

Removing a Stubborn Wheel

The Problem:

Things were going quite well with my BJ8 project until the left rear wheel was found to be stuck on solid. Penetrating oil and tapping the inside rim with a hammer didn't help. I really hate to cut off a 72 spoke chrome wire wheel so I asked on the internet for some suggestions and here is what I got:

The Suggestions:

Dry Ice!!!!!!!!!!!! in hub Then rock it (rim) , back and forth . it may have walked up a spline, once it's loose then you can rock side to side pulling it off.

Try some silicone brake fluid. If it destroys brake cylinder glue and rubber parts then old grease should be no problem!

Yea, had the same problem with my car. I kept soaking it down with penetrating oil, and it eventually came lose. Don't cut or heat anything up right away. Just keep soaking the thing down and drive on the wheel some.

Make a giant gear puller out of chains and a bottle type hydraulic jack. Put some type of block over the hub for the jack to press on. Note the hub protrudes slightly farther than the wheel. Wrap the chains around the wheel and try to pull it off like a giant gear.

Patience doesn't cost much. This takes patience, jack the wheel up and support it well, spray the oil in the spline area, and tap the wheel from the inside out as you rotate it. Do a little every night, spray some more, and eventually it will come off, or you will die. One thing or the other will happen.

You might try adapting a bearing puller. Once it starts, it will probably just keep coming off. I know what you are going through. I still have the scar on my nose from trying to pull off a stuck wheel in 1962.

Soak it with PB leave the knock off on a little loose and drive the car around the This may seem radical, but it occurred to me: Given all the horror stories we hear r about people being "passed by their wheels" because the torque forces loosened the knock-off, etc., I wonder if it would be helpful to put the knock-off back on, but not fully tight, and then try a few quick starts--just drop the clutch and not build up any speed. Or perhaps get to a slow roll and then slam on brakes. Perhaps that might do it?

The Results:

I tried most of the above. I actually had two wheels stuck. One did come loose by driving around (In an empty parking lot) with the knockoff loose.

I tried PB Blaster.

I tried dry ice.

I tried heat.

I tried everything I could think of over a period of two months.

Finally I ended up cutting it off with a Sawzall.