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GAS IT Clip-on Bottle Gauge - Modification - A Trick of the Trade.

How does it all work? The Gasit standard bottle is fitted with a clip-on gas content gauge on the outside. Some other brands are like that too - like the pre-R67 Gaslow. The gauge works by reading a moving magnet located inside the bottle and this is pushed up and down by a float resting on the liquid gas surface. This magnet to level-gauge technology is not new; it is used in everything from gas bottles and automotive gas tanks right up to bulk gas tanks fitted outside homes and in garage forecourts. However, when used in the confines of a small portable gas bottle there are some compromises that mean the gauge can only give an *indication* of gas level and over a fairly restricted range, typically from half full down to 'reserve' at about 15%.

Can it be improved? With the 'Rotarex' gauges that many use on gas bottles Gasit have found a simple way to make the dial work better than it currently might and this modification involves no gas safety worries since the simple modification is external to the gas system itself. By experiment Gasit found that moving the clip-on gauge along the gas outlet body (*actually along the part with the red dust plug in place*) made the indicator move rather more progressively from half-full to near-empty so giving a better readout. This seems to be because the revised position results in a better 'signalling' pattern from the float driven magnet inside the bottle.

How? To achieve this movement, it is necessary to cut off part of the plastic clip that usually locates the gauge directly in front of the magnet. *This 'curved fork' part of the clip doesn't actually hold it onto the valve, it only fixes its position - so no extra concerns there.*

The Task: Gently remove the level indicator from the bottle – *be careful this can be fiddly so take your time*. Then cut or file off the ends of the semi-circular location fitting as shown in the third picture. When you have done that, refit it back on the gas outlet valve.

Standard Assembly

Standard Clip

Modified Clip

Modified Assembly

Adjusting: You can now move the gauge along the part of the gas outlet valve that has the red plug in it as pictured right. We found moving the plastic body on the gauge to line up with the lowest left Star on the Rotarex logo worked best in our test. But do try adjusting this position along the gas valve and over time to see which position works best on your bottle in practice. Please do also remember that you're aiming for readings from half full (50%) to reserve (15%) not completely full to completely empty!

NB: *Please take care when modifying the gauge clip, most especially an older one and/or in colder conditions. We cannot take responsibility for you breaking the level indicator or clips when removing it, or putting it back, or when carrying out this modification. We can say it is achievable by a competent diy-er with reasonable care and that we have seen good results.*

This mod is to make a working indicator read smoothly through its intended level range, it isn't for a new gauge that is sticking due to shipping shocks, these normally recover after a few fills.