

Homemade Throttle Lock

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Pete Morse, ICS #16012

My Comanche has locks on the passenger and luggage door that latch, but do not lock. They can be turned with a screwdriver, so I have been concerned with meeting the FAA and Homeland Security requirement for securing the engine controls. Somewhere I saw mention of a simple bracket to prevent moving the throttle lever forward (adding power) and made my own version of it.

The basic component is a 3½ x 5-inch sheet of aluminum bent into a “U” shape over a ¼-inch rod, then drilled for the hasp of a small padlock.

The bracket fits over the shaft of the fully extended (off) throttle lever, and the padlock prevents its removal. I added the padlock key to the ignition key ring so I don't forget it. Someone may be able to hot-wire and start the engine, but without the ability to increase the throttle they won't be leaving the ground ... or even the tiedown spot!

