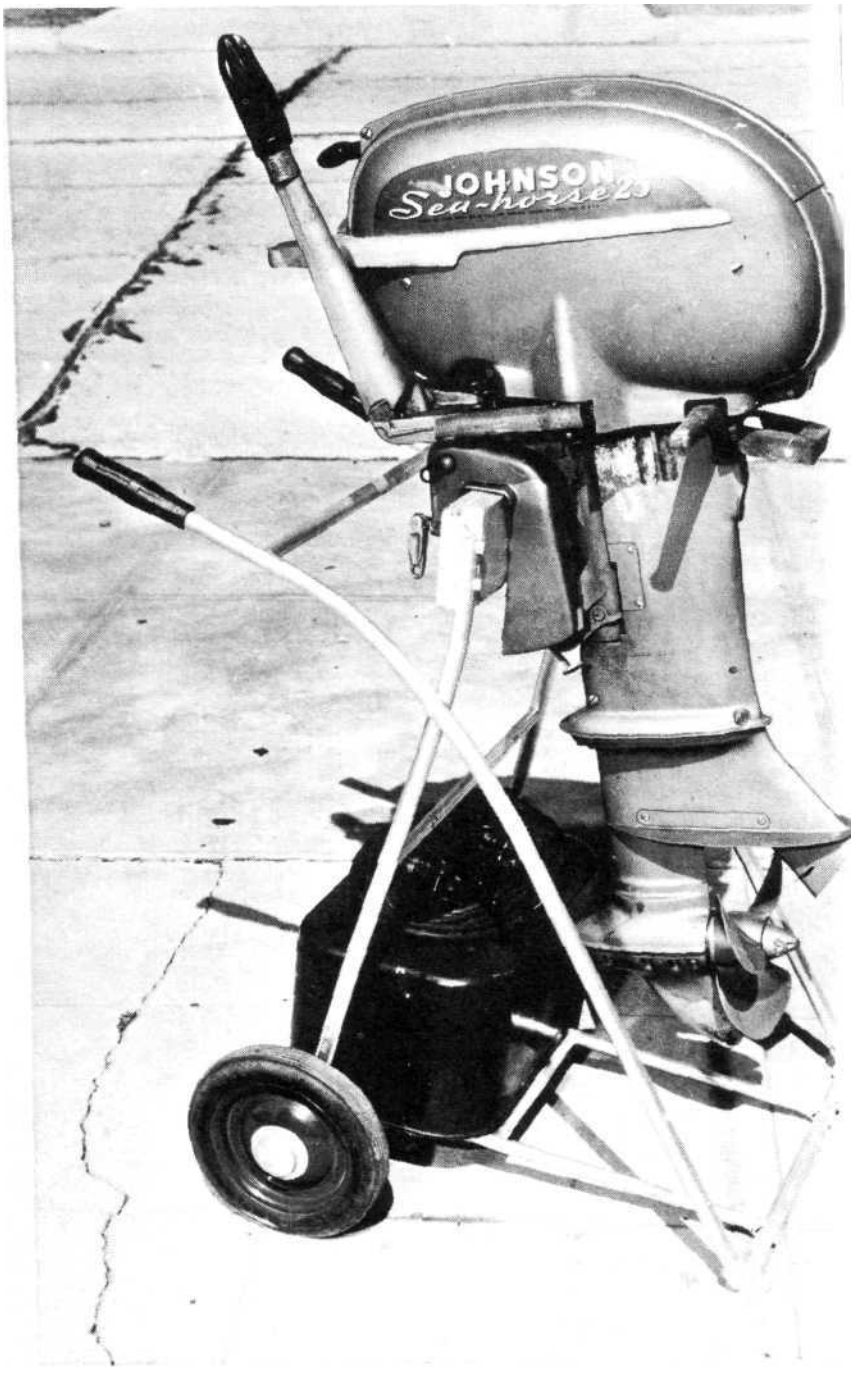
Outboard Motor Cart



Those big, heavy outboards are easy to handle with a cart like this.

By Howard Rozelle

THIS outboard motor cart has everything. It's strong enough to handle a 40-horsepower engine; it's rigid enough to allow it to be used as a repair stand, even to cranking; it hauls a gas tank, with room left for a tool box; it's so well balanced that a child or a woman can move a big engine easily; and it folds compactly in 10 seconds by removing one pin which also locks it in the folded position. What's more it's light, easy to build and cheap.

If the materials are salvaged from scrapped toys and discarded pieces of pipe, it can be built for as little as $1.75. Even if used materials are purchased and spot welding is paid for, the cost shouldn't exceed seven dollars. A cart incorporating all its features would sell for a good deal more.

The simple construction is detailed in the drawing. Beyond what is shown, little information is required. Note, in the illustration at the upper right of the next page, that the handles are bent outward. The width at the pivot is only 19-1/2 in.-slightly too narrow. A few inches above the pivot, the pipes are bent so that the width at the ends of the handles is 22 in. Another thing that

bears mention is that the hole in the outer pipe at the pivot should be reamed slightly larger to allow for the bolt wobble caused by the bend of the pipes at this point.

Wheels are 10-in. diameter, but 8 or 12-in. may be used if slight alterations are made in the dimensions. The axles are mounted in holes drilled through the support pipes and then spot welded. Hub caps are used as dressing.

Pipes must be threaded where elbows are used at the joints. Spot welding is used elsewhere. The crosspiece beneath the wooden mount is cut to size and welded in position where the U brackets will engage it when the cart is folded.

Vertical tabs, welded at the ends of the platform, prevent a gas tank or tool box from sliding off. •

BILL OF MATERIALS

Used Pipe: ¾" dia., 20'
Electrical Conduit: ½" dia., 9'
Bolts: 4, ½"x2"
2, ⅜"x3"
Strap Iron: ⅛"x1", 5" long
Pipe Elbows: 4, ¾" I.D.
Axles: 2 long bolts (or a steel rod) at least ½" dia.
Plywood: 1 piece, ¾"x5"x18"
1 piece, ¾"x5"x16½"
Wheels, 10" dia.; hub caps; grips

Cart is tilted up to show how single cotter pin (through U bracket) locks platform to bottom rear crosspiece.

Remove cotter pin, lift platform and swing sections together to fold cart Pin is replaced at center crosspiece.