

Quick Tip: Engine Removal

I hear it all the time - "I wish I could do.... but I am not sure how to remove the engine from my car" or so it goes. During this last winter I decided to take my motor out and do some "freshening up" in my engine compartment, so in this first installment I will show you how to remove your engine from your car. In later issues, we'll look at detailing and re-installation of the motor.



1 Park your car in a place where you'll have sufficient room to work.



2 Remove the hood by taking out the 8 bolts (4 on each side). It's usually a 7/16" socket. This is also a good time to drill a 1/8" hole in each hinge to help you align the hood when you replace it.



3 It helps to take a quick picture of the way things are laid out.



4 Disconnect the battery (ground)



5 Disconnect the alternator or generator. Label the connections to ease re-installation



6 Remove the distributor cap and wires



7 Remove the carburetor, and the radiator shroud.



8 Disconnect your exhaust system. The headers need to be removed before you can take the engine out.



9 Remove accessories, here the starter is being removed. Don't forget the grounding strap from the engine to chassis.



10 Disconnect the brake line from the crossmember



13 Lower the crossmember out of the way. We made a simple jig that attaches to the floor jack, this makes removal a one person job.



16 Header removal is generally a two person job to keep from chipping your paint



11 Remove the driveshaft. Be sure to plug the transmission output shaft. It will leak fluid. You can use an old yoke or welded plug like shown here.



14 Remove the radiator



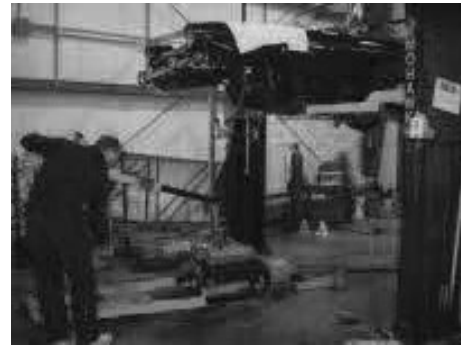
17 Remove the motor mounts and carefully lower the engine to the floor.



12 Remove the four 3/4" bolts holding the crossmember in the car.



15 Loosen the motor mounts and remove the headers.



18 Job finished. It took us 1 hour 45 minutes, individual results may vary.