

# Messes in a Bottle

Dear Editor:

Bleeding excess fluid from the Paladin's hydraulic reservoir can be a nasty, oily mess.

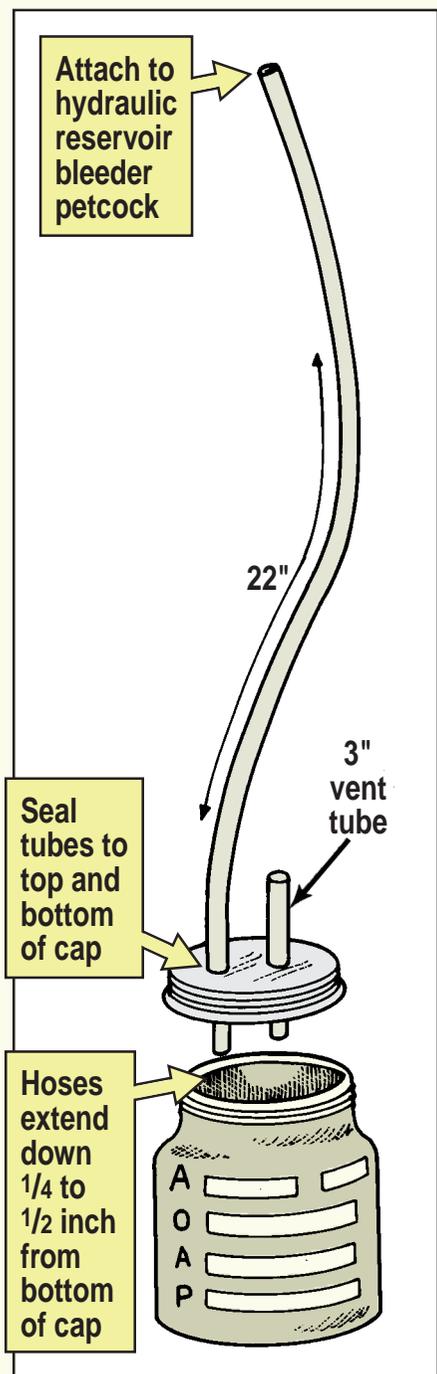
You need three hands to hold a container under the bleeder petcock while at the same time pushing the dipstick into the reservoir's bellows boss. And unless you're ready, fluid will squirt out of the petcock and all over the hydraulic compartment.

We use an AOAP bottle, NSN 8125-01-082-9697, and AOAP tubing, NSN 4720-00-964-1433, to help keep the mess under control. Here's the setup:

1. Punch two holes through the cap of the AOAP bottle with a scratch awl or something similar.
2. Cut a 3-in piece of AOAP tubing and stick it through one of the holes until  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch of the tubing extends from the bottom of the cap. This acts as the vent tube for the AOAP bottle.
3. Cut a 22-in piece of tubing and slip one end onto the bleeder petcock. The other end goes into the second hole in the AOAP bottle cap. Again, the tubing should extend about  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch from the bottom of the cap.
4. Seal both pieces of tubing to the cap with adhesive sealant, NSN 8040-00-455-5359.

When you're finished bleeding the system, detach the tubing from the bleeder petcock. Then unscrew the bottle and dispose of the fluid in a proper waste container.

SFC Jeff Wazelle  
OMS #6, Kenosha, WI  
WIARNG



FROM THE DESK OF THE Editor

Looks like you've got that messy problem bottled up! Good job!