

Carburetor Cleaning — *By Don Comstock*

I have a system for cleaning the insides of a carburetor that only takes a few minutes. If there is an inline filter connected with rubber fuel line between the fuel pump and carburetor the job is easiest. All you need is an ice pick, screw driver and a fresh spray can of carburetor cleaner with the little plastic tube that goes on the nozzle. Loosen the fuel line at the carburetor side of the filter, slip the filter back so you have just enough hose to tighten the clamp. After tightening the clamp, pull on the fuel line to make sure it won't slip off when fuel pressure is applied. (If you have all metal fuel lines you will need a short piece of steel fuel line with an appropriate connector to go to the carburetor, a couple of hose clamps and a short piece of rubber fuel line. Connect the short fuel line to the carburetor and the rubber line between the original line and the new piece. Use the ice pick to poke a hole in the rubber fuel line as close to the filter as possible and at a 45 degree angle pointing toward the carburetor. This hole must be covered by the clamp when finished. You can replace this piece of hose with another when you have finished cleaning the carburetor if you prefer. Insert the one end of the tube from the carburetor cleaner in the hole you just made and the other end in the nozzle of the carb cleaner. Once the tube is in place and hooked up, start the engine and spray carb cleaner directly into the carburetor. I've never had a fuel leak around the tube. Rev the engine as needed to keep it from dieing and to get carb cleaner through all the internal passages of the carburetor. I generally use about 3/4 of the can so there is enough left to clean the linkage and outside of the carburetor. After shutting off the engine and pulling out the tube, slide the hose back over the filter and reattach the clamp so the hole is covered. Putting rags around the base of the carburetor and using a chip brush as needed to clean the outside makes the job go easier and leaves the engine tidy as well. Use the remainder of the can to clean the outside of the carburetor. Remove the rags and wipe off the carb or blow it off with compressed air. Restart the engine and adjust the air mix and idle as needed and you are finished.

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1937 Grill, Gene Sovar 206.362,2491,
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