

### Technical Tip 182 – Battery lifting straps

As many of us have found out, some early cars had their batteries situated in the most unacceptable places possible. I was reminded of this when recently replacing a battery which was situated in a “well” behind the driver’s seat. One had to be a contortionist to get to it.

Fortunately, some 20 years ago a gentleman with years of experience was watching me trying to get a massive six-volt battery out using two vice grips on the battery poles. In rather expressive language he let me know where the battery and I would end up. He was quite right reminding me how dangerous a battery can be, especially if dropped and the case disintegrates.

He then went to his workshop and quickly made a battery lifter for me out of bits of scrap lying around. Over the years I have used this lifter dozens of times and will always be grateful for it as it is one of the most useful tools in the cabinet.

It’s a case of when you need it you need it! I believe they were available from parts shops many years ago but I haven’t seen them for sale.

If you are in the habit of using vice grips, may I suggest you make a battery lifter. See the picture - It won’t take long to make one and will be worth the time and effort.

R.I.P to Cyril Richmond, he taught me so much.

