



Hints from the Model Garage



A coat of clear acrylic sprayed on license plates will preserve the painted surfaces and keep them looking new—even over several years of use required in some states. The acrylic is also useful for protecting chrome and damp-proofing wires.



Chains won't tangle or rattle in the trunk if you roll them in a strip of burlap. Cut the burlap slightly wider and longer than the chain, and lay the chain out flat before rolling. Heavy rubber bands will keep the rolls intact.



A good way to carry sand for emergency use on ice and snow is in a one-gallon can. Several cans are easy to stow compactly, and sand can't sift through as it sometimes does in bags. Pouring the sand where you need it is easier, too.



For a handy quick-cleaner around a car, try baking soda. A little sprinkled on a damp cloth will quickly remove gasoline stains around the filler cap, take off road-tar spots and spattered insects, and clean and neutralize battery acids.