A CHEAP AND EASY TOE-IN ALIGNMENT FIXTURE

By Steve Smith, Morristown, Indiana

Here is a set of plans for the construction of a set of cheap toe-in alignment fixtures which are easier to use than the age old method of trying to measure it on the inside with a tape measure, string or rod setup.

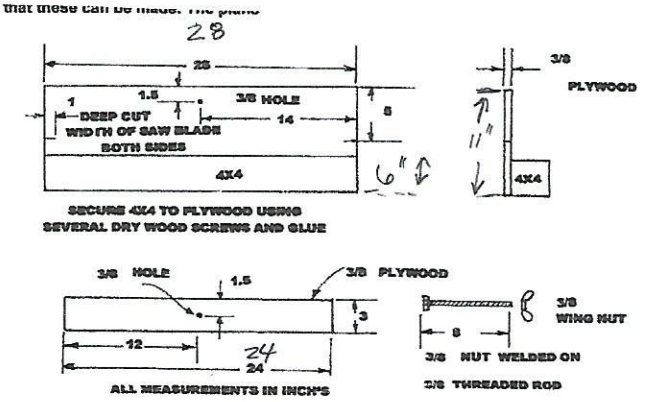
These have been adapted from a set professional made ones for the racing industry cost several hundred dollars.

Using these it is possible to set the toe-in closer. Also it can be accomplished by one person without any help and little effort.

The following plans show one way that these can be made. The plans can be modified as required in order to use the materials that one may have available for use.

The example shown has been made out of left over wood from other home projects. The fixture can also be made from sheet metal, plastic or any other combination of ridged material.

This drawing is base on the use of 3/8 inch plywood, a section of 4x4 lumber, drywall screws, 3/8 inch threaded rod and related other hardware.



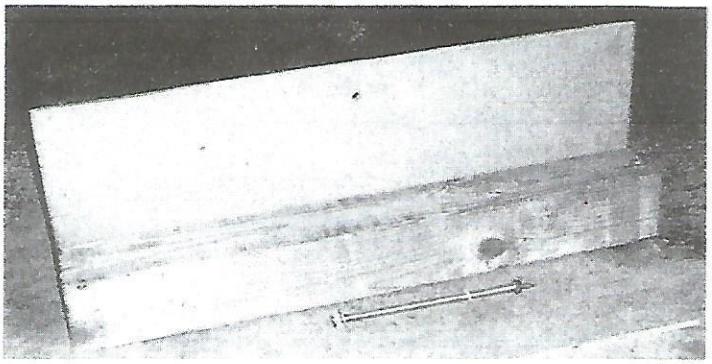
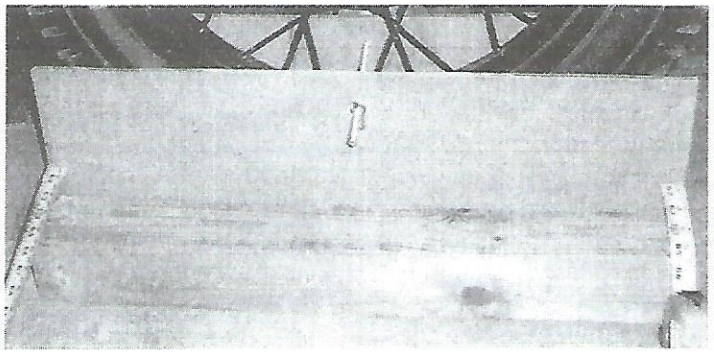
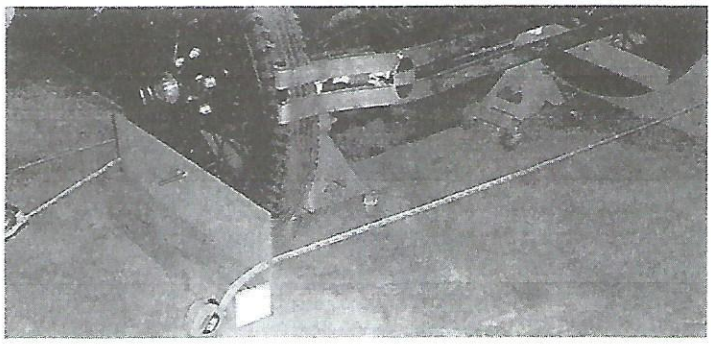
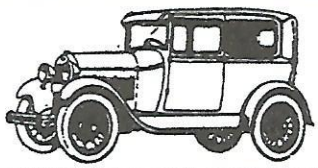
Actual construction, assembly details and methods are at the discretion of the individual making this fixture. Two (2) complete fixtures are required one for each side of the vehicle. After these are completed they can be painted to help give them look a more professional look.

Place one of the fixtures on the outside of each tire/wheel. Next place the keeper bar on the inside placing the thread rod through the keeper then the wheel and finally through the fixture. Secure these together using the wing nut. This will help keep the fixtures flat against the tires/wheels. Loosen both locking bolts on both ends of the tie rod.

Take two steel tape measures and place one in the cutouts in the fixtures in the front slots from one side to the other and repeat this for the rear slots.

Now check the measurements as indicated on the tapes. These measurements should have a difference of ~~3/16 to 1/4~~ 1/16 (± 1/32) inch front to rear tape with the front being the closer measurement. For reference see page ~~239~~ of the ~~April~~ 1928 *Service Bulletins* from Ford.

If needed adjust the tie rod to obtain the correct measurement. Being sure to retighten the locking bolts when finished.

As a side note if the vehicle is raised slightly off the floor to free the wheels this adjustment is made much easier. If the vehicle is raised be careful as there is a chance the vehicle could fall. This fixture should work with any "A" or "AA" vehicle as needed.

See you on the back roads...