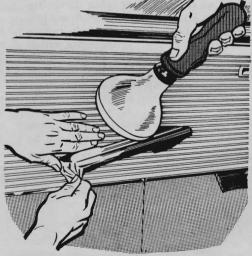


Make your garage a safe place to work in when you tune up your car's engine by venting deadly carbon monoxide exhaust gases outside with a snaking tailpipe extension. A length of flexible steel tubing or an old vacuum-cleaner hose will do the job. Be sure the diameter of the extension is such that it makes a leak-free fit around the tailpipe. Run the free hose end outdoors—and away from windows and siding: Exhaust fumes can discolor painted woodwork and corrode exposed metal surfaces.

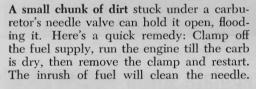


For a long-life inner-tube patch, clean an inch-wide area around the tear with a carbon tetrachloride cleaning fluid (such as Carbona spot remover). The fluid prepares the rubber surface for a patch without the usual preliminary sanding and scraping.



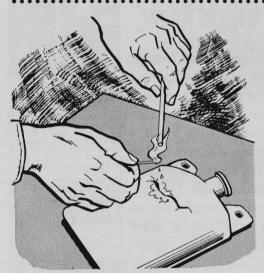
Soften vinyl-plastic upholstery material before covering armrests, by exposing it to an infrared heat lamp for a few minutes. You can easily stretch the softened vinyl around and under the curved ends for a neat, wrinkle-free re-covering job.



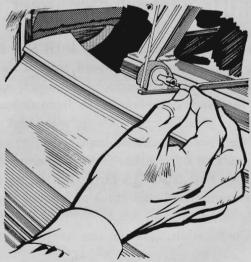




When removing electrical equipment, don't cut any wires until you've stuck small masking-tape "flags" on either side of the cut. Label each pair with the same number. There will be no confusion when it's time to reconnect; just match up the numbers.



Patch a leaky polyethylene windshield-washer tank with molten polyethylene. Light the end of a small piece of ¼"-diameter polyethylene tubing. Let the slow-burning tubing drip melted plastic into the crack. When hard, it's a permanent repair.



The tiny spring inside a spring-loaded ventpane lock knob is a hard item to buy at an auto-supply house. You can make a perfect replacement from the spring inside an old ball-point pen. Carefully cut the pen spring to the right length with wire cutters.