Jim's Tech Tips

"Mounting Wheels"

I know that my Dad reads these Tech Tips, so today's is a special shout out to him, who taught me this Tip for mounting wheels when I was about 12 years old. Thanks, Dad!



Start with a classic X-style lug nut wrench. If you don't already have one, mine is 20" across and works quite well.

Place the wheel/tire next to the vehicle, leaning it against the hub and brake drum you plan to mount it on. Adjust the jack so that the wheel needs to be lifted an inch or two onto the studs.

Now slip two of the tire iron arms under the tire, one arm to the left of where the tire touches the ground, and the other arm to the right. Grab one of the tire iron arms that is pointing out toward you, and lift the tire up with one hand while you guide the wheel to hang on a stud or two with the other hand.



Hold the wheel in against the drum while you lower the lug wrench and use that free hand to start a lug nut on one of the studs. Once you have that lug nut started, you can let go of the wheel and start the rest of them. Use the tire iron to run them all in snug, then lower the jack and tighten them all again.

This Tip is not just applicable to mounting a wheel/tire on a Model A. It works on pretty much any vehicle: car, truck, trailer… In fact, the larger and heavier the wheel/tire is that you are putting on, the bigger help this is.

So in the shop or out on the road, use a simple tire iron to help you lift a wheel up into place and hold it there while you start the lug nuts.

Until next time, *Have a Model A Day!*
Jim