

AUTO IDEAS

Hints for Car Workers
Supplied by Our Readers



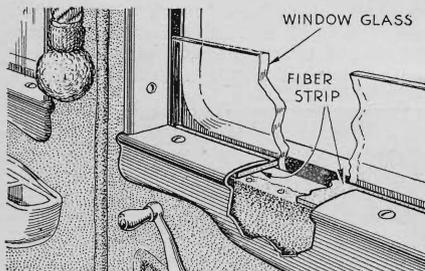
A series of holes in an ordinary strip of wood lathing, serve as a rack to hold valves when they are removed from the cylinder block for cleaning

Rack for Valves

A HANDY aid for the amateur mechanic who services his own car is the simple valve stick shown above. Made by drilling a series of holes in a strip of ordinary wood lathing, it serves as a rack for the valves as they are removed from the cylinder block. Placed in line with the motor, it holds the valves in their proper order.—R. R. K.

Stops Window Rattle

TO STOP a monotonous window rattle in my closed car, I recently removed the sill, cut a piece of fiber (heavy cardboard would have served) to fit tight against the window pane, and fastened it under the sill by means of the regular mounting screws that hold the sill in place. After this was installed on all windows, I found that it not only stopped the rattles but helped to keep out drafts as well.—J. P.

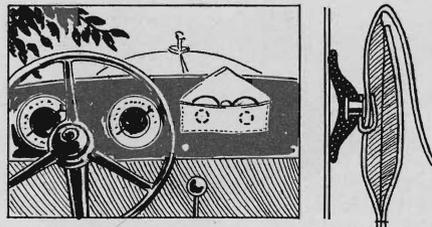


Piece of fiber, cut to fit the pane snugly, is fastened under sill and stops window rattle

Holder for Eyeglasses

DESIRING a safe, convenient storage place for his driving glasses, the writer made the inexpensive holder shown. It consists of a thin leather case provided with two small suction cups to hold it in place. The cups make it possible to place the holder on the dashboard, windshield, or any convenient flat surface. To obtain

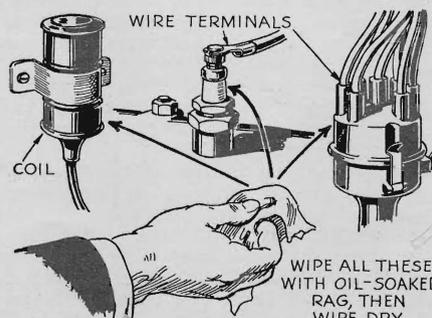
of the case. Of course, if desired the cups can be sewed or cemented to the rear of the case. Incidentally, a flexible leather eyeglass case of this type often can be obtained from a neighborhood oculist for very little.—E. W. B.



Fastened to dashboard or windshield with suction cups, this case holds driving glasses

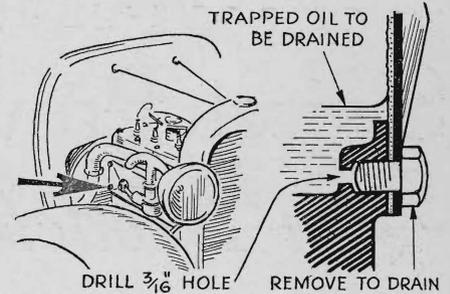
Drying Wet Ignition

WHEN a wet ignition system makes it impossible to start your car, rub the coil, spark plugs, distributor cap, and wire terminals with a cloth dipped in motor oil. Wiping with a dry cloth then will remove every trace of the moisture along with the oil. I have used this method on several occasions after a heavy rain soaked the motor and it has never failed to give quick and satisfactory results. Once, when a cloth was not handy I used a crumpled ball of old newspaper.—R. F. E.



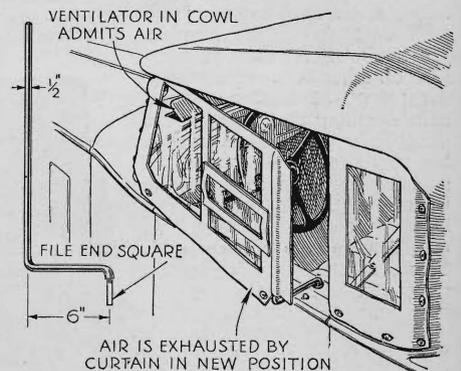
To start a car when ignition is wet, wipe parts with motor oil and then dry with soft cloth

suction cups of the right size, two fixtures generally used for holding cards or menus in store windows were purchased for five cents each. The spring clips were cut off and the strip of metal remaining bent into the shape of a hook and inserted in a slit cut in the rear



Draining Valve Chamber

ON LIGHT four-cylinder cars having an oil compartment in the valve chamber for supplying the rear main bearing with oil, an accumulation of thick oil and dirt sometimes is trapped in the compartment. Ordinary engine draining has little effect on this trapped muck but by following the suggestions outlined in the drawing above, the amateur mechanic can supply a drain hole. Simply remove the bottom bolt at the rear of the valve chamber and drill a 3/16-in. hole through the bottom of the bolt hole into the chamber. Then removing the bolt at oil-changing time will provide an exit for the thick oil. The bolt must, of course, be replaced tightly before starting the motor.—C. T. S.



Improving Side Curtains

WITH a few changes, the side curtain equipment of open roadsters can be altered to give a modified form of draftless ventilation. As shown in the illustration, the only change necessary consists of making two new supporting rods to fit the mounting holes in the top edge of the door. The new rods, bent from 1/2-in. round stock, should have a 6-in. offset instead of the 2-in. elbow supplied on the stock equipment. The additional bend serves to hold the rear edge of each curtain away from the car. The cowl ventilator then can be adjusted to supply intake air.—E. A. K.