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Here are the editors' choices for this month's **Tech Tips**. Each of these contributors will receive a jacket and a set of fog lights from Lucas Girling.

Congratulations! Keep those tips coming!

NISSAN TIMING CHAIN HOLDER

There have been many special tools used to hold the timing chain in place on L-series Datsun/Nissan engines while servicing the cylinder head. One that works well is a ¾-inch, ½-inch drive chrome deep-well socket with a retrieval wire attached to it.

Unlike broom handles, or homemade wooden wedges, the socket just bottoms on the oiler, and is easy to remove. This works on all L-series engines.

Denny Massingham Denny's GoFast Olympia, WA

MANY APPLICATIONS FOR WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID

Windshield washer fluid is inexpensive—\$1.19 per gallon—and non-flammable. I have found many practical uses for this around the shop:

- Detecting vacuum leaks. Put it in a squirt bottle and squirt a suspected leak such as injector seals or intake gaskets. Listen for an RPM change and watch for a change in HC/CO levels on your infrared emission analyzer.
- Detecting arcing ignition parts.
 Spray a fine mist over the wires, load the engine, and watch for sparks or arc-over.
- Loose wires in the cap. Spray a fine mist over the cap, and see if the engine dies.
- Clean up of fenders, hoods, etc.
 Loose drive belts. Spray the

suspect belt and listen for a change in its noise or squeal.

Kenneth Lee Ken's Auto Repair San Francisco, CA

PINPOINTING ELECTRIC FUEL PUMP NOISES

When troubleshooting electric fuel pump noises, always check for cracked fuel pump inlet hoses. Also watch for loose hose clamps and leaking fuel tank pickup tubes. If the pump is sucking in air bubbles, it will be very noisy. Also, if voltage at the pump isn't a steady battery voltage, check the wiring, relays, and fuses. Many pump relays are triggered by the ignition module. Check the connections here, too. This has—and will—cause the same symptoms.

Keith Lawyer Auto Technik Honolulu, HI

JAMMED RELIEF PISTON

Occasionally a cup style, oil pressure relief piston will jam in an oil pump. Removing it can be very difficult. When this type piston is jammed in its bore, find a proper sized tap and screw it into the cup. The turning action of the tap will break the cup loose and the tap can then be used to pull it out.

Hugh M. Grissom Engine Specialties Rockland, MA

TOYOTA COMPUTER HARNESS TIP

When you remove the cylinder head from a Toyota, you have a lot of wiring to deal with. I think it's easier to unplug the wiring harness from the ECU and then carefully pass the harness through the firewall. Then, remove this harness along with the head instead of unplugging the injectors, sensors, grounds, etc.

The ECU is located at the right side kick panel on trucks. On Celicas and Cressidas, the ECU's behind the glove box. On Camrys, it's under the center of the dash.

Robert Buxton Buxton's Import Auto Repair Brookville, PA