CAN REPAIR 101



START TO FINISH







USE LOCK RING PLIERS TO SPREAD THE CAN INTO AN OBLONG SHAPE

Start by prying the can open. Lock ring pliers work best as they open when squeezed. Make sure to pry only on the rim or you will put dings in the thin can metal. Take your time.





USE A VISE OR CLAMP TO SHAPE CAN INTO A SQUARE

When the pliers reach their limit, you can use a large vise or clamp to squeeze the oblong ends of the rim and further open the can. The objective is to open the can to accept the tailpipe expander (Step 5)





AN OPTIONAL STEP MAY BE REQUIRED

Note if the lid is still intact or partially intact you may have to remove it to allow the can to fit onto the tailpipe expander – See next slide for different methods of lid removal.

SOME METHODS FOR REMOVING THE CAN LID(S)

Some of the tools you can use are a can opener, Dremel, dotco or a stationary bench grinder. I prefer the type of can opener that splits the rim. See figure A. Note not all remaining lids will accommodate this type of opener and will need to be grinded











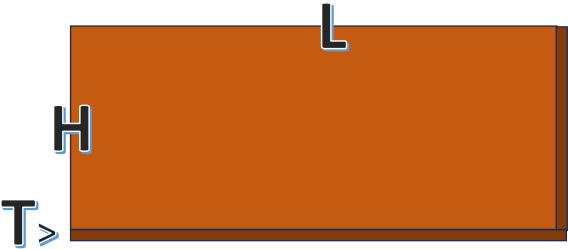
STEP

4



Dimensions For Protective Leather Sheet

Thickness 1/8 x H 4 7/16 x L 7 11/16 Thickness .125 x H 4.437 x L 7.6875



PROTECTING THE INTERIOR OF THE CAN

After preliminary shaping of the can and removal of the lid(s), place a protective leather sheet inside to protect the can from mark off by the tailpipe expander.

STEP

5



MAKING THE CAN ROUND AGAIN

Now place the can on the tailpipe expander and start cranking. The leather will start creaking and the can will start taking on that familiar round shape. You can find a tailpipe expander at your local auto parts store or online.



Note if you use aluminum tape, the tape will go from shinny to dull showing where you have rolled. Also note can wraps work as good as aluminum tape and are more cost effective.



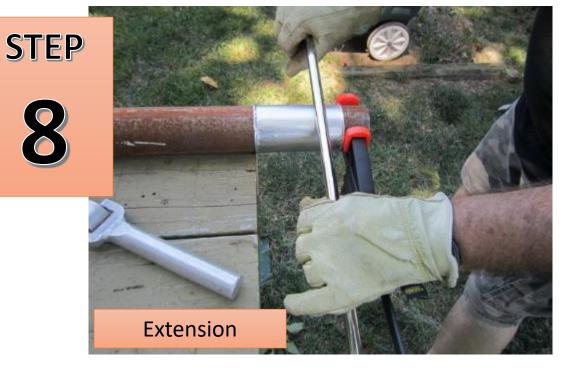
PROTECTING THE CANS OUTSIDE FINISH

Prior to the last step you will need to apply aluminum tape or a can wrap over the painted surface to protect the can finish. If using tape do not overlap the tape as this could mark off when rolling out the small dents and wrinkles.



SLIDE CAN ONTO PIPE

Once the can finish is protected, slide the can on a sturdy pipe of close diameter. Now you are ready to start rolling out the waviness. Note a hammer will not work to remove all the waves and small dents left after getting the can round again.





ROLLING THE WRINKLES OUT OF THE CAN

Now you are ready to start rolling. You will find the extension a little tough on the hands, but it does an excellent job getting close to the rims. Just make passes top to bottom rotating the can until 100% of the can has been covered. Time to remove the aluminum tape or can wrap. You are now finished less the addition of adding lids.

HELPFUL HITS

- 1. Always protect the can's finish
- 2. Find a welder and attach tailpipe expander to a stand for hands free use
- 3. Secure the pipe used for rolling out can wrinkles
- 4. Put a clamp on pipe only as a stop for both ends can still needs to rotate during rolling of wrinkles



SOME OF MY LAST THOUGHTS

I wanted to put together some of my knowledge on repairing flattened and dented cans in a hope this would help other collectors. If you are like me, I can not discard any cans after collecting for 50 plus years. The repair I show in the power point is not the only way to fix dented cans. I hope by sharing other collectors will enlighten us on methods they use for can repair. I have straightened around 60 cans by this process. Remember not all cans will require all steps. Have fun collecting and do not throw those real flat cans away.

Thanks Jacob BCCA# 29464