

**Wheels:** Thomas writes by e-mail, “Big problem , I cannot get a spark plug installed (driver’s side center plug) in a 4.3 liter engine, 2003 GMC Sonoma (2-wheel drive). There is almost no clearance (for hand to reach in) and the steering column (shaft) is also in the way. It was a bear just getting the plug out. I should have taken it to a pro. I am stuck! Can you advise on how I can complete this repair? P.S. The plugs were easy to install on passenger side of vehicle. Also, I have purchased new plug wires to install at this time. Thanks, hope you can help!

**Halderman:** I know your pain. Try using a short length of vacuum hose (I use 5/16 in ID hose) on the end of the spark plug. Use a hose about 2-3 inches long and use it to hold and start the spark plug. After it has been started, pull off the hose, and then use the spark plug socket to finish tightening it.

