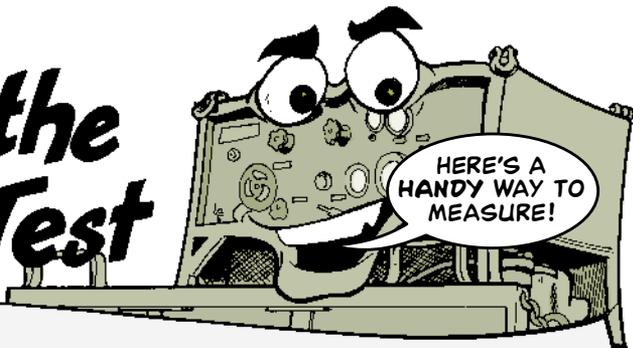


Give It the Finger Test



Dear Editor,

When you're choking or idling the M12, it's often difficult to know just how far to pull out the choke or throttle. I tell students at the US Army Chemical School to give them both the finger test.

If you jerk the pump unit choke, it literally can come right out of the panel. Then you have no choke. Pull the choke out about the width of two fingers. That will usually give the right amount of fuel to start a cold engine.

At shutdown, the pump unit should be idled at 500–600 rpm for 10–15 minutes until the engine cools down. So, turn the throttle clockwise until it sticks out about the width of your thumb. That will give the right rpm.

One other tip: If you're having trouble building up water pressure, turn off the engine and open the prime tank valve and the pump drain valve. Keep them open until water starts to run out of the pump drain valve. Then close the valves. That gets rid of air in the pump. With the engine running, open and close the spray wands several times. That gets rid of air in the water lines.

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