

J2 TECHNICAL ARTICLE

Number 156

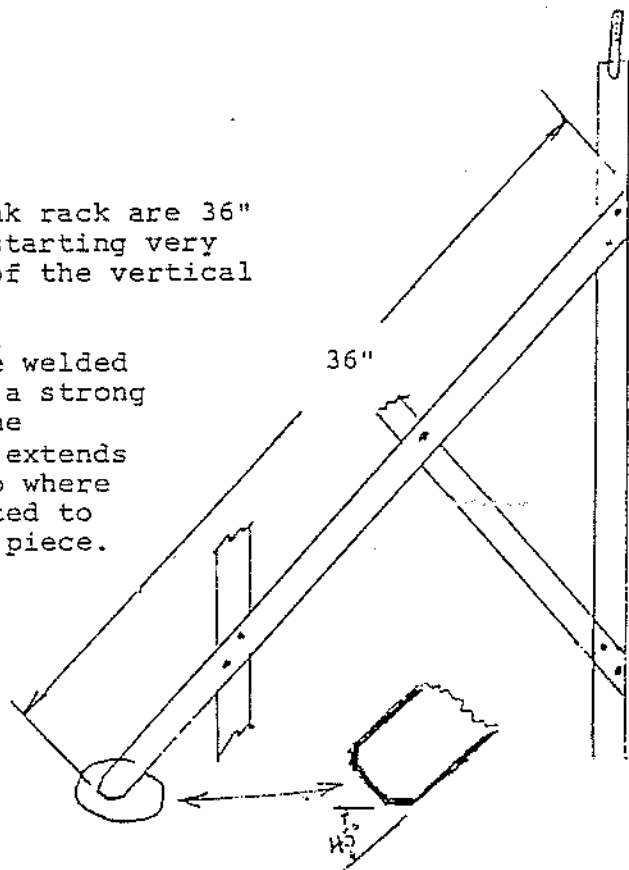
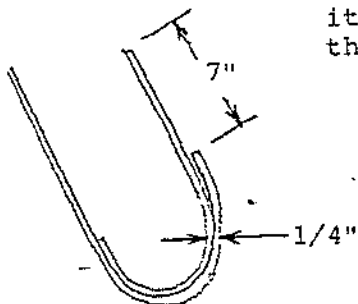
March 31, 1983

From Octagon Heaven

THE TIRE RACK

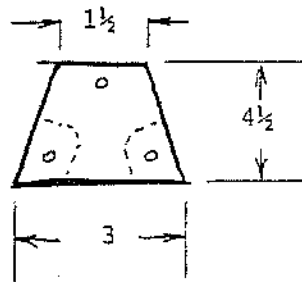
The cross pieces of the fuel tank rack are 36" long and bend around the tire starting very shortly after the lower rivets of the vertical tank steps.

The end of the cross pieces are welded to another strap which provides a strong curved support 1/4" thick for the tire support. The second strap extends 7" further to where it is rivited to the center piece.

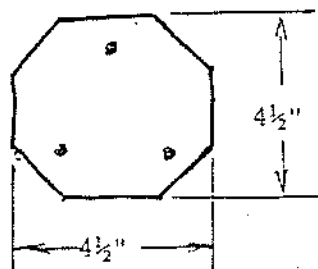


The two straps which extend the 7 inches beyond the "cross pieces" are rivited to a center piece.

This is where the trying to manufacture your own unit becomes difficult as the piece is not flat. it is convex to the outside. A nut is welded at the base for the top strap rod. (see back side). The lower two holes are for rivets to the steps. all three holes are used to rivet to the back plate for the M.G. medalion.



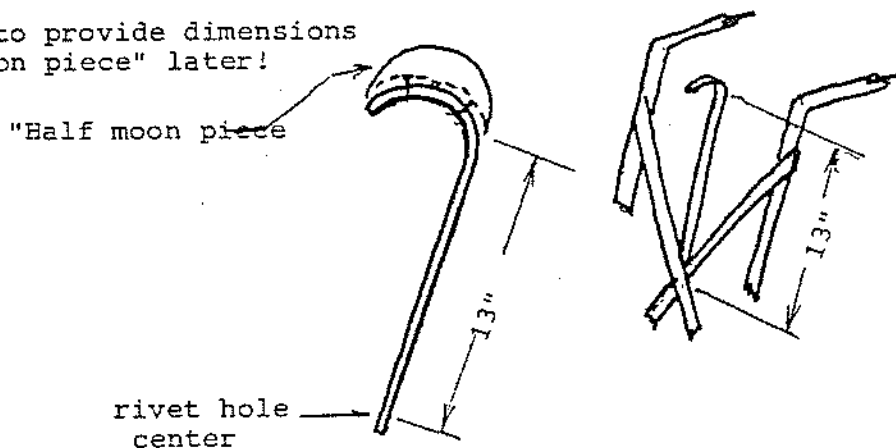
The octagon backing plate is 4 1/2" across and is also convex to form the bass for the medalion.



(over)

Now is when the manufacturing becomes more complicated as we look at the upper area of the tire rack. First there is a vertical strap which is riveted to the center of the cross straps. This piece is $1\frac{1}{4}$ " wide and like the other straps $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick. From the rivet at the center, it extends about 13" up to a half moon piece which sets on top of the tire. The strap extends on under the half moon piece and is riveted to it from under it.

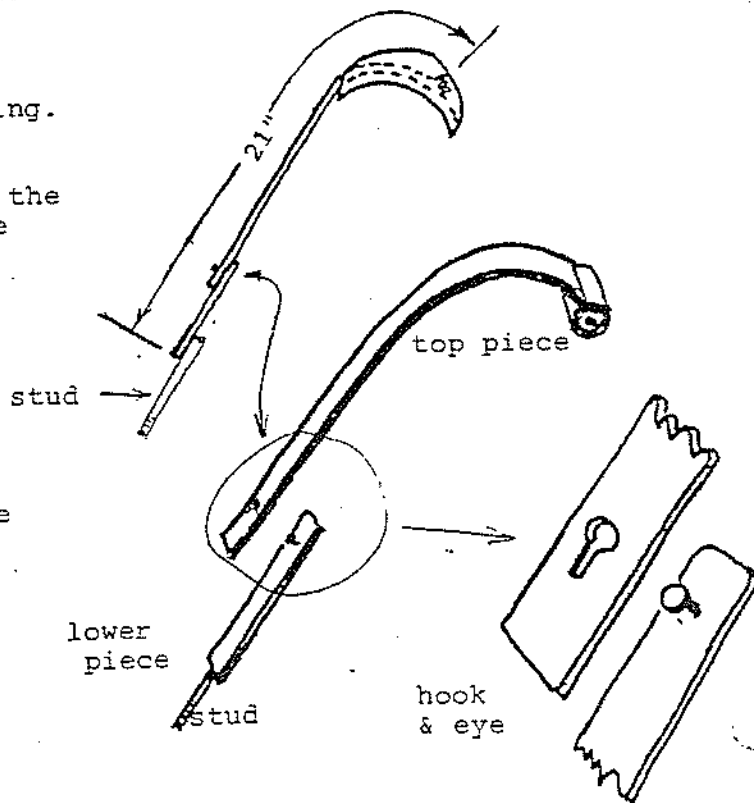
I will attempt to provide dimensions of the "half moon piece" later!



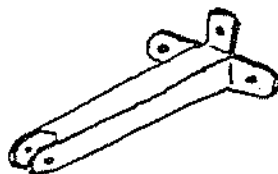
Coming off of the half moon piece to the outside of the tire is the strap which has a stud welded on the end and is fastened to the octagon plate with a special "hand knob" made of plastic.

This strap is really a two piece unit with a special "rivet" for hooking and unhooking.

The total length of the two pieces pieces is 21" long from the end of the $1\frac{1}{4}$ " strap to the center of the "eve"



The last piece of the total assembly is an "Arm" which supports the top of the "half moon", at the hole of the eye to the back of the tub. Dimensions of this piece will also be attempted to be provided later.



The complete tank and tire rack can be purchased from a supplier in England and it is my recommendation that is the way that you replace your old or missing piece!