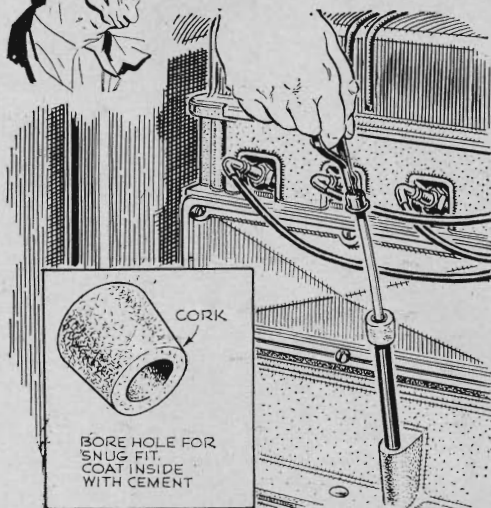
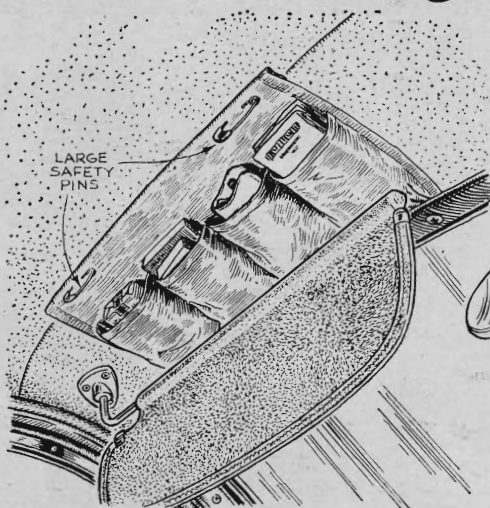




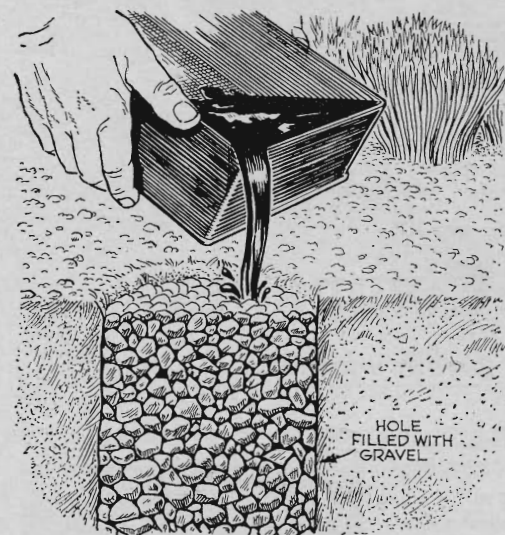
Hints from the Model Garage



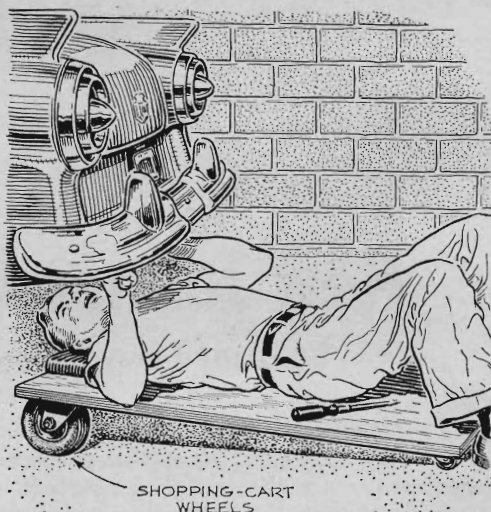
A cork stopper speeds up oil checks on engines in which the dipstick tube is hard to see. Instead of groping or using a flashlight, paint the stopper white, drill a hole through it, and cement it in place over the end of the dipstick tube.



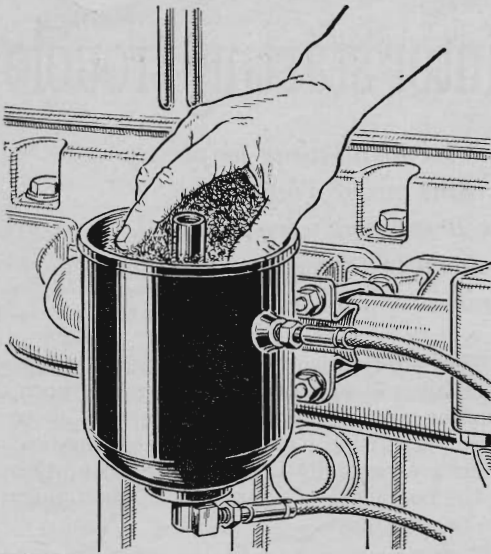
A holder for maps, sunglasses, and other small items can be made from a cut-down shoe bag. Restitch the pockets so items can't slip out. Pin the top edge to the headliner with safety pins. Secure the bottom under the window molding.



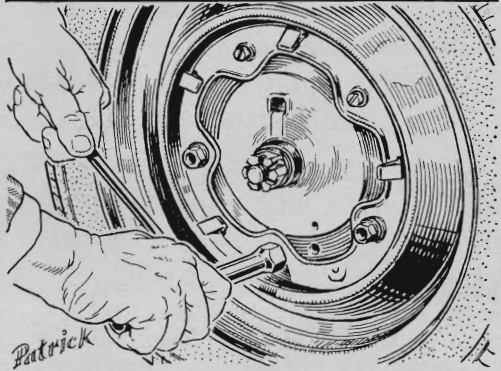
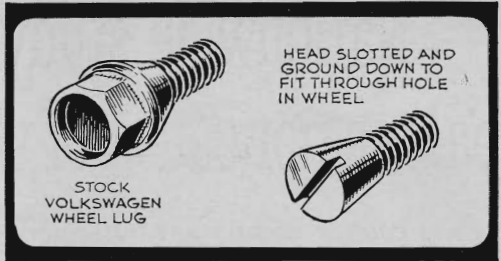
Disposing of used engine oil can be a problem. Solution: Dig a hole in the ground with a posthole digger and fill it with fine gravel. Then pour in the oil. It will be absorbed into the ground before your next change. Cover the spot with soil.



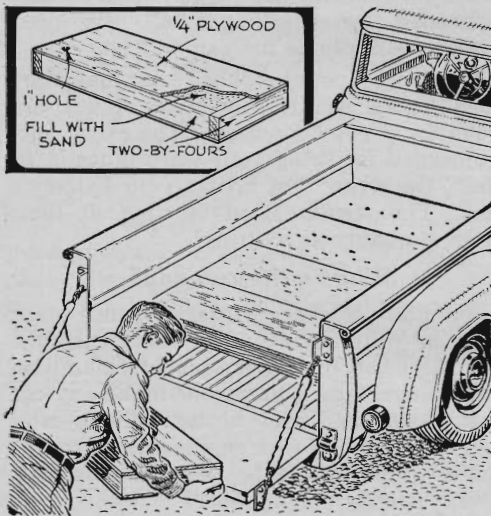
To make a creeper more maneuverable while you're working under a car, replace the small casters at the front (pillow end) with larger wheels. A pair of swivel wheels like those on a shopping cart can be adapted easily for this purpose.



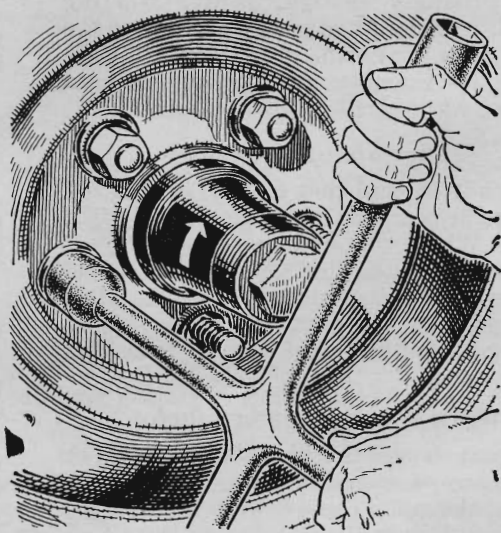
Cleaning sludge from an oil filter is easy with highly absorbent lint salvaged from a clothes dryer. Wad the lint into a ball and push it down into the filter. When the oil is soaked up, wipe the inside of the filter clean with a lint-free rag.



VW brake drums have no studs for positioning a wheel when changing tires. You can make temporary ones by grinding down two extra wheel lugs. Saw screwdriver slots. Before removing wheel, temporarily replace two lugs with the screw-in studs.



Need ballast in your pickup truck when it snows? Five of these sandboxes take up little space, and they won't slide around. Tops and bottoms are 1/4-inch plywood; sides are two-by-fours. A one-inch hole in the top of one lets you use sand on ice.



Small arrows painted on axle hubs will remind you to turn the lug bolts in the proper direction when you're changing a tire. This is particularly handy on cars that have a left-hand thread on one side and a right-hand thread on the other.