



# Ford T Tips



By Douglas Dachenbach

## Pesky Petcock Valve Leaks

My first encounter with a petcock valve leak caused an atrocious gas odor in my garage that would make you think twice about lighting up a cigar. Out came the catalog and off went the order for a new brass valve. Once installed the odor subsided some, but the valve was always wet. I twisted, tapped and cursed, but still it stayed wet. My T was in an outside garage and I just lived with it. Well the time came when my new shop was ready and my tools were all consolidated into the new shop under the house, more specifically under Karen's and my bedroom. Enter the T with a wet gas petcock and the bedroom took on the smell of a gas station. The choice became clear, either the gas odor goes or the T and I both go. The task was moved to top priority and I had to learn how to repair that valve and fast. What follows is a gleaning of ideas, tip and practical experience.



The beveled surface is grooved and corroded thus allowing gas to leak. Same happens to radiator petcocks.

Tools needed; a socket just big enough to catch the valve head, a piece of cork to fill the socket, an adapter and a power screw driver.



Coat the surface with a valve grinding compound and use the power screwdriver to lap the valve into the body. The driver is slower than a drill and won't overheat the surface. Check it every minute or so and re-apply the compound until you get a uniform haze over the entire surface of the stem. You can also do this mounted on the car.



Last and most important get a tube of EZ Turn by United. It is an aviation lubricant that is heat and gasoline resistant. It doesn't harden or dry-out and provides an anti-seize agent. Put a thin coating over the entire surface of the stem keeping the hole clean and clear of debris. Once reassembled, a lite tap with a rubber mallet should put the last seal in place. EZ Turn is very sticky and hard to get off your fingers. Use a glove to apply.



The goal is to get a dull haze over the entire beveled surface.