

WELD COUNTY PROJECT
MEMBER'S MANUAL
MA 1701

4-H MACHINERY / VEHICLE / FURNITURE RESTORATION



Colorado
State
University
Cooperative
Extension



RESTORATION MANUAL

This is a general overview of restoring a vehicle, piece of machinery or furniture piece of interest to you. It is meant to be an overall guide to restoration and may or may not discuss all of the steps necessary to complete your special project. You must have either personal knowledge of your project, or a leader or other responsible person to assist you.

CHOOSING A PROJECT

Before a project can start, several decisions must be made. Financial considerations and skills required must be assessed. This may help in these decisions.

1. Make a list of ideas for projects that are of personal interest to you.
2. Are these ideas available to you?
3. If it must be purchased, is the project affordable?
4. Do you or someone you know have the knowledge to complete the project?
5. Are repair parts available and affordable?
6. How much restoration will be required to meet your final expectations? Do you want a project that is in useable condition when finished or do you want it to be as it was when new?
7. How much of your time will be required for the project and are you willing to spend the time?
8. How much of the restoration work can you do and how much will have to be hired?
9. What do you plan to do with the project when completed?

Once a decision has been made as to a project, it will be necessary to estimate as closely as possible what the project will cost to be sure it is feasible. Some things to consider are:

1. Cost and time spent to acquire the project
2. Cost of repair parts
3. Cost to locate and retrieve parts
4. Costs for any cleanup, including disposal of any hazardous materials that may be present or created in the restoration process
5. Cost of any hired work necessary
6. Cost of supplies and materials necessary for restoration
7. Estimate of hours and value of time you and any help need to complete the project

If the costs and time required to restore your project are acceptable, it is time to begin your project.

SAFETY

Safety must always come first! You must at all times be highly concerned with the safety of yourself and others around your project. Be sure to have any needed personal safety equipment and know how to properly use it. Work in a safe, well lit area. Have adequate ventilation when working with solvents, paints or other materials producing hazardous fumes. Examples of some safety items that may be needed:

1. Safety goggles
2. Chemical resistant gloves
3. Respirators.
4. Safety hats and shoes
5. Fire extinguisher
6. Tools for lifting and supporting heavy objects
7. Knowledge and proper use of tools required for restoration

Safety includes the handling of any materials removed from the project, or materials used in the restoration process that may be hazardous and must be disposed of properly.

Safety also means understanding what you are to do. If at any time you are not sure of what should be done or how to do it, be sure to find help from a leader or someone else who can help you understand and solve the problem.

RESTORING YOUR PROJECT

Now that you are familiar with safety issues, have chosen your project, and have it ready to start working on, here are some general steps to follow to restore your project:

1. Take photographs of your project and the work you doing from start to finish. This is for your information and for your project records.
2. Purchase or obtain a service manual or operating manual (old or new), if available, to act as a guide or reference in your restoration.
3. Perform any cleanup that may be necessary, paying attention to any hazardous materials that may be present and dispose of them in a safe manner.
4. Determine if any disassembly is required. If so, make sure you understand how it is done.
5. Make any necessary repairs to restore the project to your final expectations.
6. Begin reassembly and any refinish work required to complete your project.

