



Fold-up Tractor Step Assistive Technology



by stollerned

This fold-down step works very well and reduces strain on your knees climbing off equipment. The step flips up and down with a rope and stays in place nicely while driving. Other workers who don't need the extra step can just leave it folded up and step on it in place. Here are instructions how to make your own.

Supplies:

1 1/2 x 1/4" angle iron; 1/4" plate steel; 1 1/2 x 1/2" bar stock, welder, drill, cutting wheel or saw



Step 1: Tread and Legs

1. Measure the width of the upper step that the folding step will rest on in the up position. Make a tread for your folding step that is 2" narrower than the upper step and then lay it on the upper step. I use 1/4" steel for treads.

2. Cut 2 pieces of 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 x 1/4 angle iron 6-inches long for mounting the folding step and then lay them

out parallel on the lower tractor step.

3. Measure from the tread down to the mounting pieces and cut 2 angle iron legs at that length to support the folding step. These are 9". Weld the legs onto the tread as shown.



Step 2: Hinge Pivot Holes

4. Drill a $\frac{1}{2}$ " pivot hole in the mounting pieces. It should be half-way between the front edge of the mounting pieces the legs of the folding step. It should be $\frac{3}{8}$ " down from the top edge of the mount.

5. Drill a $\frac{1}{2}$ " pivot hole in a $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ -inch hinge bar to line up with the hole in the mounts. The hole should be centered and $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the end of the bar. Cut the

hinge bar to length to reach from the pivot hole to the legs of the folding step. Trim the corners around the hole.

6. Use a $\frac{1}{2}$ " grade-8 bolt through the pivot holes to connect the hinge bars to the mounts. Align the legs with the hinge bars and weld them securely together.





Step 3: Mount on Tractor or Equipment

7. Secure the mounts to the lower step by welds or bolts. Tie a rope or cable to the outer corner of the tread. Tie the other end of the rope to a grab handle near the tractor cab for raising and lowering the step.



Great modification :)