

Tips, Tricks, and Sources

Northern Ohio Regional Group 20

Early Ford V-8 Club of America



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Original Version: December 12, 1999
Updated: March 19, 2008

I. Tips and Tricks

Cleaning, Detailing

1. Use Brillo pads and S.O.S. pads plus a little elbow grease to clean your whitewalls. *(Truman Fisher)*

Cooling Systems

1. When removing your water pump, remember the hidden bolt inside the pump. (You will need to remove the radiator hose to get to the hidden bolt.) *(Gene Blackburn)*
2. When replacing your water pump, replace the inside bolt with a stainless steel bolt. *(Craig Gorris)*
3. Add one teaspoon of Murphy's Oil Soap in your radiator to lubricate the water pumps. *(Bruce Parsons)*
4. When installing radiator or heater hoses, spray with CRC 556 or WD 40 and the hoses will go on much easier. *(Bill Royer)*

Disassembly. Assembly

1. Use a plastic hammer when pounding grease seals into place (not a ball peen) so as not to dent or damage the new seal. *(Bill Royer)*
2. Cut off rusted nuts, or twist off by tightening, rather than trying to get them off with a wrench. If the head of the nut is slightly rounded, try a metric wrench. *(Fred Smith)*

Electrical

1. To prolong the life of your battery, or bring a sulfated battery back to life, add one teaspoon of tetrasodium EDTA (available from Hudson Battery) to each cell. *(Gene Blackburn)*
2. To reduce battery post corrosion, put felt washers between the battery cable terminal and the battery, and spray with a battery anti-corrosion spray. *(Foster Buchtel)*
3. For your 1932 to 1948 Flathead, make a clip-on condenser for emergency road repair by adding an alligator clip to the wire end, and cutting a notch in the ground clamp portion of the condenser to slip under the mounting bolt or screw. *(John Coleman)*
4. To check the ground in your taillight, run a wire from the taillight to the ground connection on the battery. *(Everett Jordan)*
5. Add a dash of white vinegar to each cell to make your battery last longer. *(Bruce Parsons)*
6. Use external tooth star washers for ground connections to help assure a good contact with bare metal. *(Herb Strauss)*
7. For those emergencies when your lights don't work, use Elmer's Glue on refrigerator magnets and glue them to the backs of red and yellow reflectors - the yellow for the front of the car, and the red for the rear. Store these in your trunk. *(Truman Fisher)*

Engine, Transmission, Drive Train

1. Use an allen wrench as a dip stick when checking gear oil in the transmission or differential. *(Bill Royer)*

Fuel

1. Buy concentrated PowerShield lead additive from a farm supply store (e.g., Landmark Farm Stores) and mix your own. It is considerably less expensive than buying it from WalMart. *(Craig Gorris)*
2. Use an on-off-momentary switch for your electric fuel pump. *(Jeep Iacobucci)*
3. Wire your electric fuel pump through an oil pressure switch so it will cut off the fuel flow if you are in an accident. *(Jeep Iacobucci)*
4. To help avoid vapor locks, use a rubber gas line, which insulates gasoline from the heat better. *(Bill Royer)*
5. When rebuilding a carburetor or fuel pump, check to see if mating parts fit together with no gaps. *(Bill Royer)*
6. When pouring gasoline that was drained from an old car tank into your car or truck, use two paint strainers in the funnel to filter out dirt, rust, and other junk. *(Bill Royer)*
7. To replace the lead in your gasoline, mix a solution of four ounces of Marvel Mystery Oil to ten gallons of gasoline. This will also lubricate your valves. *(Gene Blackburn, Truman Fisher, Pat Rooney)*

Glass

1. If your wipers don't work, put Rain-X on your windshield and all your windows. *(Truman Fisher)*

Ignition, Starter

1. If your car does not start, check for heat at all of the connections in the starter circuit. *(Everett Jordan)*
2. The Bosch Platinum Spark Plug (Resistor No. 4236, Plug No. WR9FP) is an excellent spark plug for the flat heads. *(Herb Strauss)*

Interior

1. All car mats are made by Standard Auto Parts; therefore, they are less expensive if purchased from them. *(Craig Gorris)*

Lighting

1. Paint the inside of your taillights with white or aluminum paint to give a brighter light. *(Pat Rooney)*
2. Use tinfoil as reflectors inside your taillights for brighter lights. *(Fred Smith)*
3. Halogen and LED taillight bulbs are available for a brighter light. (If you are using plastic taillight lenses, make certain that the extra heat generated by the halogen bulbs does not melt the lenses.) *(Herb Strauss; Don Clink)*

Metal Repair. Body. Trim

1. Harley-Davidson makes a chrome protector that can be sprayed on chrome trim to protect it during winter storage. *(John Coleman)*
2. Vaseline on body trim clips makes them snap in easier. This also works for snaps on pickup covers. *(Craig Gorris)*

3. Use JB Weld for repairing leaks in gas tanks, broken door handles, etc. (*Herb Strauss*)

Miscellaneous

1. I have had good luck using Marine Tex or Easy Metal for repairing my steering wheel and a float leak in the carburetor. (*Jim Bates*)
2. Keep a piece of heavy cardboard in your work area to use to protect the back of your radiator when doing any work on the fan, generator, etc. (*Foster Buchtel*)
3. To burglar-proof your car, remove the center wire from the distributor and switch it with any other wire. (*Truman Fisher*)
4. Remove sticky tape residue from your car with "Skin-So-Soft" (Avon). (*Truman Fisher*)
5. Use the K.I.S.S. principle (Keep It Simple, Stupid!) when diagnosing or repairing your V-8. (*Everett Jordan*)
6. Keep a clean sheet of 1/4" glass in your workshop to use when you want have a true flat surface for sanding or to test a rod, shaft, or similar object for straightness. (*Bill Royer*)

Storage

1. if your garage floor was not vapor locked when it was poured, cover the floor with a tarp or a sheet of new plastic before storing your car. (*Foster Buchtel*)
2. Add a stabilizer to your gasoline for long-term storage. (*Herb Strauss*)
3. For long-term storage, take one fuel pump bolt out, and loosen the other one. This will let the diaphragm relax if you stop the engine when the cam is in an up position. (*Bill Cassidy*)

Suspension (Nothing submitted thus far for suspension)

Tools

1. Put broken up pieces of camphor (available at pharmacies in block form) in your tool box to prevent rust. (*John Coleman*)
2. Before starting to work on your car on a cold day, put your trouble light in the tool box to warm up the tools. (*Everett Jordan*)
3. Why is the ball peen hammer round on one side? It is for making gaskets. The flat side is for cutting gasket paper on the straight edge of the parts, and the "ball" is for cutting the holes or irregular shapes. (*Everett Jordan*)
4. Two critical tools to pack for a tour are a hammer and a cell phone. (Prefers to remain anonymous!)

Tires, Wheels

1. Check tire wear by putting a Lincoln Head penny upside down in the middle tread. If you can see more than half of Lincoln's head, consider replacing the tire. (*Foster Buchtel*)
2. In the winter, your tire pressure drops one psi per each drop of 10 degrees Fahrenheit in temperature. (*Truman Fisher*)

II. Recommended Sources

The following sources have been reported by our members as providing good services and products. Also, check NORG's website for classified ads and flathead discussion sites.

Carburetors

Mitch's Carburetors
4850 Bollinger Road
Vestaburg, MI 48891
(517) 833-2207

Generators & Alternators

Major's Remanufacturing
Rebuilt Alternators and Starters
3464 Ridge Rd., NW
Strasburg, OH 44680
(330) 878-7701

Certified Auto Electric
225 Northfield Rd.
Bedford OH 44146
(440) 439-1100
(888) 597-8278

www.mall-express.com/cert-Auto-Elect

Coils and Fuel Pumps

George "Skip" Haney
12168 Azure Court
Punta Gorda, FL 33955
(941) 637-6698 Day 'phone

Fasteners

Roy Nacewicz Enterprises
P.O. Box 544
Carleton, MI
(734) 654-9530

Old Car Clocks

Isom's Clock Repair
901 Beachler Rd
Tallmadge, OH
(330) 733-9133

The Clock Works
1745 Meta Lakes Rd.
Eagle River WI 54521
(800) 398-3040
info@clockworks.com

Flathead Parts

C&G Early Ford Parts
1941 Commercial St.
Escondido, CA 92029-1233
(760) 740-2400

Dennis Carpenter
4140 Concord Parkway S.
Concord, NC 28027
(704) 786-8139

The Pit Stop
P.O. Box 377
Hwy. 999 S. 1 mile
Gary, TX 75643
(903) 685-2531

Burton Antique Auto Parts
2445 Neff Rd.
Dayton, OH 45414
(877) 277-6753
burtonmort@hotmail.com

Transmissions

Canton Transmission
(Brian Hanlon)
1128 McKinley Ave., SW
Canton, OH 44707
(330) 454-7096