

ADJUSTING FLOAT LEVEL

Stromberg U-3 Carburetor

In the January 2012 issue, we discussed the Stromberg U-3 carburetor. Well, I now own a car with a Stromberg U-3. Recently I had to change the float in my U-3. I immediately turned to my favorite source: *Skinned Knuckles*, January 2012. I set the float at the factory specification - $3/64$ " "the distance measured from the lower surface, or gasket face, of the float chamber cover to the top of the float at the center of same...."

$3/64$ " is a tiny measurement - 0.047 ". I made a gauge and set it precisely. When I installed the carb, the engine ran terribly and flooded badly. It was suggested that I lower the float $1/16$ " (0.0625 ") to a total of $7/64$ " (0.110 "). I was told that the float could be adjusted by dropping the bottom half of the carb, but frankly, it's easier to pull the entire carb out and work on the bench.

I received an e-mail from Jeff Hasslen, a subscriber to *SK*, and a member of The H.H. Franklin Club informing me that I missed or overlooked a paragraph in the Franklin Instruction Book: "To check the float level, remove the metering jet, and insert a screw con-

nection with a 4-inch rubber tube attached. Hold the end of the tube above the top of the float chamber and crank the engine with the starter to fill the float chamber...Lower the tube along the side of the float chamber until the gasoline flows from the open end of the tube. This indicates the gasoline level in the chamber. The level should stand $9/16$ " below the top of the float chamber...Bending the float arm up or down $1/16$ " will change the level the same amount."

Mr. Hasslen suggested that, instead of a rubber hose, a clear plastic hose be used so that the fuel level could be readily seen. The principle is the same for the Stromberg U-1 and U-2 carburetors although the fuel level will differ from the U-3.



Remove the metering jet and replace with a screw-in fitting (a 90° fitting is shown above). Put a clear plastic hose onto the fitting, and you can readily see the fuel level in the bowl.

S.K.