

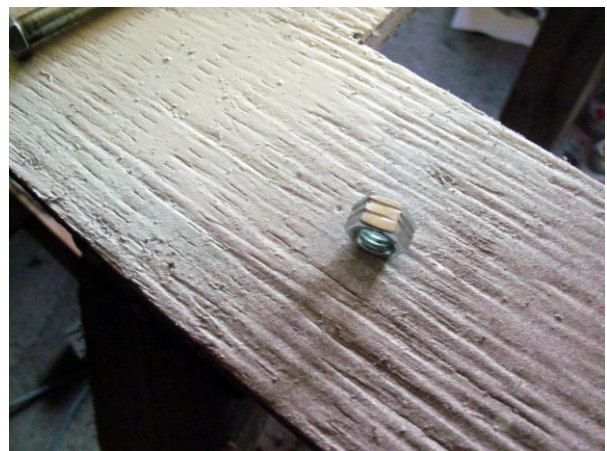
BOLENS TUBE FRAME SHIFTER KNOB REPAIR

While redoing one of my 1050 Bolens lawn tractors I was trying to remove the shifter knob from the shifter lever and the base of it broke – lesson learned – 40 YEAR OLD PLASTIC IS BRITTLE!

I thought about making a new one but decided I would try repairing it first by using some JB Weld. Here are pictures of the broken knob.



Since the shifter lever was 3/8" UNC thread I got a 3/8" UNC nut and cut a few grooves in the hex part of it with a hack saw to give the JB Weld something to bond to – a file could be also be used to get similar results.



Next I threaded the nut onto a 3/8" UNC bolt after I applied a light coating of grease to the threads on the bolt. Then I threaded the remaining top of the shifter knob onto the bolt and made a collar out of cardboard and masking tape and placed the collar around the nut. After the collar was taped to the knob I hung the knob upside down and filled the collar with JB Weld.



After waiting about an hour and several times after as the JB Weld was curing I turned the bolt inside the nut to make sure the JB Weld did not bond it to the knob (this is why it is important to put a light coating of grease on the threads). After a couple of days I removed the collar and masking tape.



Next I did some sanding and filing to shape the JB Weld part back into the bottom of the knob.



After some light coats of red paint and drying time it was ready to rejoin it's friends.

