

NOTICE YOUR JACK STANDS

You may be able to overlook a lot of things in your daily motor pool life, but one thing you better not overlook is each and every jack stand you use.

When you put a jack stand under a vehicle, you're betting that it will hold up under whatever pressure is applied to it.

If it doesn't hold up, you can lose the stand, a vehicle (at least temporarily) or your life (or limb).

Think you should look a little closer next time you use a jack stand?

Preparation for Use

Follow the instructions in your vehicle's TM for size and placement of jack stands.

Park the vehicle on a level, hard surface.

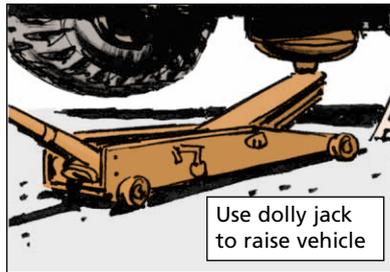
Shut off the engine, set the hand brake and chock the wheels that won't be raised.

Inspect the stands before use. Look for bends, separated welds, cracks and corrosion. If you have any doubt about the stability of a stand, don't use it! Have it tested by support. TB 43-0142 has the word on load testing and stenciling.

Make sure the stands are standing straight and that the pawl seats fully in the column teeth.

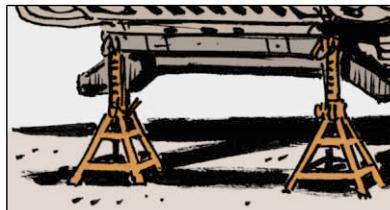
Using

Use a proper size dolly jack to raise the vehicle. If you're raising the entire axle, lift it at the middle of the axle, then place a jack stand at each end.



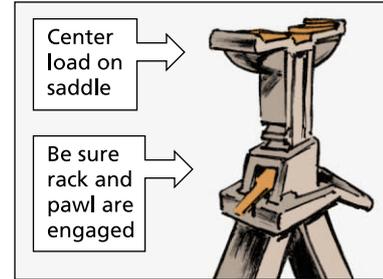
Use dolly jack to raise vehicle

Always use jack stands in pairs.



Lower the jack slowly to ease the load onto the jack stands. Dropping a load onto jack stands can ruin them.

Center the load on the stand's saddle. Make sure the rack and pawl are engaged before and after the load is applied.



Center load on saddle

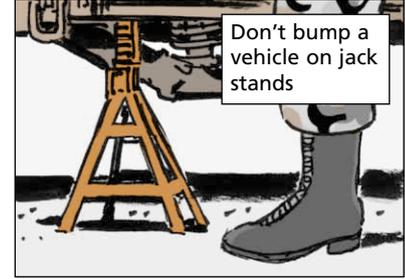
Be sure rack and pawl are engaged

Make sure all jack stand legs are firmly on the ground.

Leave as many tires as possible on the vehicle and on the ground.

Raise the vehicle only as high as necessary to do your work.

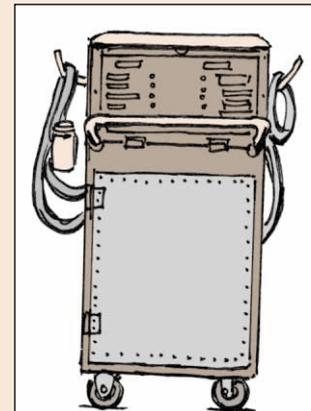
Do not shake or bump the vehicle after it has been placed on jack stands. The stability of vehicles left unattended should be rechecked before resuming work.



Use secondary supports—railroad ties, A-frames, floor jacks or cranes—if there's any doubt about the vehicle's stability during a maintenance procedure.

Trailers, Semitrailers...

LIGHT TESTER PLANS



You can build this light tester

Trailers here, trailers there, trailers everywhere— but no power source to test the lights?

Plans are available to build your own portable tester for trailer or semitrailer lights. It comes in real handy when there is no truck on-hand to power the lights.

To get a set of the plans and instructions for building the tester, which works both 12-volt and 24-volt light systems, let Half-Mast hear about it.

You can write to:

MSG Half-Mast
The Preventive Maintenance Monthly
LOGSA, Bldg 5307
Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898-7466

Or send e-mail to psmag@logsa.army.mil. Please provide a mailing address for the plans.