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Tech Tip: Removing frozen exhaust nuts.

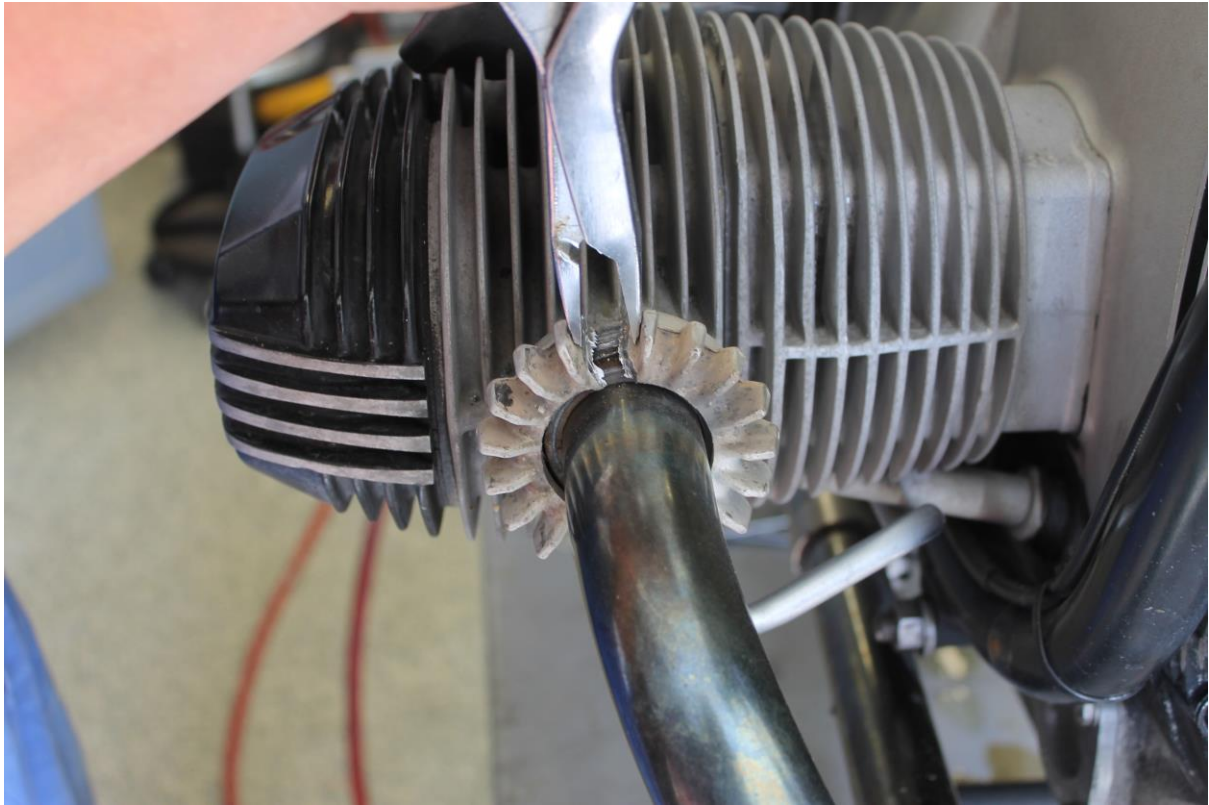
Occasionally, you will encounter a situation where the exhaust nuts are stuck on the heads and they will not loosen and unscrew. If you run into this, don't try to force it! You can do great damage to the threads of the cylinder heads that will be far more expensive than the cost of a new exhaust nut!

Using a die grinder with a cut-off disk, make a slice in the exhaust nut as shown in the picture below. Steady the tool by resting your arm on the cylinder and take care not to allow the cut-off disk to damage the fins of the head!

You do not need to cut all the way through the nut. If you do, you will also damage the head. Cut an even, straight slot into the nut approximately 4mm deep. Then with a wide chisel in the slot, give it a good rap with a hammer to crack through the nut.



Once you have cracked through the nut, spread it apart. You can use a screwdriver to pry between the fins of the nut. You can also use some suitable pliers. I have some old piston ring pliers that work great for this as you can see in the picture below.



Once the nut is spread far enough apart, it can be easily removed.



If the threads are damaged, in many cases they can be repaired with a thread file or better yet, a cutting die. These tools are available on www.boxer2valve.com and also www.wunderlichamerica.com

