

TORQUE CHECK

Dear Windy,

Here 'n' there the TM's say to "check" torque on a screw, bolt or nut.

Some guys check torque on nuts by cutting the safety, setting the wrench at the minimum torque called for and making with the muscle. If the nut doesn't turn, or if there's a click, they figure it's got the proper torque.

Others say that to check torque you cut the safety, back the nut off a few turns, then tighten to the proper torque value. In fact, they re-torque the nut.

What say you, Windy?

SSG L. E. M.

Dear Sergeant L. E. M.,

It's nigh-on impossible to check the torque value of a tightened nut because torque indication is good only when the screw, bolt, or nut is moving. You have to start from scratch.

So, to check torque, the nut must be re-torqued. Just back off on the nut to below the minimum torque and then bring it back to the torque given in the maintenance pub.

