

Appliances With An Attitude?

Did you read about the car that wouldn't start when the owner bought vanilla ice cream? This was verified by a factory engineer. (He actually came to the owner and checked out the bizzare behavior himself.) When any other flavor was purchased, the car started fine, but it simply wouldn't start when he bought vanilla. It turns out that the vanilla ice cream was kept in a different place, closer to the door, and the actual difference was the time it took to make the purchase and return. The car was really suffering from vapor lock, which went away with a few more minutes waiting time. It just seemed like a car with an attitude.

The most challenging problems to diagnose and fix are those that come an go. You never know, when you are testing the thing, whether it was what you did that made it work, the machine's stubbornness in keeping it's newly developed personality, or it's fear of the person attempting the repair.

Remember those ads by big name auto companies urging you to always replace a broken part with an original factory relplacement? If their original part was so good, why did it crap out in the first place? Do you really want another crummy part of the same sorry design and manufacture that died in the first place? Are they cheaper if you buy several at one time?

Sometimes a problem with a machne seems to go away by itself. Is that when you should really start to worry, or would it be worwhile to hire an exorcist to remove any resident evil spirits?

One of my favorite tools is a hammer. If it doesn't work, you can always get a bigger hammer. If it finally breaks, it wasn't any good in the first place. Do you ever wonder why we are living in a throw away society?