

# Tools for Triumphs

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I realized that I have a number of tools – both purchased and constructed – that I use only on my TR's. I took some pictures and added comments (see attachments) that might be useful to others.

Various Small Tools:



## Hand Tools

- At the top is a spring compressor that I bought from Moss or maybe TRF. I added the large ratcheting box end wrench to make things easier and faster. I also added the large washers and the piece of angle iron which allows me to use this tool for both the front and rear springs
- The wooden blocks are carb holders – just drilled a large hole and the carbs stand up firmly and straight; easier to work on them that way.
- Below the carb are the classic carb adjusting tools – a Unisyn and a needle adjuster
- Continuing clockwise, the next item is a degree wheel which I've never used and probably never will
- To the left of the degree wheel is a set of those unique round electrical connectors used on Triumphs. I bought a supply of terminals and rubber covers along with a crimper and a wonderful little set of pliers that pushes the connectors together. This set has come in handy many times.
- Next to the connectors is a valve adjusting tool that I have yet to master
- The little screwdriver – I think it's for carb adjustment
- The cut-in-half wrench is short enough to easily work on the fuel pump
- The next wrench is very thin and is needed to install the stop light switch on the brake pedal
- Finally, the square hole wrench is for drain plugs and adjusting the rear brakes.

All of these reside in their own drawer:



### Hood (Bonnet?) removal tool

I work almost always by myself, so sometimes I need some special methods or tools. When working at the front of the engine (steering, radiator, water pump, timing and highlighting the timing marks), the jobs are much, much easier if the hood is off. But getting that heavy, awkward thing off by myself was a real challenge.

I solved it by simply bending two pieces of electrical conduit to make a giant clamp and added a hook for lifting. It takes only seconds to mount the tool on the hood, then I can use my overhead hoist to either hold the hood horizontally or at the proper angle for removal or installation. Now I can remove or install the hood by myself in only a few minutes, and I do so whenever I'm working at the front of the engine.



### Engine Cradle

I found the design for this on the internet somewhere, so I bought some steel and some wheels and it works like a charm.



## Convertible Top Frame Mounting Tool

Working on the top frame can be a pain while it's on the car and even more of pain off the car – until I grabbed some 2x4's and built a gadget that I clamp in the Workmate. With that I can work on the frame folded or completely deployed without any problems and with total access to any part. Made things a lot easier.



## Lower Wishbone Assembly Bracket

This is the simplest tool of all. It's just a piece of plywood with 4 strategically placed holes drilled in it. I mount the lower wishbone arms to it and clamp it in the Workmate. The point of this is that it makes a great platform to assemble the trunnion. Sure, you could bolt the lower arms to the frame and assemble the trunnion directly on the car, but my approach has several advantages:

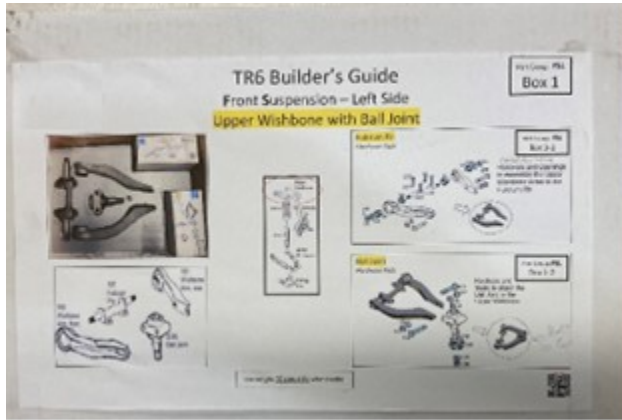
- You have full access to everything, and with about a zillion trunnion parts, this very handy
- I've found that hitting my head on the inside of the fender has gone to zero when I assemble the trunnion off the car
- I can assemble the complete lower wishbone with the trunnion installed and have it stored and ready when it comes time to complete the front suspension



## Guide Boxes

My last special tool wouldn't even be considered a tool by most. My Guide Boxes are built to hold a set of parts in specific cutouts so that they are easily identified and are in proper orientation for assembly. Everything is labeled and identified, so when it comes time to do a particular job, such as building an upper wishbone (as with the box below), all you do is get the appropriate box and build away.

The boxes provide organized storage, full part identification and a lot of information about how to assemble them. These are great tools in any project. Think about this the next time you find a badly labeled baggie of unknown parts or when you're looking for a specific part and can't find it anywhere. I made a bunch of these boxes and all my parts are stored neatly and where I can find them when I need them.



It may be hard to see in the pictures above, but in the box are two smaller boxes for the hardware, seals, and bushings needed to assemble the upper wishbone. For instance, this is Box 1-1 which has all the pieces needed to mount the arms to the fulcrum pin:



183 Rubber Bushing Qty: 4	184 Heavy Washer Qty: 2	2470 Bolt Qty: 4
		
	185 Slotted Nut Qty: 2	
		
	186 Cotter Pin Qty: 2	2471 Lock Washer Qty: 4
		