue has dried, surface the boards with a belt sander.

Cut the back, front, ends, top and bottom components to the proper sizes given in the materials list. Consider graining in choosing boards. For example, use uninteresting grain or blemished boards for the back and bottom. Use the best for top and front.

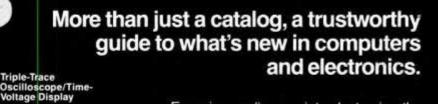
Horizontal and vertical trim strips and legs are thinner material than the boards that form the chest. If these thicknesses are not available from your wood supplier, use a planer to bring stock down to proper thickness, or have these pieces milled to thickness when you purchase the lumber. Rip to width the pieces needed for legs, top trim and horizontal trim and cut to length.

To make the scallop design, pencil in the pattern on the horizontal trim piece according to the dimensions given in the drawing. Cut the scallop with a band saw or sabre saw, and smooth with a drum sander. Lay a straightedge across the scallops to check for uniformity. Next, cut out the curved portions in the lower ends of the front legs.

(Please turn to page 132)

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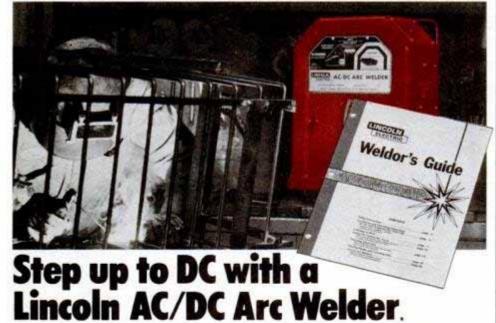
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BLANKET CHEST

(Continued from page 128)

Finish-sand all surfaces and edges of both chest and trim pieces, first with 120-grit then 220-grit abrasive paper. Round over the outside corners of the trim slightly with 220-grit sandpaper.

When all boards have been carefully cut to size, begin assembly. Bore 3/32-in. holes for cut nails as shown in the photo. This will prevent the possibility of splitting the walnut. Then, glue and nail the front to sides using 5d cut nails. Join the back in the same way. Finally, nail the bottom in place within the sides, front and back.

Bore nail holes in trim pieces, and



Use three coats of linseed oil applied with 4/0 steel wool. Then rub on several coats of shellac mixed with 10 percent linseed oil.

glue and nail each in place with 4d cut nails. Attach the legs first, then mount the horizontal trim. Miter top trim and glue and nail to the 13/16-in.-thick walnut top. Set nailheads flush using a nailset.

When glue has dried, cut tongue-andgroove cedar pieces to lengths needed. Line the floor and four interior walls of the chest, working from bottom up, using either 2d finishing nails or cut nails. Prebore pilot holes for cut nails.

Carefully measure and mark locations for hinges on the top and the upper edge of the back, and use a chisel to mortise to the proper depth as shown. Next, locate and mark the position of the lid lock and catch. Mortise out to proper depth, and bore the key hole. Do not apply hardware until after finish has been applied.

Finishing

Begin finishing process by using a diluted walnut stain just to blend in any white sapwood streaks that may be present. Then, using a 4/0 steel-wool pad, rub in a boiled linseed oil finish to bring out the rich color typical of walnut. We used three coats, allowing a day between coats for the linseed oil to dry. Then we rubbed on a thoroughly mixed polishing solution of orange shellac lubricated with 10 percent linseed oil. Use a 4/0 steel-wool pad and apply the polishing solution with long, even strokes to level out rough spots.

CLOCKS FROM KITS

(Continued from page 105)

wool, applicator pads, gloves and a very workable three-step finishing system of sealer, stain and finish.

The clock case parts were well-sanded and straightforward to assemble. It seems the manufacturer took pains to make this kit an easy project for beginners. Only slight trimming of some parts with a utility knife was required to achieve professional fits. Pilot holes had to be prebored for all screws and brads.

My only serious complaint was with the method chosen to install the door glass. A vinyl retaining strip must be toe-nailed into the door frame with small brads. Because the oak is so hard, this task is risky. It seems another method would have made more sense, even something as simple as conventional glazing points. This kit, which is No. 34007, sells for \$59.95 plus \$3 postage; the finishing kit is \$14.95. They are from Klockit, Box 629, Lake Geneva, Wis. 53147.-S.W.

SOURCES-CLOCK KITS AND PARTS

American Time Horological Products, 6 Middle Neck Rd., Roslyn, N.Y. 11576. Kits and quartz movements: free catalog.

The Antique Nook Inc., Box 338, 6226 Waterloo Rd.,

Atwater, Ohio 44201. Parts; catalog \$2, ppd.
C & R Clock Shop, 11906 Q Drive North, Battle Creek,
Mich. 49017. Old clocks and movements; catalog \$1 with S.A.S.E. and two 20-cent stamps. Campbell Tools Co., 2100-D Selma Rd., Springfield.

Ohio 45505. Clock metals and lathes; catalog \$1. Cas-Ker Co., Box 2347, Cincinnati, Ohio 45201. Movements and accessories; catalog \$1.

Clockwerkes, 2419 Foster Ave., Janesville, Wis.

53545. Kits and parts; free catalog. Constantine, 2050 Eastchester Rd., Bronx, N.Y. 10461. Parts; catalog \$1

Craft Products Co., 2200 Dean St., St. Charles, III. 60174. Kits and parts; 32-page catalog free, 100page catalog \$2

Craftsman Wood Service, 1735 West Cortland Ct., Addison, III. 60101. Kits and parts; catalog \$1

Diplomat Clocks, 1148 Hwy. 31 North, Spanishford, Ala. 36527. Kits and parts: free brochures. Emperor Clock Co. Industrial Park, Fairhope, Ala.

36532 Kits and parts; free catalog. Empire Clock Inc., 1295 Rice St., St. Paul, Minn. 55117-4591. Clock parts; catalog \$5 refundable

with \$30 order.

King Arthur Clock Co., P.O. Drawer K-A, King Arthur Buildings, Fairhope, Ala. 36533-0949. Movements and accessories; free catalog. Klockit, Box 629, Lake Geneva, Wis. 53147. Kits and

parts; free catalog.

Kuempel Chime Clock Works and Studio, 21195 Minnetonka Blvd., Excelsior, Minn. 55331-8605. Kits; free catalog.

S. La Rose Inc., 234 Commerce St., Greensboro, N.C. 27420. Kits and parts; catalog \$2.50.

Marshall-Swartchild Co., 2040 North Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60647. Kits and parts; catalog

Mason & Sullivan, Dept. 1199, 585 Higgins-Crowell Rd., West Yarmouth, Mass. 02673. Kits and parts: catalog \$2

Antiques, Route 2, Douglassville, Pa., Merritt's 19518. Kits and parts; catalog \$1,50.

Modern Technical Tool & Supply Co., 211 Nevada St., Hicksville, N.Y. 11801. Parts: catalog \$3.50 ppd. Newport Enterprises, 2313 West Burbank Blvd., Burink, Calif. 91506. Kits and parts; free catalog

bank, Calif. 91506. Kits and parts; free catalog.
Southwest Clock Supply Inc., 2442 Walnut Ridge St.,
Dallas, Tex. 75229. Kits and parts; catalog \$3.
Turneraft Clock Imports Co., 7912 Olson Memorial
Hwy. 55, Golden Valley, Minn. 55427; kits and
parts; catalog \$2.50, or \$4.50 first class.
Viking Clock, Box 490, Foley, Ala. 36536. Kits and

parts.

stwood Clocks 'N Kits, Box 93004. Long Beach, Calif. 90809. Kits and parts; free catalog

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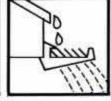


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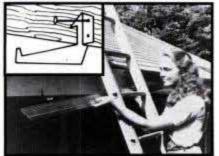
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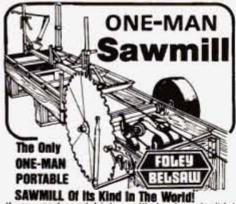
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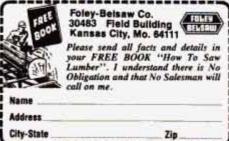
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THIRD-GENERATION TV

(Continued from page 83)

image beyond your view. The lower the overscan percentage, the better. Inferior TVs hide as much as 18 percent of the picture from your view, to compensate for puny built-in power supplies that can't ride out a brown-out. Look for that low 5 or 6 percent overscan spec.

Horizontal resolution

Perhaps the most important specification with regard to TV image definition is horizontal resolution. This is expressed in lines, and determines a unit's ability to separate closely spaced details that appear beside one another. It's measured by projecting vertical stripe patterns of varying number onto a picture tube, then counting how many stripes are visible before they become so narrow and close together that they appear to merge into a solid span of gray. The more lines, the better. In some rare instances, you'll see horizontal resolution measured in megahertz (MHz). To translate this to lines, multiply the figure preceding MHz (as in 4.2 MHz) by 80. Thus, $4.2 \times 80 = 336$ lines.

Today's "hi-res" TVs have 330 to 350 or more lines of horizontal resolution, compared to about 250 in a conventional TV. They achieve this not by digital wizardry, but by comb filters and by fine-pitch tube designs that enable more picture elements to hit the screen. With regard to pitch, think of the dots that make up a newspaper photograph. The more dots, the more detailed the picture. Comb filters aid resolution by separating the color information from the black-and-white (contrast and brightness) information, before project-

ing them on the screen. This preserves much of the original picture definition carried in the broadcast signal, yielding higher fidelity reproduction.

Vertical resolution

Vertical resolution is often confused with horizontal resolution, but it's not a TV specification. It's a broadcasting standard set in the early days of telecasting and still used in the United States and elsewhere.

Measured from the top of your screen to the bottom, there are 525 lines that make up a picture. Actually, the picture is composed of two interlaced fields of 262½ lines each, which follow one another by 1/60th of a second.

This 525-line standard does limit TV's vertical resolution—that is, its ability to reproduce fine details that appear above and below one another on the screen. Because it's a broadcast standard, filters and improved fine-pitch tubes can't be used to increase the number of vertical lines as they can for horizontal lines. To do this, the broadcast transmission method would have to be changed. An easier solution would be to use digital technology to increase vertical resolution at the TV receiver—and that's the path some TV manufacturers are now pursuing.

From hi-res to high definition

When you can get 1,050 to 1,125 lines of vertical resolution, projected on a wider screen with 5-to-3 width-to-height ratio (compared to the current 4-to-3 ratio), that's High Definition TV (HDTV).

At this moment in Japan, Sony is selling 14- and 21-inch component monitors that, when connected to an (Please turn to page 136)

Specs For Your Eyes: Judging A TV

sure a TV's horizontal resolution and overscan, but other aspects of television performance are best judged by what meets the eye and ear.

- Color tracking—If it's poor, it'll be obvious. Follow a picture through several scene changes and watch for continuity of color. The less a given hue seems to shift, the better the TV's ability to track it.
- Color distortion—Whites should be pure, without tint. Impure whites will appear blue, red or green, Blacks should be opaque—never washed out or tinged with brown or green.
- Geometric distortion—This will be apparent in long lines that should be straight but are visibly curved, or in circles that appear oval.
- Convergence—If a set's red, green and blue projection elements aren't

- precisely aligned, the set will exhibit poor color convergence. Look out for red, green or blue borders around images at the center of the screen.
- Audio—The sound should be natural—not boomy, raspy or piercing—at the volume level you're likely to listen at when home. This might be difficult to judge in a noisy, crowded department store, but don't judge sound quality through earphones (on sets so equipped) unless this is the way you intend to use the set regularly. Headphones won't tell you anything about the loudspeakers or the amplifier.
- Video noise— Makers' specs for video signal-to-noise ratio (expressed in decibels) are difficult to compare. But video noise is easy to spot. In its mildest form, it appears as graininess in the picture. Severe video noise will blanket the screen with snow.

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As part of its Anniversary Publicity Campaign, the giant New York outfitting firm of Abernathy & Closther will distribute one million (1,000,000) of its most expensive spinning reels—the famous SWIFT-660/F Autocast Spinning Reel—for the astonishing "Anniversary Price" of only \$4 each to the first one million persons who write to the company address (below) before Midnight, April 25, 1985.

This original Anniversary Ad must accompany your request. Copies or photostats are not acceptable.

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THIRD-GENERATION TV

(Continued from page 134)

external digital processor, can display double the 525 vertical scanning lines. The processor, at high speed, studies both incoming 2621/2-line fields to estimate how much of the original image is missing. It then interpolates this missing information between each of the 525 lines, creating in effect a 1,050-line frame.

Sony has yet to reveal when it might market such sets in the United States. They're quite expensive: The processor alone costs about \$800. The 21-inch monitor costs the same-and because its a monitor, you'll still need a TV tuner, amp and speakers.

Most TV manufacturers agree that further development of digital technology can make HDTV a reality without having to replace the current broadcast system. Research is under way to adapt HDTV signals to the existing broadcast standard by compressing them digitally at the transmitter, then expanding them at the receiver end.

While the world waits for HDTV, one element of home theater is here already: stereophonic sound.

The Multichannel Television Sound (MTS) system celebrates its first birthday next month. By the time you read this, more than 40 stations around the United States plan to be transmitting programs in stereo. Another 80 plan to do so by year-end. Most of these stations broadcast from the 100 largest metropolitan areas.

Multimedia home theater

Besides two channels of stereo sound, the MTS system includes a third, monaural, channel for broadcasters who wish to offer a Separate Audio Program (designated SAP on your TV). This can be a foreign language translation of a program, or a specialized soundtrack (for example, for the blind). Most of the new TV models coming on the market have this Stereo/SAP feature. Many, too, have a synthesized stereo switch to enhance the sound of monaural programs.

Compared to older TVs, the latest models incorporate multiple loudspeakers and more powerful amplifiers for high-fidelity reproduction of the FMquality broadcasts. Any VCR videodisc and cable programming run through your new TV will sound better too. To accommodate households with hi-fi systems and other external electronic entertainment sources, most TVs of recent vintage have sprouted multiple input and output jacks on their back panels. In this way, you can use your TV to integrate audio, video and computer components and create your own hightech home theater.

POPULAR MECHANICS . FEBRUARY 1985



BIKING THE DESERT

(Continued from page 95)

med smiled encouragingly on the side of the sandy rails. After two days of special meals and last-minute adjustments, we set off to balance on the rails for more than 300 desert miles toward the Egyptian border.

Balancing proved to be the least difficult part of the long journey. The Nubian Desert was empty of life, plants and water. With the sandy silence came an unrelenting heat and a monotony that would be broken about every third day when a train rumbled down the tracks and we had to scatter, pulling our railbikes with us.

In 10 days we made Abu Hamid, where the Nile makes a great bend southwest, and we continued through the heart of the desert. We had covered almost 200 miles, and by this time had the railbikes in fair tune. Riding a bike on rails proved to be far more taxing than tooling down the pavement. But the alternative was to slog through the sand.

At Abu Hamid, we loaded our panniers with 10 days of food and fuel (for a cooking fire at nighttime stopovers). We wandered through the market area that wound through the center of town. Fresh dates from the Nile shores, dried rice and beans, onions and what fresh vegetables we could find would be our bill of fare for the rest of the trip. We added all the bread we could carry and the last straw, 10 liters of water each. Our bicycles were at maximum weights—320 pounds for the double and 170 pounds for the single.

Word quickly spread that men from Mars had ridden bicycles in on the rail, and most of the town came to see us off. Robes snapping in a stiff north wind, it was like riding the circus train out as they cheered us on. But about two miles out of town, we crested the ridge of the Nile and the silence hit us. The town was gone. It was as if nothing existed at all. Sand and sky filled the entire view, broken only by low, barren rocks.

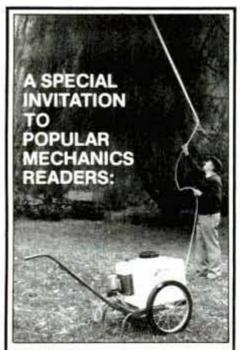
Along the way we would pass an occasional railroad station; most were stark and empty. Near one station, however, we met a work crew which challenged us to a spirited, if one-sided, race—they on hand carts on a side rail and we on our bikes. It was easy to see that legs are stronger than arms as we dusted them.

Whenever there were people at a train station, there was an invitation to dine. We would wash our hands, because hands are the forks and spoons of Sudan, then would come the Kisera, a flatbread served with lentils and vegetables.

But, the greatest reception of all came on the 18th and last day of our journey. At first, we saw a mosque towering in the distance above the sand. Slowly, other buildings began to appear on the horizon and other sets of railroad track turned in to parallel us. The echo of steel on steel rang in our ears as we approached the railway switch yard. Just as we saw the platforms coming up, the track ahead of us switched over to carry us to the central platform of the train station. The station master waved excitedly as we pulled in. Were we in some kind of trouble?

As we jumped onto the platform at Wadi Halfa, prepared to make peace with the station master, he told us in hurried tones how much he admired our work. He wanted a ride on a rail-bike. So, off went the station master on the single with the ski bottom, cruising the yard like a kid on a new toy.

Our desert journey was finished, and the Sudanese had been such wonderful hosts there seemed only one thing to do. We presented the bikes to the station master as a gift to all those who had shared their food and supplies on our fantastic desert bike ride.



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HELICOPTERS SHOOT BACK

(Continued from page 88)

like this: If NATO forces can repulse their attackers with conventional weapons, they would not have to resort to the use of nuclear arms, and the invaders, already severely weakened, would not dare to employ them either, fearing swift retaliation. Thus, so the theory goes, both sides would be spared the horror of nuclear escalation.

Built to survive

Despite the calculated losses anticipated by NATO experts, the U.S. Army does not consider its gunships expendable, even at a kill ratio of 16 to 1 and certainly not at \$10 million a throw. Survivability in an attack helicopter is as crucial as its weapons—if it can't take abuse, it won't live long to fight.

The Hughes Apache, like many other new designs, puts the pilot and copilot/gunner in separate cockpits, one behind the other, instead of the older single-cockpit layout with side-by-side seating. Each cockpit is surrounded with heavy armor plating like a steel bathtub, and the two are divided by a transparent blast shield.

The tandem cockpit arrangement not only narrows the fuselage, making it a harder target to hit, but it isolates the crewmen for greater safety. If one should be hit, there's a good chance the other will survive. Twin turbine engines provide backup power if one engine should fail, and special sand filters in the intakes prevent clogging in desert regions, one of the problems that plagued the ill-fated attempt to rescue the U.S. hostages in Iran.

The Apache carries up to 16 laserguided Hellfire missiles for destroying tanks or as many as 76 rockets for use on less heavily armored targets. It also mounts a fearsome 30-mm nose cannon capable of firing 600 rounds a minute. It has a forward speed of nearly 200 mph, moves sideways or backward at 60 mph and can pull high G-forces in tight turns and steep climbs, making it a fast and nimble dogfighter.

Electronic eyes

The eyes of the modern attack helicopter consist of three electronic marvels that could have come straight from a Star Wars movie—the Martin Marietta TADS/PNVS targeting and night-vision navigation system, the Honeywell helmet-mounted day/night gunsight and the McDonnell Douglas/Bell mast-mounted day/night target-tracking sight. These permit a chopper pilot to see in the dark, spot targets normally hidden from view and skim over rough terrain at treetop level even at night and in bad weather. The ability to hedgehop at speeds approaching 200

mph—called nap-of-the-earth maneuvering—is what enables a gunship to strike with such devastating swiftness and surprise, using natural ground features to mask it from enemy radar and antiaircraft fire.

Looking like beetle eyes bulging from a gunship's nose, the TADS/PNVS consists of two glass-faced optical scanners held in movable mounts so they can be aimed in any direction. One contains the TADS optics, the other the PNVS optics. TADS, which stands for Target Acquisition Designation Sight, includes a TV camera for daylight viewing, an infrared imager for night vision and a laser beam generator for spotting targets and guiding missiles. All a pilot or gunner has to do is aim the laser at a target and his laser-seeking Hellfire missiles will automatically home in on the beam, destroying whatever it's pointed at. The missiles can even be guided by a remote laser source, such as from a scout helicopter or a portable ground generator.

PNVS, the other half of the system, stands for Pilot Night Vision Sensor and contains an infrared imager that provides a brightly illuminated view of the terrain below at night or in heavy rain and fog. It's used primarily by the pilot for navigating close to the ground in darkness, but can also detect thermally active targets.

The Honeywell helmet sight is used in conjunction with the TADS/PNVS system to permit the pilot or gunner to aim the scanners merely by moving his head. It is electronically coupled to the servo motors that drive the scanners so they automatically follow his line of sight—wherever he looks, they look. (see The Look That Kills, page 84).

Both the TADS/PNVS system and the helmet sight were designed especially for the Apache, but are adaptable to other gunships. The McDonnell Douglas/Bell mast-mounted sight contains day/night optics and a laser beam generator similar to those in the TADS/PNVS system, but it puts them in an eyeball-like housing on top of a post above the helicopter's rotor. Being elevated, the sight can peer over trees and ridges, spotting enemy targets, while the helicopter itself remains hidden from view. Although adaptable to gunships, it is intended primarily for use on scout helicopters, enabling them to ferret out targets without being seen. Once a target is pinpointed by the scout's laser beam, it is handed off to a nearby attack helicopter, such as an Apache, to make the actual kill.

The opposition

The Apache had better be good because it faces stiff competition in the Russian Mi-24 Hind, an advanced-de-

(Please turn to page 142)

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HELICOPTERS SHOOT BACK

(Continued from page 138)

sign gunship already proved effective in the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Like the Apache, it's a heavily armored tandem-seater equipped with laser-homing missiles. It may have at least one weakness, however. Unlike the Apache, it apparently is not designed for high-G maneuvers. Several have crashed when rotor blades sliced into tail booms due to abrupt changes in direction.

The Hind also is a huge machine, making it difficult to conceal, and is one of only a few combat models the Russians are known to have. By contrast, the United States and its NATO partners abroad are turning out more than a dozen different types and sizes suited to varying mission requirements and battlefield conditions. Sikorsky's UH-60A Black Hawk, though technically a utility transport, can be equipped with Hellfire missiles for antitank sorties and is a fast, rugged performer. Some 1,100 Black Hawks and 675 Apaches are already on order by the Army.

Other U.S. combat models include the Hughes 530MG Defender, a day/ night, all-weather gunship with a mastmounted sight; the Bell 406 Combat Scout, a combination scout/attack helicopter; the Sikorsky multirole H-76, a troop transport with antitank capability; and the Bell AH-1S HueyCobra, a tandem-seat tank killer that's a highly sophisticated and heavily armed derivative of the Vietnam-vintage Huey.

From France comes the Aerospatiale Gazelle, a mean-looking machine that, in modified form, starred as the miracle-performing supercopter in the science-fiction movie Blue Thunder. An even more formidable version, the Dauphin, will have advanced avionics and heavier armament. Britain's contribution is the new Westland Lynx-3, a versatile day/night, all-weather gunship equipped with both TADS/PNVS avionics and a mast-mounted sight.

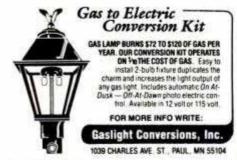
West Germany's PAH-1, made by Messerschmitt-Bolkow-Blohm, carries antitank missiles, but will soon be replaced by the PAH-2, an upgraded tandem-seat model equipped with both air-to-ground and air-to-air missiles, TADS/PNVS avionics and a 30-mm nose cannon similar to the Apache's. Italy's Agusta A-129 Mangusta (Italian for mongoose) is also a tandem-seater and, like the Apache, has both nightvision avionics and laser targeting.

Today's helicopter gunships may not be able to see through walls like the fictional Blue Thunder, but they can do some pretty wild things. And tomorrow's versions, with still more advanced avionics and more powerful weapons systems, may even make the Blue Thunder look tame.

POPULAR MECHANICS • FEBRUARY 1985





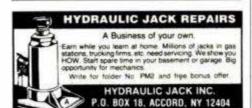


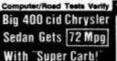
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DRIVING TOYOTA'S MR2

(Continued from page 89)





Midship-mounted 16-valve engine (left) is a real screamer, developing all of its power between 4,500 and 7,500 rpm. The rear trunk is able to hold five grocery bags upright.

front discs are vented, the rears solid.

I found the passenger compartment eerily devoid of engine noise. In more exotic mid-engined cars, you expect at least a little hum or rasp or something back there to let you know what's going on, but not in the MR2. You have to check the tach, and then you're amazed to note that the engine loves to run at and above 5,000 rpm. In fact, until you wind her out to about 4,500, not much happens. After that, though, the ramtube butterflies flip open and the car takes off like a shot.

This is the same 16-valver that Toyota introduced in the rear-drive GT-S sport coupe (Driving Toyota's Corolla GT-S, page 109, Nov. '84). As in the GT-S, this engine feels relatively weak at the low end but comes on very strong above 4,500 rpm. Redline is an honest 7,500 rpm, so you have to learn to keep the engine wound up tight.

The MR2's transaxle comes directly from the front-drive Corolla sedan. But, like the Corolla GT-S, the MR2's gearbox has a little too much of a gap between second and third gear ratios. Clutch action is silky smooth, and the shift lever feels as though it's bolted directly to the transaxle. Actually, it's a remote system using dual flex cables.

The MR2's front suspension is by MacPherson struts located by transverse links and rubber-bushed diagonal tie struts, and the rear uses a modified MacPherson setup, this time with twin trailing arms.

To me, the MR2's ride felt mighty good; not jiggly but controlled and pleasingly firm. Toyota suspension engineers managed to remove most of the body's tendency to roll. They did this partly by attaching the front and rear stabilizer bars directly to the MacPherson-strut housings through a ball jointand-link arrangement.

Performance feels great in every dimension. Factory figures put 0 to 60 time at 8.7 seconds, with the guarter mile coming up in 16.2 seconds. Where the car probably shines best, though, is in overtaking on the highway. Shift down, keep the engine humming and third gear winds out to an easy 85 mph.

Fuel economy turns out to be another of the MR2's long suits. Its estimated EPA figures are 26 mpg in the city, 29 on the highway.

Inside the car, the seats are great. The rest of the interior-to me, at least-reflects the same custard pie as the exterior. The passenger's side of the dashboard slopes rearward at 45°, rendering it neither useful as a parcel shelf nor distant enough to give the illusion of greater interior spaciousness.

There is a surprising amount of luggage space in the MR2's two stowage compartments. The 2.8-cu.ft. forward hatch under the hood contains a mini spare and has room for a couple of small soft-sided carry-ons. The 5.1-cu.-ft. rear trunk behind the engine is deep and uncluttered. In all, the MR2's carrying capacity measures 7.9 cu. ft. versus 6.8 for the Fiero.

Even with my reservations about the MR2's styling, I don't see Toyota having any trouble selling the 36,000 units it plans to import during 1985. The MR2's price wasn't set at press time, but it's expected to be in the neighborhood of \$11,500.

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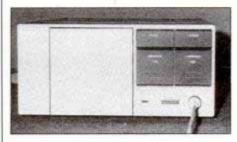


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PHOTOGRAPHY UPDATE (Continued from page 70)

electronics. Its new M-6—a rangefinder—has through-the-lens electronic exposure metering.

Electronics governs flash output today, too. Most program cameras use "dedicated" flashes of the same brand to read the camera's settings and mete out just the right amount of light. Now, Vivitar is offering a universal "dedicat-



ed" flash, the 5200 Easy Reader, for use with several popular brands of program cameras. Disk player for Fuji's TV-Photo system (above) uses 2-in.dia. floppy disk shown in display at right.

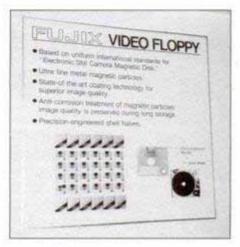
Many of these automated electronic "program" features now can be found in the so-called "medium-format" cameras, which use 120-size roll film for 6×4.5-cm exposures. This is nearly three times the size of a 35-mm frame, thereby making superior enlargements possible. Fuji's GS645S and Pentax's 645 are typical of this breed. Rollei added sophisticated medium-format features (such as dual, eye-level/waist-level viewfinders) to its 35-mm SLR Rolleiflex 3003.

A similar hybridization has emerged in the "auto-everything" 35-mm compact field. The half-frame 35-mm camera returns with Konica's AA-35—in a size no larger than a disc-film camera. The company's reasoning: disc-format portablility with better enlargements, because the exposure is five times larger than a disc-film frame.

Other noteworthy entries among 35mm compacts hail from Yashica and Fuji. Yashica's T-AF and T-AF/D are the first compacts whose built-in flashes automatically meter light output by the distance from the subject.

Fuji's DL-200 presents two "firsts" for compacts. One is through-the-lens light metering. The other is "film prewinding"—film is loaded and automatically extracted from its canister. As frames are exposed, the film feeds back into the canister.

Most auto-everything compacts introduced at Photokina now accommodate film speeds up to 1000 ASA (Fuji's



go to 1600). Also, many new compacts feature "DX" film sensing, enabling them to adjust automatically for correct film speed according to the "DX" code embedded on the take-up leader of most new color films.

Virtually every film manufacturer introduced new papers at Photokina, promising better color resolution and longer-lasting prints. Konica says its paper's color stability lasts 100 years.

In optics, Pentax introduced fish-eye (180°) and ultra-wide-angle lenses with much-reduced peripheral distortion.



Electronics adapts Vivitar flash (above) to most program cameras, and lets Fuji put many features in 41/4-lb., 8-mm camcorder.



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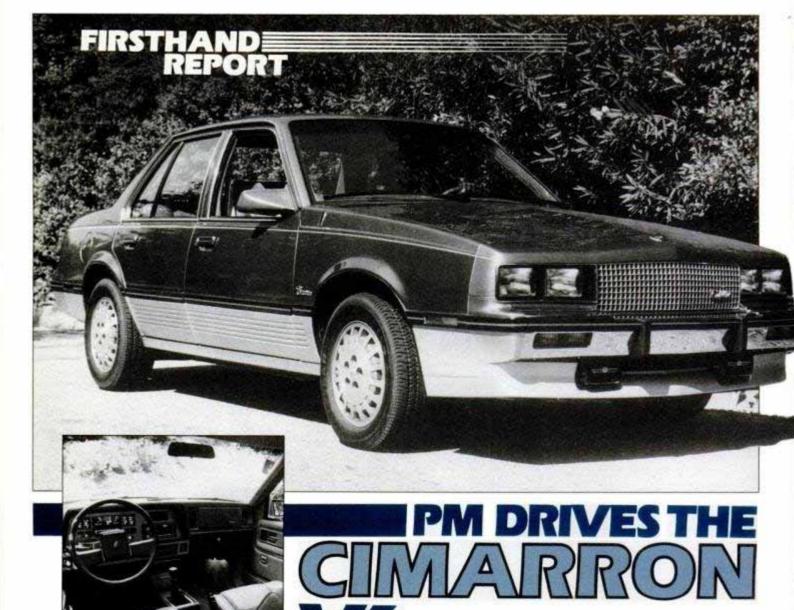
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Decent seats and fine controls (above) add to the Cimarron's sport sedan ambiance. D'Oro trim package includes fluted rockers.

BY MICHAEL LAMM, West Coast Editor

The new V6 and four-speed manual transaxle finally move the Cimarron from the minors into the majors. Here's the Cimarron Cadillac should have been offering all along.

The original 1981 Cimarron was an unsatisfactory repackaging job. GM took its four-door, four-cylinder J-car, added Cadillac badges, made a lot of options standard, and sold it for \$4,000 above the basic Chevrolet Cavalier CL: virtually the same automobile. No one felt particularly good about the early Cimarron. The Honda Accord and Mazda 626, both less expensive, outdid it in every way. So did such intended rivals as the Audi 4000, Saab 900, Volvo DL, Nissan Maxima, Toyota Cressida and BMW 3-series.

Well, the Cimarron comes a lot closer to the best of those cars now. By the simple expedient of adding the Chevrolet-built, 2.8-liter, fuel-injected, 60° V6, the 1985 Cimarron becomes a remarkably likable sport sedan. The V6 adds nearly 50 percent more horsepower (129 versus 88)—a dose of oomph the car needed from the start. Equally important, the V6 makes the Cimarron considerably smoother, quieter, more flexible and more refined in the way it feels and handles in traffic. Anyone who test-drives the V6 and the Four back to back won't be happy with the Four ever again.

Personally, I prefer the V6 with the four-speed manual transaxle. But you can also get the V6 with the THM-125 three-speed automatic, and that's not a bad combination either. I found the automatic more tractable and user-friendly than most—no annoying

quirks; no torque-converter lockup ambivalence; and it upshifted and downshifted at my slightest throttle command, almost instinctively. It's an excellent automatic.

Chevrolet's 129-hp V6 lets Caddy's J-car finally compete in the Audi/BMW league.

Still offered is the 2-liter Four with either automatic or five-speed manual. This Isuzu-built five-speed, though, isn't up to the torque of the V6, so the V6 comes with the beefier Muncie FX-125 four-speed instead.

The 2-liter pushrod Four, also supplied by Chevy, sticks with a single-point throttle body injector, while the V6 uses Bosch K-Jetronic multiport fuel injection and tuned intake runners. The V6 has a single serpentine belt for all accessories except air conditioning, which uses its own V-belt.

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DRIVING THE CIMARRON V6

(Continued from page 148)

V6 engine has changed the Cimarron in several physical ways. First, because the transverse V6 is wider than the Four, both cars have been made 4.8 in. longer. All this extra length is added ahead of the firewall.

Second, the V6 Cimarron comes standard with what amounts to a handling suspension package: 2-mm thicker front stabilizer bar, gas-filled front Mac-Pherson struts and rear Delco-Bilstein shock absorbers, stiffer spring rates, plus larger wheels and tires. The V6 uses Goodyear Eagle GT P205/60R14s on 14-in. alloy wheels, while the Four stays with 13-in. alloy wheels and P195/70R13 tires.

Handling Los Angeles

The wider tires and stiffer suspension definitely translate into better handling for the V6. I compared three Cimarrons on Los Angeles streets and freeways-two V6s and a Four. No contest. The V6s handled traffic in an easy, confident manner while the Four tended to feel slightly clumsy by comparison. I couldn't test all-out cornering, but in brisk driving over twisty stretches of Sunset Boulevard in Beverly Hills and along nearby Mulholland Drive, the V6 felt surefooted, steady, stable and certainly on a par with any of its imported peers.

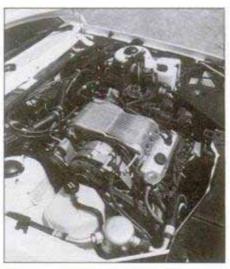
Cimarrons with either engine have good, quick, responsive, precise rackand-pinion power steering. I appreciated the variable-ratio feature, in addition to ample feedback through the leatherwrapped steering wheel. The V6's ride, while slightly firmer than the ride the Four delivers, is supremely comfortable, particularly at freeway speeds. I got the impression that the V6 Cimarron would make an excellent longdistance touring car.

Standard equipment

You still get a fair complement of accessories in the '85 Cimarron, including automatic air conditioning, an AM/FM stereo with four 4-ohm speakers, voice reminder, pulsed wipers, full gauges, fog lamps and courtesy lights everywhere. Among the Cimarron's options are digital vacuum-fluorescent instruments, glass sunroof, power seats/ windows/door locks, leather upholstery, cruise control, various sound systems and tilt wheel.

The Four uses GM's new variabledisplacement air-conditioner compressor, which doesn't cycle in and out and thus gives smoother performance. The V6, however, gets the DA-6 carry-over compressor, and while it does cycle, you hardly feel the power drain.

This year's D'Oro model is available



Transverse 2.8-liter V6 has a ribbed fuelinjection plenum that looks like a finned oil pan, leading to upside-down motor jokes.

in white or red with golden accents, 14in. wheels, Eagle GT tires and a flutedmetal rocker molding. This stylized molding is optional on other Cimarron models as well.

The V6's projected best EPA mileage estimates are 20 mpg city, 26 mpg highway, as against 25/33 mpg for the Four. Due to a higher (numerically lower) final-drive ratio, the V6 with automatic delivers 2 to 3 mpg more than the stick.

And despite a \$400 to \$600 higher price tag, Cadillac expects to sell three to four times as many V6 Cimarrons as Fours. Makes sense.

THE PM REPORT CARD			
Cadillac Cimarron V6	GRADE	COMMENTS	
Acceleration	В	More than adequate.	
Handling	В	Excellent in normal traffic.	
Braking	A	Sure, fade-free stops.	
Steering	A-	Variable ratio, good feed-back.	
Transmission (manual)	A-	Good 4-speed; should be a 5	
Ride	A	Smooth but not mushy.	
Fuel economy	В	Quite competitive.	
Seating	В	Could use more support, adjustments.	
Vision	A	Good views in all direc- tions.	
Gauges/ controls	A	Fine positioning, prefer analog.	
Ventilation	A	Great standard air conditioning.	
Noise @ 55 mph	A	No wind roar with win- dows up	
Cargo capacity	A	Deep, usable trunk.	
Engine serviceability	В	Tightly packed	
Fit and finish	A	Prototypes look great.	

Acct. No.

City .

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Body Solder: The Permanent Panel Repair



Body solder makes a permanent professional-quality repair that won't crack, lift, or shrink. Easy to apply with a household propane torch and can be shaped to any contour. Great on patch panels, seams, and edge work. Accepts paint just like sheetmetal. Far more durable than synthetic fillers. The craftsman's method still used today by the best body shops, restorers — even by auto manufacturers. The complete kit includes four ½ lb. sticks body solder, 2 paddles, 1 lb. tallow, ½ lb. tinning butter, 14" body file with holder, and FREE instruction book "Auto Body Solder" containing 50 pages, with over 50 illustrations (the most complete source of body solder techniques available!).



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The Eastwood professional sandblaster package includes our all-metal, power gun

(same as used on our larger units), ten-foot hose, 14" pickup tube, spare nozzle and detailed instructions. Just hook up to a one H.P. compressor, insert the pickup tube into dry sand or other abrasive and you're ready to go. The blaster's suction head draws abrasive easily. No surging. No skipping.

Three operations in one: Sandblaster, liquid blaster, air gun. With degreasing solutions, you can use it to remove buildup on engines and parts. Also get a high-velocity flow of air to dry or clean parts. All spare parts are available through our catalog.

#9536 Sandblast hood and lens \$19.95

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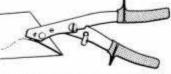
64 PAGE
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Just adjust tool to metal thickness, flange repair area and lay in patch panel. Your weld will be flush with body metal, which minimizes grinding and uses less filler. Works in tight areas to make sharp curves. Requires little effort for perfect flanges.

#6286 Panel Flanger\$29.95

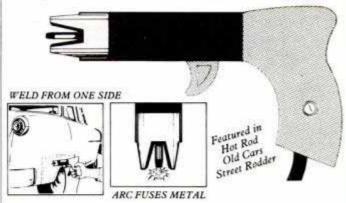
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LOOKS AT...



Orem Super Square

Beveling one corner of the tongue and machining a slot in the blade has turned the tried-and-true carpenter's square



To lay out rafters, butt tongue beyel to edge of stock. Pivot square so angle mark in slot aligns with same edge. Then mark cut line.

into Super Square—able to determine all angle cuts and inches-rise-per-footrun at a single measurement.

Roof framing, stair risers and other hard-to-figure angle cuts become a simple matter of pivoting the 111/4ounce aluminum square on the beveled corner at the tongue's 12-in. mark and reading the angle in degrees in the blade's slot, or in inches-per-foot-slope along its inside edge.

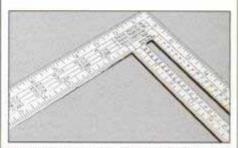
Super Square also determines exact deductions for ridge beam thickness when working with the compound lateral angles required for hip and valley rafters.

Super Square is made by Orem Research Inc., located at 513 North Elm St., Hinsdale, Ill. 60521. The manufacturer's suggested retail price for the tool is \$24.95 plus \$2.65 shipping.

-Rosario Capotosto



Instructions and functions are anodized onto Super Square's scratch-resistant surface.



Slot reads angles in degrees and directly measures deductions for material thickness.

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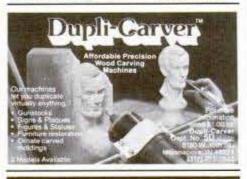


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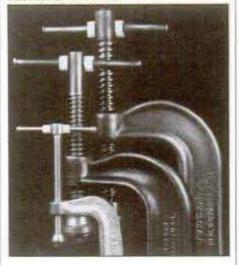
HINTS FROM READERS

Furniture crack filler



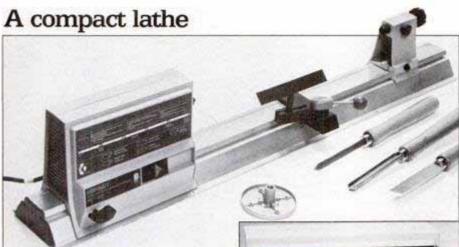
The inevitable cracks that develop at furniture joints can be closed neatly with a small amount of clear silicone rubber sealant. Using a fingertip, apply the silicone sealant directly from the tube. It will form a cove that scarcely shows, yet fills the crack. This treatment keeps dust and dirt out, permits joint movement, and won't break up as a solid filler would. Apply the sealant after the final finish. The finish will show through as though the sealant weren't there.—Richard Day

Handle brakes



To hold a C-clamp handle or a bench vise handle in place as it is turned, cut 1/8- to 1/4-in. lengths of appropriate-sized elastic tubing. Place a length on each end of the crossbar and slide the tubing to the middle. The tubing should fit the clamp or vise handles tightly enough to hold the bar in place, yet slide easily to facilitate use when the crossbar is in the maximum leverage position.—Martin L. Fackler

PM LOOKS AT...



The Shopcraft lathe is a reasonably priced compact tool, but it will do a fine job.

I admit I was skeptical about a compact lathe. But the Shopcraft Model T6750-20 earned my respect after a few trial turnings.

Its capacity is 27 in. between centers and 7 in. in diameter. A self-contained universal motor delivers a maximum ½ hp and it is electronically controlled to vary the speed from 700 to 1.800 rpm. The speed control is a sliding lever that contains an integral on-off switch. Behind the headstock is a handy spindle lock which makes it easy to remove the spur center or faceplate.

I began testing this tool with a 4-insquare block of soft cedar. At the beginning of the roughing cuts with the gouge, the motor stalled a little. But this is normal for a universal motor when it is strained. After the workpiece was fully rounded, it was quickly and easily reduced to a slender spindle without further strain on the motor.

Next, I tried a 4-in.-square block of walnut. This harder wood caused too much strain for the initial rounding. After beveling the corners on a band saw and remounting the walnut workpiece in the lathe, further rounding was much easier.

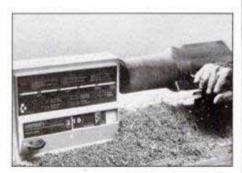
I used a piece of tough ash stock in a faceplate turning with good results.

In sum, it is a relatively low-cost lathe (\$200 faceplate \$10), good as a starter tool or to shape moderately sized turnings. The Chisel set is \$50. Benchmark Tool Co., 2601 Industrial Dr., Jefferson City, Mo. 65101, makes it.

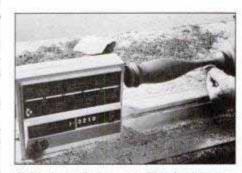
-Rosario Capotosto



Slide lever turns on the power and regulates speed. The left handle is a safety lock.



Roughing cuts on square softwood blanks are no problem, but hardwoods require preliminary beveling of corners.



Sand at maximum rpm. This is the same softwood blank shown in the previous photo. Turning required no more time or effort than on a large lathe.



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Preparation: Key To A Super Paint Job

Adequate preparation is the basis of a professional paint project. Here's how to prepare for the best job in the least time.

BY PENELOPE A. SPANGLER Home Improvement Editor

REPAIRING CRACKS IN PLASTER



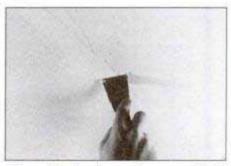
Use a punch-type can opener to widen the crack into a V shape so joint compound will adhere. Dust off any loose plaster.

et's face it, few of us really enjoy painting—yet we're willing to take up a paintbrush because we can look forward to a fresh-looking room, whose new appearance will last for several years. Proper preparation of walls and ceiling prior to painting will help you achieve a smooth, durable painted finish. Admittedly, this all-important first step takes time. However, efficient planning will help you reduce preparation time and still put a room in good order for painting.

Begin by making a list, then gathering the tools and supplies you will need. A few helpful tools are: punch-type can opener, 2-in. putty knife and/or pull scraper, 4-in. taping knife, screwdrivers and a ladder. Some helpful supplies include: joint compound or other filler compound; wood filler for woodwork; 60-80-grit silicon carbide sandpaper and 120-grit abrasive; deglossing solution; wall washing detergent; pigmented shellac to seal water stains; plastic sandwich bags, paper and pencil to label hardware; masking tape; drop-cloths and newspapers.

If preparation takes several weekends, you may want to keep the furniture in the room. Push it away from the

(Please turn to page 158)



After moistening the crack area, apply joint compound with a putty or taping knife, exerting pressure downward.

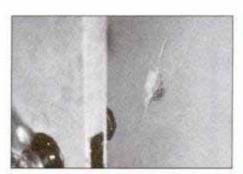


PREPARING WOODWORK



Scrape off raised paint with a putty knife or a specialized scraping tool. Then sand the area smooth with the adjacent surface.

PATCHING MEDIUM SIZED HOLES IN PLASTER



To repair medium, doorknob-sized holes in plaster where the lath isn't visible, first dust the area to remove loose plaster.



Moisten the area and apply joint compound with a putty knife or wide-blade taping knife in 1/4-in.-thick layers.



Sand between layers after each has dried. Moisten surface before applying successive layers, making final one flush with wall.



Top layer of compound has been feathered into the surrounding wall surface and is now ready to be primed and painted.



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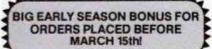
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Mount the print with wallpaper paste, or with white carpenter's glue mixed with about 10 percent water. Use a wet sponge or paper towel to smooth the print flat and to remove any glue that finds its way onto the face. Then put paper towels, another sheet of hardboard, and books or other weights on top for about 20 minutes drying time.—Ron Jegerings

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SUPER PAINT JOB

(Continued from page 156)

walls during preparation. If the ceiling needs work or you plan much sanding, cover the furniture. Don't use newspapers—the ink can rub off. If possible, move the furniture to an adjacent room.

Wear loose-fitting clothes and a longsleeved shirt. For big sanding jobs, wear a hat and a face mask. Complete one type of repair job before beginning the next.

Filling plaster cracks

To repair a crack in plaster, enlarge it with a punch-type can opener so that joint compound will adhere. Dust the crevice to remove debris; then moisten with a damp sponge and work joint compound firmly into the crack to fill it from top to bottom.

If you must add more compound, wait until the first coat is dry, and sand any rough spots with 60 to 80 silicon carbide abrasive paper. Then feather the final layer of compound into the wall and sand later. New crack-filling products that makers claim need no sanding can reduce preparation time. Such a product is Onetime spackle by Red Devil, Union, N.J.

Patching holes

To patch a hole in plaster, first brush away loose plaster. If the lath isn't showing, moisten the hole and cover it with several 1/4-in.-thick coats of joint compound, using a putty or taping knife, depending on hole size. Let compound dry and sand between coats.

In larger plaster holes where lath is visible, undercut the edges of the hole. Dampen the lath and plaster edges with water. Use a 4-in. taping knife to apply patching compound firmly into the hole so part of the compound passes through spaces between the lath and part attaches to the edges of the hole. Fill the hole in front of the lath about 1/4 in. deep.

Score ¹/s-in. grooves in a crisscross pattern in the first coat to ensure adherence of the next coat. When the first coat is dry, moisten the area with water and apply a second coat of patching plaster feathered into the adjacent wall surface. Sand smooth.

Patching a hole in drywall is somewhat trickier—there is no lath or other backing to support a patch.

To patch a medium-sized hole in drywall such as that made by a door-knob, first cut away the damaged area with a keyhole saw. Cut a piece of cardboard larger than the hole, yet small enough to pass through it. Punch a small hole in the center of the cardboard with a finishing nail. Then pass a 5-in. length of string, knotted at one end, through the cardboard. Apply glue



Remove hardware rather than taping it and trying to paint cautiously around it. It's faster and you get a smoother paint job.



To facilitate hardware replacement, keep all parts for a door or window in a plastic sandwich bag with identification.



If you can't remove a fixture such as a ceiling fan or light, cover it with newspaper or plastic to avoid paint splatters.



Scrape loose flecks of paint off metal surfaces with a wire brush. Or use a chemical stripper to remove all of the paint.

HOW TO REMOVE WALL COVERING





In most cases, it is best to remove wall covering before painting, unless the wall plaster is in poor condition or the wall covering is over drywall. In these cases, resurfacing the walls with 3/8-in. drywall is recommended.

Two widely used techniques to remove nonstrippable wall covering are soaking with wallpaper stripping solution, or using a wallpaper steamer. Both are followed by scraping.

Spraying on stripping solution can be



less messy than steaming. Apply solution with a pump-type garden sprayer or hand-sprayer bottle (photo, upper left). When scraping, change the scraper blade often to avoid damaging the wall (photo, lower left). The steamer shown above was rented for \$12.50 a day. The glass vial shows water level in the machine.

Before painting, sand or scrape off remaining residue and wash the wall with detergent containing trisodium phosphate, following directions.—P.S. to the front surface perimeter of the cardboard patch. Then pass the cardboard through the hole and pull the string taut so the board will make firm contact and adhere to the adjoining drywall surface.

When the glue dries, cut the string. Moisten the edges of the hole and apply joint compound with a taping knife.

Repairing a large section

To repair a larger section of damaged drywall, cut away the area in a square or rectangular shape, to expose enough adjacent stud surface for nailing. Cut a matching patch of drywall the same thickness as the damaged portion and nail it in place with plasterboard nails, letting the last hammer blow make a slight dimple in each nailhead. Spot prime the area and fill the dimples and crevice around the patch with joint compound.

As a last check for wall smoothness, slip an old stocking on your hand and run it lightly across sanded areas. Where the hose snags, sand again.

Treating woodwork

Before preparing woodwork, remove as much hardware as possible. Place all pieces for a particular opening in a small plastic bag with identificationfor example, "liv. rm., middle window, s.w. wall." This is an ideal time to polish hardware.

Remove peeling or blistered paint with a putty knife or paint scraper. Dust and fill gouges or dents with joint compound. Sand the patches smooth and prime the area.

If the woodwork has been previously treated with a gloss or semigloss paint, the surface should be roughened to accept new paint. Sand the surfacedust and wipe with a tack cloth before repainting—or use a deglossing agent.

To shield glass and other areas while painting, use a trim guard when possible. Masking tape can leave a tacky residue if left on more than a half hour.

For radiators, radiator covers and other metal items, use a wire brush to remove loose paint. If paint is thick and very uneven, remove all of it with a chemical stripper. Roughen glossy areas with sandpaper. Dust and clean with turpentine before painting. Remove lighting and other fixtures or carefully cover those you can't remove.

Cleaning surfaces

Clean all surfaces thoroughly so paint will adhere. Use a vacuum or broom to remove sanding residue, cobwebs and clinging soil. Wash ceilings with a powdered cleaning detergent such as Soilax. Then wash walls beginning at the bottom and working toward the ceiling. Use a damp sponge and be careful not

(Please turn to page 160)



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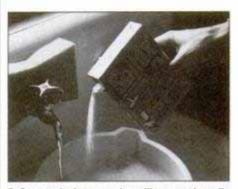
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SUPER PAINT JOB (Continued from page 159)

With a vacuum or broom, go over all ceilings and walls to remove sanded debris, cobwebs and any clinging grime.



Before painting, wash ceilings and walls with a powdered detergent, preferably one containing trisodium phosphate.



Check ceilings for water stains. Seal the stains with shellac or pigmented shellac so they don't bleed through the paint.

to soak the wall. Wash woodwork too. Seal water stains with a pigmented

shellac such as Enamelac.

Surfaces previously painted don't usually need a prime coat, but patches and new work should have a prime coat to ensure a good bond. Follow the recommendations for a primer on the paint can or patching compound can. In some cases, the prime coat will simply be an initial coat of paint. As you paint, keep a small tube of caulking at hand for any cracks you discover.

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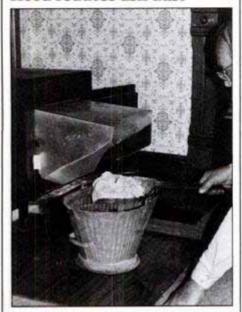
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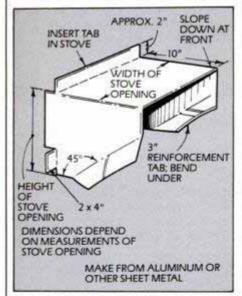
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HINTS FROM READERS

Hood reduces ash dust



A sheet-metal hood over the stove opening channels ash dust to the ash receptacle.



Removing ashes from a wood stove is a dusty job. You can reduce the amount of dust that gets on furniture and carpets by opening both the pipe damper and the front draft control before opening the door. A simple sheet-metal hood cut with metal shears also can channel dust into the ash receptacle. Make a pattern out of kraft paper to fit the height and width of your stove. Then scribe the pattern outline onto the sheet metal, cut it out and bend to shape.—Ralph S. Wilkes

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Do-It-Yourself Kit Factory Direct Sale Price Regular Factory Direct Price \$299.50 Completely Assembled and Finished \$249.50 Factory Direct Sale Price Regular Factory Direct Price \$399.50 Beautiful in its well-proportioned simplicity, this wall clock of solid 3/4" Pennsylvania cherry has all the features you admire in a grand-father clock. There's the traditional bonnet crown, arched-cove molding, deeply sculptured dial face door and side panels, and the brass Tempus Fugit dial face. Like our grandfather clock, its West German movement with solid brass weight shells plays the famous Westminster chimes each quarter-hour and sounds the hour with a Big Ben tone. Kit parts are pre-cut, including miters, mortises and tenons, and sanded smooth. Easy-to-follow instructions and hardware are provided, but due to possible breakage in shipment glass is not included. Each piece may be reordered separately ORDER TODAY! SALE ENDS MAY 31, 1985 minster Chiming Wall Clock \$199.50 Do-It-Yourself Kit Completely Assembled | MasterCard | | VRSA | | | Diners Club Card No. Alabama residents.
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Chevy Spectrum

Built by Isuzu and sold by GM, this is the low end of the price and performance spectrum.

BY DANIEL CHARLES ROSS, Detroit Editor

etroit carmakers, and General Motors in particular, have groused long and loudly over the so-called "\$2,000 advantage" Japanese carmakers have. It's said that, because of the difference in labor costs, Japan can build a small car for \$1,500 to \$2,000 less than the United States. This information is interesting because the 1985 Chevrolet Spectrum appears to be a Chevette recreated by Isuzu with front-wheel-drive.

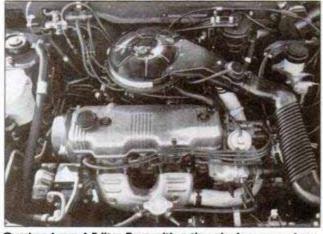
In outward appearance, the Isuzubuilt Spectrum three-door hatchback has styling cues reminiscent of the Honda Accord as well as the Chevette. In terms of layout, the Spectrum sits on a 94.5-in. wheelbase, 0.2 in. longer than the Chevette, but overall the car is shorter, narrower and lighter by 236 pounds. But the Spectrum's front-seat legroom of 41.7 in. is identical to the Chevette. The Spectrum's 1.5-liter Four gets the best EPA fuel economy of a respectable lot. Its 38 city/43 highway EPA estimate for five-speed manual cars bests not only the Chevette, but the gas-engined Ford Escort, Nissan Sentra, Mazda GLC, Toyota Tercel, Honda Civic 1500CX and Dodge Omni, according to GM. A five-speed transaxle with overdrive FOURTH and FIFTH helps to achieve these figures.

Chevy sources indicate a diesel engine, achieving 55 city and 72 highway mpg, may be introduced if the Voluntary Restraint Agreement (VRA) limit-

ing the importation of Japanese cars is lifted or amended upward. Only 29,500 Spectrums can be imported through May under current plans, and these will be distributed by Chevy dealers in 16 East Coast states. Though the model lineup includes the three-door hatchback we drove, as well as a four-door sedan, the sedan will debut first, to be followed by the hatchback at or about mid-year.

On the road

In normal road operation, we found the Spectrum as capable as the Chevette and other cars in its class. Acceleration is brisk, if not exciting. Braking is fine, with good pedal pressure and feel to the power front disc/rear drum brakes. Handling is average, meaning that it's fairly soft and compromising, as

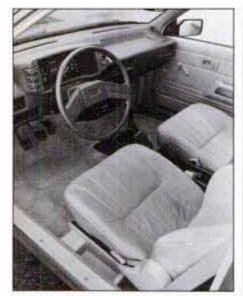


Overhead-cam 1.5-liter Four with a tiny air cleaner produces 70 hp at 5,400 rpm and 87 lb.-ft. of torque at 3,400 rpm.

intended. This is a commuter car born and bred.

The ride quality is good, however. Despite a tendency to choppiness, due primarily to Spectrum's short wheelbase, routine operation is okay. Shifting the standard five-speed manual transmission is quick and doesn't require undue effort. The rack and pinion steering with the optional power assist is responsive.

The car is unabashedly Japanese in-



Spectrum Interior is unmistakably Japanese in origin: useful and comfortable, with wellplaced switches and storage nooks.

side. Spectrum may wear the Chevy logo, but no American interior was ever like this. Though neither luxurious nor spartan inside, the Spectrum is comfortable and attractive. The instrument cluster-in American fashion-relies mostly on "idiot lights." A tach is optional on the hatchback only. There are storage nooks in the center console, doors, arm rests and sun visors.

The overhead-cam Four is an all-new design by Isuzu, and it features an aluminum cylinder head with crossflow hemispherical combustion chambers and the highest compression ratio in Chevy's lineup-9.6:1. This helps to give it such outstanding fuel economy figures for a subcompact.

Two unique engine features add their bit to the good mileage: two-ring pistons reduce friction compared to the normal three-ring design, and a hollow crankshaft reduces weight. What these features will do for or against engine longevity remains to be seen.

We were struck most not by how the Spectrum compares to the Chevette or to other competitors, but how it compared to Chevy's other imported offering, the Sprint (see Driving The New Chevrolet Sprint, page 185, Oct. '84). The front-drive Sprint is available in only nine West Coast states with a one-

(Please turn to page 164)







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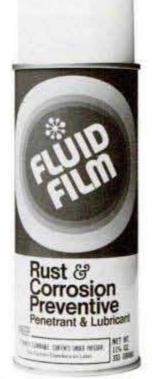
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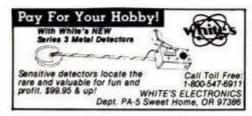
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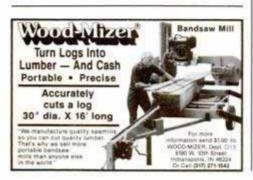
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CHEVY SPECTRUM

(Continued from page 163)

liter, three-cylinder engine of 48 hp that seemed to pull a lot stronger on acceleration and handle much better than the Spectrum.

On a test track, the Spectrum's performance was rubbery. The steering wheel and shifter are vague in operation and the 1,875-pound car's woozy handling gave neither confidence nor comfort. In contrast, the Suzuki/Chevy Sprint is a barrel of fun on the track. You can chirp the tires in second gear, throw the car into turns and always feel that it is under control. The Spectrum, on the other hand, always felt like it was going to get away. No one should drive this way on the road, of course, but faced with an emergency evasive maneuver, we'd rather try it in the Sprint than the Spectrum.

While the Sprint represents a new car, Spectrum merely redefines-albeit adequately-the capable Chevette at presumably less cost to build. Any manufacturing savings from this version, however, will apparently not be passed along to the buyer.

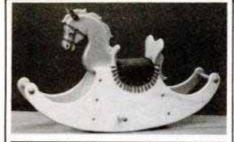
At this writing, Chevrolet hasn't pegged the selling price of the Spectrum, but we understand that the target is around \$6,300. This compares poorly to the '84 Chevette price of \$4,990 and the '85 Sprint at \$5,151.

In all, the Spectrum is a decent car for what will probably be a decent price. We can't help but wonder, though, if America really needs another Chevette, even if it does have front-wheel drive and a transverse engine.

THE PM REPORT CARD

CHEVY SPECTRUM	GRADE	COMMENTS			
Acceleration	С	Average for its class.			
Handling C		Decent city car; easy parker.			
Braking	В	Good pedal pressure.			
Steering	В	Responsive, not over- boosted.			
Transmis- sion	В	Clean shifts, good feel.			
Ride	B-	Slightly choppy.			
Fuel econo- A+		EPA 38 mpg city.			
Seating	B+	Snug, but good legroom.			
Vision	A	Good view all around.			
Gauges C+ controls		Average layout with good readability; needs tach.			
Ventilation	B+	Four vents, good flow.			
Noise B @ 55 mph		Engine loud when presse			
Cargo capacity	A-	Lots of it, but split-seats don't fold flat.			
Engine serviceability	В	Tight fit, but everything's reachable.			
Fit and finish	A	Japan's usual high standard.			

Size Plans





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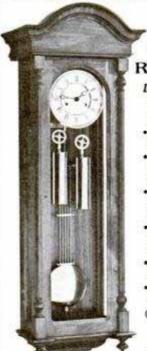
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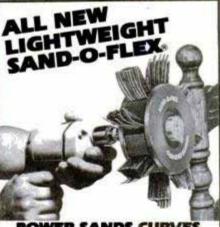
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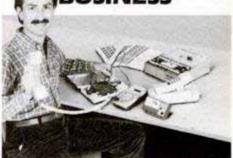
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PM'S TIME MACHINE

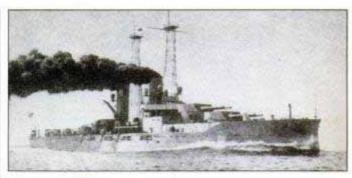
75 YEARS AGO: February 1910



Carpet looms go automatic.

Technology looms

In February 1910, we marveled at an "automatic loom" which weaves and cuts carpets to uniform size with a uniform design pattern. Perpendicular wires moving up and down against the warp of the rug allowed alternating of yarn colors to make complex patterns on the carpets. Carpet color and design could be reset after stopping the press. On a recent visit to the Eashion Institute of Technology in New York, we found that looms still operate on those principles, but computers have speeded up the process.



Eternal ships

The battleship Delaware passed sea trials in 1910. The ship could get up to just under 20 knots, although she couldn't sustain the speed without a pipe leaking in her steam system. The Dela-

ware had a 20,000-ton displacement and carried 10 12-inch guns. Battleships went into mothballs after World War II, but have been recommissioned periodically. Two are in service today in the Mediterranean.

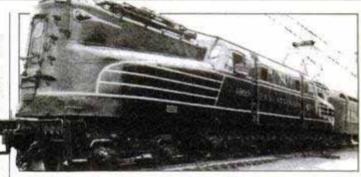
50 YEARS AGO: February 1935



First snowmobiles of wood.

First snowmobiles

The snowmobile of 50 years ago was a streamlined sled with a 2.5-hp outboard motor. The sleds moved along snow at a "fast" 20 to 25 mph. The front end was snub-nosed and the engine was mounted as on a boat. Warm air from the radiator flowed into the single-seat cockpit through dash vents. A brake lever was mounted in the dashboard, but the driver had to reach over the front to adjust the throttle. The body was spruce and plywood. Today's snowmobiles would dust their forerunners.

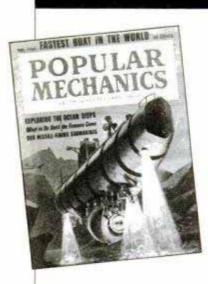


Supertrain breaks 55-mph speed record

Passenger trains that were going from New York to Washington, D.C., were running an average 55 mph back in 1935. Then a new electric "super" locomotive that averaged well over 60

mph was introduced. The twin-frame locomotive still operates on freight lines. However, today's passenger locomotives travel much faster than 100 mph and promise to go even faster.

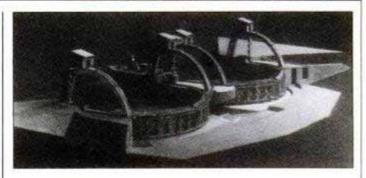
25 YEARS AGO: February 1960



America launches Polaris sub.

Polaris sub launched

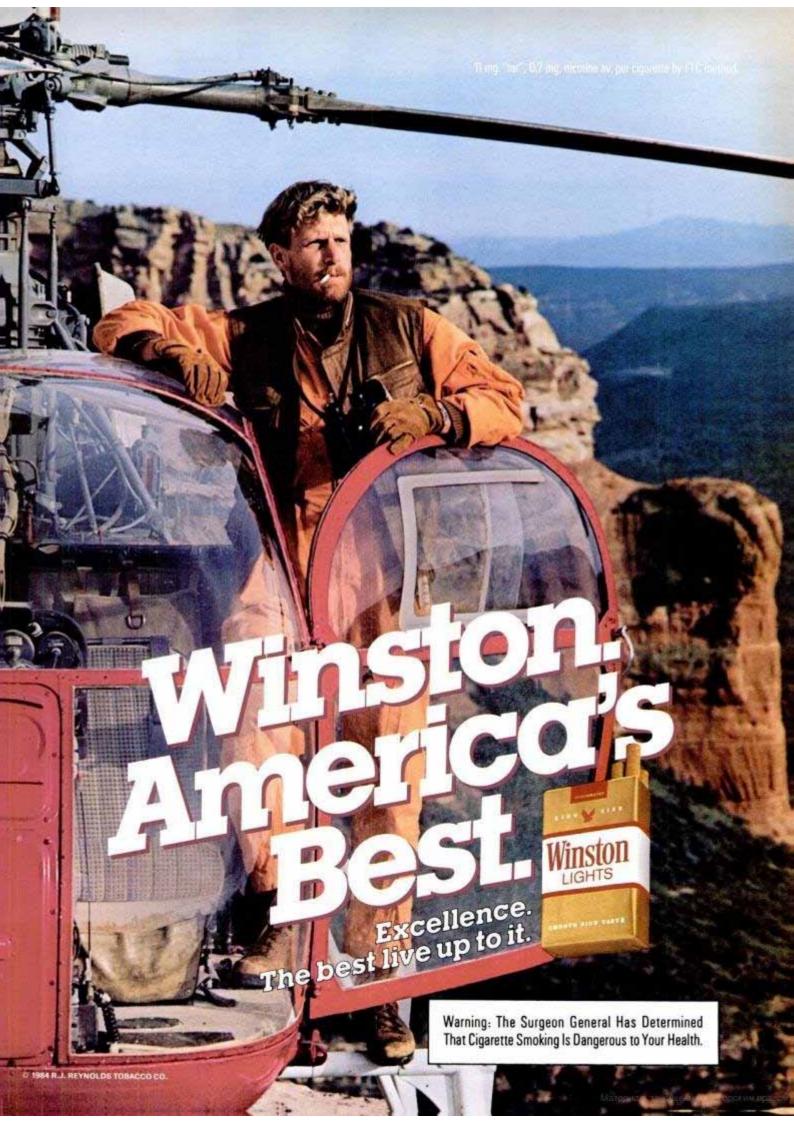
America's first missile-firing submarine—the George Washington-was undergoing final tests 25 years ago this month. The 380-ft. vessel carried gas-launched Polaris missiles that could be fired singly or all at once from eight hatches. The Navy now has more than 50 missile-firing atomic subs, most built similarly to the George Washington. New targeting systems and improvements in the Polaris boosters have made the missile-firing subs far more lethal, and a key to America's national defense strategy.



New armor holds back river in Holland

Constructed like the visors on armor built for knights, a pair of dams was constructed in Holland's Lek River to regulate the flow of water. The 174-ft.-wide steel visors moved up and down on an

arc of steel, driven by hydraulic motors. The gates proved so successful that the design is being copied by a 12-unit dam which is now under construction near Amsterdam.



A worker like this has no trouble carrying his share of the load.

The new 1985 Toyota Standard Bed holds 1,400 honest pounds of payload.** No ifs. No buts. No sweat.

Part of the reason is the heart under the hood-a 24 liter engine. Its relentless 103 horses with high torque push it from job to job. No standard grade small truck has a more powerful engine. Not one.

There are no overtime charges for



the overtime extras Standard Bed brings to the job, either. Standard on the Standard is a fully transistorized ignition system, power

assisted ventilated front disc brakes, rugged full box frame

construction and

steering column controls designed to let you work them without working.

And the cab space offers a fullbench seat for three, side-by-side, without skimping on head room or leg room.

But the best thing about getting a worker like this may be the knowledge OH WHAT A FEELING!

that Toyota owners reported the lowest incidence of repairs for any small truck-imported or domestic.***

Hire the truck. You'll never be sorry you did. Just ask the man that owns one.



* Manufacturer's suggested notal price. Dealer's actual retail price may vary. Price does not include tax, license, transporta-

ment and cargo.
*** 1984 J.D. Power Compact
Pickup Truck Survey.

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THE 1985 TOYOTA STANDARD BED. \$5,998.
HARDWORKING, RELIABLE, NO CHARGE FOR OVERTIME.

