



Subject: Re: Engine Removal

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Having strong friends over, and an extra jack or two, can make this chore easier. And specialized devices make things easier also. But rest assured you can do it just fine with just one decent jack. On the older engines there is even a protrusion right behind the tranny, just where you want to balance it, which will more or less fit into the hole in the head of your jack if it is the kind where you can remove the round jack lifting cup. But even without it you can do it.

When doing it by yourself it helps to have some props under each side or at least ready to be slid in so if things get tippy you can rest the exhausts on one or both sides on something until you get it all under control again.

Some have built slick wood frames with casters so you can lower the engine onto the frame, pull the jack out, and dolly the engine/tranny unit out. I made a simulation of this by purchasing an inexpensive four caster furniture dolly and cutting out one side. I put a 2x4 or so along each side, and that holds the load up just enough that I can get the jack out (or in, if reinstalling the engine).

Juggling the jack with one hand while holding up one side of the engine is just part of character building. I have had the engine tip, but only when the jack was fully retracted and things were close to the floor and I could just lift one side and slide something under it, then lift the other side and repeat the process until I could get it straightened away. Think like an Egyptian when that happens - move a large weight a little at a time. Somehow I have avoided the interesting situation Mr. Pinkert shows in his amusing photo, though by clever brain fade I once did try to pull the engine stand around by the engine with the yoke not locked into the stand.. Found I could not hold up an engine all by myself from one end.

Having a friend or spouse I have found most helpful when lining up the transmission mount so I don't strip the threads screwing the two bolts in. Or, if I just pulled the engine and left the tranny in, getting the two mated so the clutch will work. Nice to have someone who can pull or push a bit as you request while you are lying under there on your back.

Of course, having strong friends over also makes getting the engine up on the engine stand (if you have one, of course) or back down easy.

Walt Fricke