

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

♦ See Figures 1 thru 15

Naturally, without the proper tools and equipment it is impossible to properly service your vehicle. It would also be virtually impossible to catalog every tool that you would need to perform all of the operations in this book. Of course, it would be unwise for the amateur to rush out and buy an expensive set of tools on the theory that he/she may need one or more of them at some time.

The best approach is to proceed slowly, gathering a good quality set of those tools that are used most frequently. Don't be misled by the low cost of bargain tools. It is far better to spend a

little more for better quality. Forged wrenches, 6 or 12-point sockets and fine tooth ratchets are by far preferable to their less expensive counterparts. As any good mechanic can tell you, there are few worse experiences than trying to work on a vehicle with bad tools. Your monetary savings will be far outweighed by frustration and mangled knuckles.

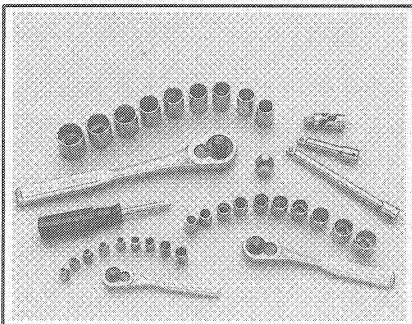
Begin accumulating those tools that are used most frequently: those associated with routine maintenance and tune-up. In addition to the normal assortment of screwdrivers and pliers, you should have the following tools:

- Wrenches/sockets and combination open

end/box end wrenches in sizes from 1/8 - 3/4 in. or 3-19mm, as well as a 1 3/16 in. or 5/8 in. spark plug socket (depending on plug type).

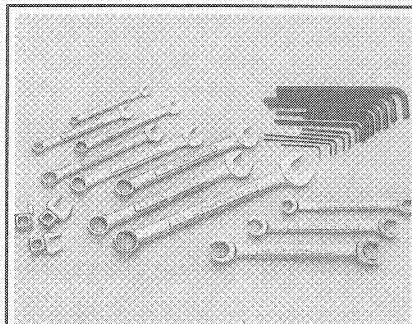
➔ If possible, buy various length socket drive extensions. Universal-joint and wobble extensions can be extremely useful, but be careful when using them, as they can change the amount of torque applied to the socket.

- Jackstands for support.
- Oil filter wrench.
- Spout or funnel for pouring fluids.
- Grease gun for chassis lubrication (unless your vehicle is not equipped with any grease fit-



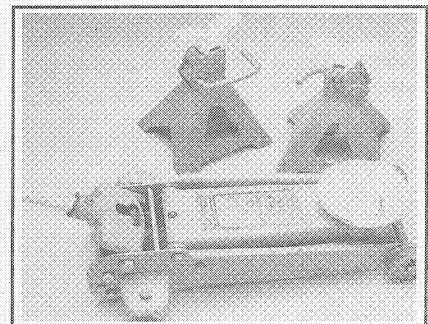
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Fig. 1 All but the most basic procedures will require an assortment of ratchets and sockets



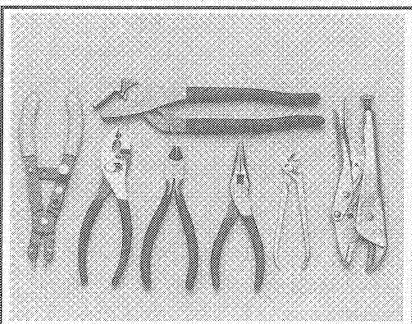
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Fig. 2 In addition to ratchets, a good set of wrenches and hex keys will be necessary



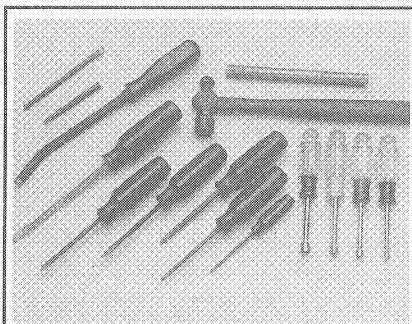
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Fig. 3 A hydraulic floor jack and a set of jackstands are essential for lifting and supporting the vehicle



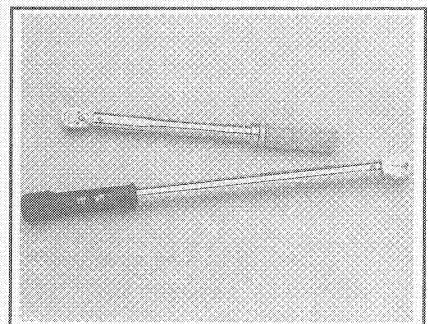
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Fig. 4 An assortment of pliers, grippers and cutters will be handy for old rusted parts and stripped bolt heads



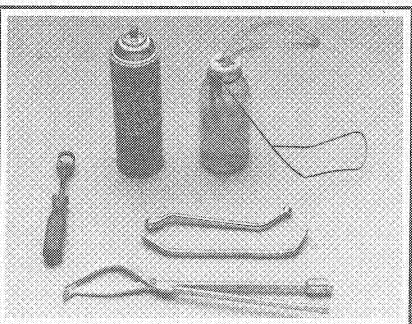
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Fig. 5 Various drivers, chisels and prybars are great tools to have in your toolbox



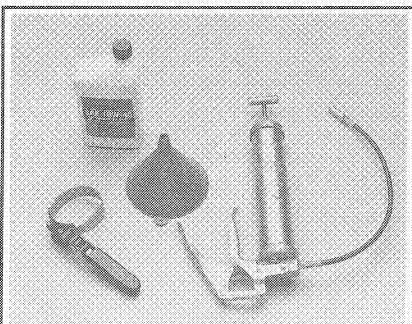
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Fig. 6 Many repairs will require the use of a torque wrench to assure the components are properly fastened



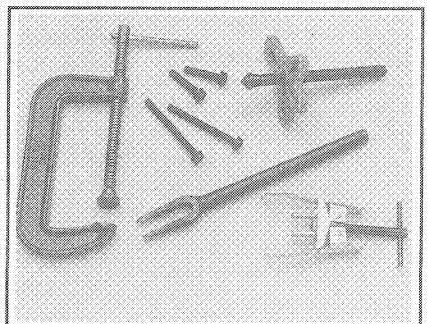
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Fig. 7 Although not always necessary, using specialized brake tools will save time



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Fig. 8 A few inexpensive lubrication tools will make maintenance easier



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Fig. 9 Various pullers, clamps and separator tools are needed for many larger, more complicated repairs