

Converting a 9n Monroe EZ Ride seat to fit a Ford 8n

The Monroe EZ ride seat is a welcome improvement to the Ford stamped steel bucket. In my tractor endeavors I came into possession of a Monroe seat built to fit the 9n. These first 2 pictures are of the tractor I removed it from. This is the front view, the seat front mount bolts to the transmission and hydraulic top covers



This is the rear view, the rear shock has a special bracket that bolts to the rear differential.



Since I mow frequently with an 8n I decided to make this seat fit an 8n. The first step was to set it on the 8n and see if it was even possible. The rear shock mount was not, due to the differences in the rear center housing the existing bracket could not be used. The coil spring mount on top of the hydraulic cover interfered with the position control lever.



The front mount was even worse, it simply did not fit. This would not be easy.



After studying the seat assembly for several evenings I figured it was a go. The hydraulic cover is roughly the same between the 2 tractors so this mounting point would stay, the seat would be built around that point.

The first modification was to the front mounting bracket. New pieces were fabricated and welded to the front of the mount. The bracket now lined up with bolt holes on the 8n transmission cover.



The only available location on the rear casting for the shock mount is the long pin on the pivot for the 3pt spring. I tested this as a location and it appeared ok but upon measuring the stroke of the shock the seat sat too high and would not compress down to level.



In order to use this mount on the rear end, the upper mount location had to change on the seat. I began checking new potential locations for the mount while considering the shocks extended and compressed positions. The shock measures about 18" center to center extended and about 11.5" compressed.



The seat was check extended and compressed looking for the right place to relocate the upper mount.



A location was determined that allowed the seat to fully compress just as it bottomed out and worked for the fully extended position. The upper mount was cut off and relocated to its new location. I had to move it from the top of its mount to the underside to clear the seat. I also moved it to the left to allow for the shock to center in the space available on the lower mount.



The Shock was test fitted with its new location and everything checked out ok.



All the parts were cleaned and painted, A new shock was ordered from Steiner Tractor Parts. Here the finished seat has been assembled and installed on the tractor.



In this view you can see the notch I made in the spring mounting plate to allow for shock compression. I also removed the position control lever which is bent from the factory and straitened it. This eliminated the interference with the spring mounting plate.



And here is the rear view. The new shock came with rubber bushings that were a tight fit on the long pin. I also made spacers to take up the available space on the mounting pin so that the shock will stay put. The spacers were made from a 3 pt bushing used to reduce holes from Cat 2 to Cat 1 specifications and fit acceptably. I used SAE washers next to the rubber bushings in the lower shock mount.

