

Windstopper for an MGBV8 Roadster or RV8



A Dutch company, Cabrio Design, is supplying a windstopper for the MGB and MGC models which they say will also fit an MG RV8. As we had no previous knowledge of this company or its windstopper, we made contact with an MGB enthusiast who has fitted one to get feedback on their experience of the item and whether they might feel able to recommend the item to fellow members. Her detailed response provides a useful assessment of this windstopper.

"I bought a deflector from Cabrio Design in August 2011 and I have been very pleased with it and particularly with the helpful and friendly contact from Lodewijk - I ordered it from him direct. I have previously tried other deflectors - I found the mesh type worse than useless and then I bought a screen from Windblox in the USA - I liked their screen as it was much deeper than many others but the mounting brackets did not fit into the tonneau bar brackets as they were supposed to and I had to have them adapted by a local blacksmith so it ended up looking rather messy. By contrast, the deflector from Holland is very well made and streamlined. My MGB is currently tucked up for the winter, but if I get the chance to do some pictures I will do so and let you have them.

Let me answer your specific questions:

Quality of deflector: I found the deflector to be good quality and elegant - the deflector is fitted into a black metal bar into which a piece is slotted on each side and it drops into the tonneau bar clips. It is supplied in a leatherette storage bag and it fits into the boot when not in use.

Installation: the installation is straightforward and self-explanatory. However, I asked Cabrio Design to supply me with a version that did not have an attached 'skirt' as I had previously tried one of these on my car and found it didn't fit as it

should. The idea of the skirt is that you clip it in place with straps (self-tapping poppers are provided), so that it works much the same as the half tonneau cover. I think that this skirt would actually reduce buffeting further but I wasn't happy with how it would interact with seat belts - there are two slots on the skirt that the belts can be passed through but I think this would soon lead to the fabric of the skirt getting torn, which is why I decided not to have one fitted.

Use of half tonneau: because the deflector fittings use the tonneau brackets, the tonneau bar cannot be left in place. However, I have used the deflector with the half tonneau fitted without the bar. If you wanted to have the cover properly fitted so that the front bits covered the bit in front of the bar brackets, it would be necessary to remove a few stitches from the half cover so that the deflector fitting can go through it and into the bracket. I have not done this and I just fold back the front piece and tuck it under. I have not tried fitting the full tonneau cover with the deflector but I imagine the same would be true with that.

Use of hood: the deflector does not interfere with the raising or lowering of the hood and can be left in place with the roof up.

Effectiveness: I don't think that any deflector totally deals with the problem of wind buffeting, or at least not on a classic car. I think it is easier with modern sports cars because the aerodynamics are different and the front windscreen tends to be higher. However, I find that this deflector certainly helps a lot and it is much quieter too. It sits in place very firmly without any rattling and the fittings are discrete.

So overall, yes I would definitely recommend this deflector to other MG enthusiasts and I think it is superior to others on the market. I hope these comments are helpful, but please get in touch again if you need any further information." http://www.cabriodesign.nl/frameset_eng.htm

