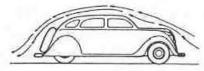
TO REMOVE A TIGHT NUT: Try heating it, if it cannot be budged with a wrench. Try pouring kerosene on the nut and bolt and let it stand for an hour or so. Drill holes in the nut and split it with a chisel if it will not come otherwise.





Rusted machine screws, bolts, nuts and assorted other fasteners can cause more than a little dismay for the casual old car hobbyist as well as the serious restorer.

Before you skin more of your knuckles or break a fastener off, leading to the joy of drilling and retapping, try this bit of a trick. Most hobbyists are familiar with the advantages of heating a part with a propane or acetylene flame to "coax" it from its' bindings. Are you aware that some rebuilders also use extreme cold to "break" a corrosion deadlock?

There is actually more than a little risk at times when using open-flame torches. Many a fire or total loss have been caused by heating excessively. "Freezing" a fastener depending on its' size, location, and degree of corrosion, may be the edge you need in order to save the part. The use of "dry ice" or a refrigerant is not unknown. In the case of R-12(Freon) the inexpensive home-use containers only cost about a dollar each. The recharge hose that comes with a typical air conditioning recharge kit is used to aim a flow of chilling gas that may be enough to "crack" the seemingly welded bond. If you can locate "dry ice" pack it around the rusted part. Such may be trick. These tricks and substances are not without personal risk. BE VERY CAREFUL! A dangerous burn is as possible as with a torch.

Oh, really???

I promised a bit about penetrating oils. A while back I discovered Kroil, a well-kept secret of master mechanics for years. Made in Nashville by KANO Laboratories (order direct at (615) 833-4101; Kroil comes in liquid or spray; they also have many other handy automotive chemicals), this is one of the best penetrating oils around. I prefer it for nuts that have completely rusted past looking like a nut. A short soak and it spins right off! Then Chuck Cochran tipped me off to Gibbs Brand penetrating oil, which not only penetrates, but does a multitude of other handy tasks as well. I find the Gibbs oil is great for reaching hard to get to areas because of its extra powerful spray. It also does well on window knobs, etc. Call Gibbs at 1-800-442-2792. They are looking to add distributors and will reward you for any deals that come about!