

Re: Cordless screwdriver innards?

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"John Jardine" <john@jjdesigns.fsnet.co.uk> wrote:

*>I've scrapped 3 of them. The leccy bits are all within the trigger mech.
>Speed control via a tiny linear pot moulded with the trigger. I found the PM
>motors are OK but the electronics are magnificently designed and constructed
>to do just the job in hand and very awkward to cannabalise for other uses.
>Good luck with the curtain openers :-).*

*>Tried it once with a windscreen wiper motor. This apparently simple project
>to do a useful simple job, escalated over a 2 week period into a screaming
>nightmare of electronic controls, timers, limit switches, wires, cords,
>pulleys and mechanical hardware. The dynamics never 'felt' right and the
>eventual size weight and complexity of this monster caused it (thankfully!)
>to fall off the wall. A version #2 a couple of years later. worked but
>wasn't really worth the effort.
>Learnt at that point that some things are better off being industrially
>manufactured.*

Thanks, very helpful. All I'm hoping for is to be able to (a) open it up without bits flying off in all directions, and (b) solder thin wires to the F/off/B switch contacts and still be able to close the thing up again.

Alternatively, I could dust off my existing unit, based like yours on an old windscreen wiper motor. It briefly served as a lounge curtain opener (until my first wife objected on aesthetic grounds – a reasonable complaint; it was an ugly accessory <g>). But I then adapted it as a window opener/closer, where it worked well for some years. It let me keep the window closed while dozing off reading in bed, without light-attracted moths and other bugs getting in, and avoided having to then get up (and wake up) to open window for fresh air overnight.

Here's a photo taken during developement

<http://www.terrypin.dial.pipex.com/Images/WindowOpener1.jpg>

and here's the circuit

<http://www.terrypin.dial.pipex.com/Images/AutoMotorExtremes.gif>

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