



- >> Jeep Main Page
- >> Backissues
- >> Staff
- **Jeep Forums**
 - >> BBS Index
 - >> Short Wheelbase
 - >> Mid Wheelbase
 - >> Full Size
 - >> Commando
 - >> Liberty - KJ
- **JeepTech**
 - >> Axles
 - >> Body
 - >> Driveshafts
 - >> Electrical
 - >> Engine
 - >> Steering
 - >> Suspension
 - >> Tires
 - >> Transercase
 - >> Transmission
 - >> Wheels
 - >> Winches
- **Sub-Sections**
 - >> Short Wheelbase
 - >> Cherokee
 - >> Grand Cherokee
 - >> Full Size
 - >> Vintage Jeeps
- **Mailing Lists**
 - >> Index
 - >> Short Wheelbase
 - >> Mid Wheelbase
 - >> Grand Cherokee
- **Motor Sports**
 - >> Off-Road.com
 - >> Off-Road Racing
 - >> Rock Crawling
 - >> Sand Dunes
 - >> Snowmobile
 - >> Dirt Bike
 - >> ATV & Quad
 - >> Camping

November 2002



Winter Products

Chameleon Enterprises Save-A-Tow

By Dave Gray

MUD - SNOW - SLUSH - SAND - GUNK

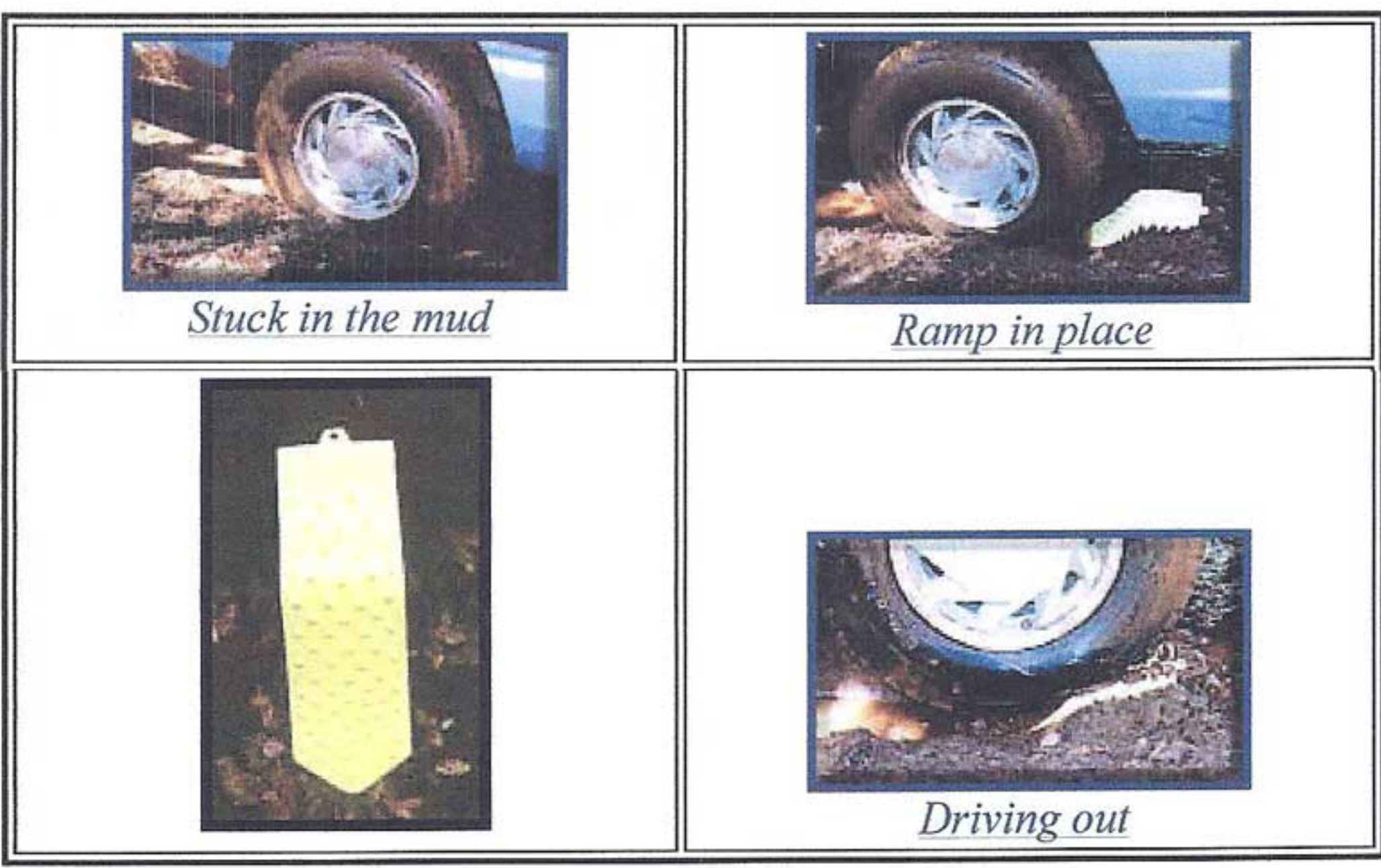
REPRINTED From November 1999

If you go off-road much at all then you have been stuck, and probably will be stuck again. I have been stuck in all of the above many times in my Jeep and a few times in my other vehicles. With the rainy "El Niño" winter we are having here in California my own driveway (in the Sierra Foothills) has turned into a 100 yard mudbog. I have used my Jeep (with 35" mud terrain tires) more than once to get my lesser vehicles (van, station wagon, Nissan pickup truck) unstuck in my own driveway!

If you don't happen to have a winch equipped Jeep standing by then it is quite possible you might be calling a tow truck - and that is pretty damn expensive, and in storms or bad weather you might be stuck for hours before one can get to you.

Well for most routine stucks, this handy product can be a life-saver. It is the "Save-A-Tow" ramp, and it is designed to help you out of those situations where you are stuck in the muck with your tires spinning. It is an injection molded plastic ramp that has broad teeth molded into the bottom and diamond shaped nubs in the top. It slips between the tire and the ground and provides you the traction you need to climb out of most small holes - thus saving you from having to call a tow truck.

I tried it out with my full size Ford van in my driveway - as I mentioned, this winter has made it muddy and treacherous and even the small pickup truck has gotten stuck several inches deep in the goo. The van is shod with 30" x 9.5" off-road all-terrain tires which generally do well, but in the goo these tires quickly load up with mud and slip.



These ramps were real handy and easy to use for this sort of routine stuck situation. I just backed up a few inches, slid the ramp into place and slowly drove up and out. I wish I had attached a bit of rope to the hole that is on the ramp for that purpose - The ramps was pretty well buried in the mud.

I would easily recommend them to anybody driving with stock tires or driving a vehicle in snow, sand or mud. At under \$20, this is an easy and cheap device that you can toss in your truck bed, or in the trunk of a car and perhaps save you the trouble and danger of being stuck and alone.

If have a 4WD vehicle with big and wide mud terrain tires and lockers then you already have more traction than these small ramps will probably provide. It would be nice if a larger size of these ramps was made for those more "extreme" situations.

One other thing to note, these ramps are made out of an injection molded plastic material, and although they are reasonably strong they should be considered a disposable device that you can use a few times before something happens to it. For example: spinning the tires on the ramp (not-recommended) can burn the nubs off of the top. However - even at a single use, if it saves you a tow truck or gets you home safe (or even to work on time) then the low price is probably worth it.

