

Deleting the rear seat on an MGBGT or V8 for more load space



Over the last 30 years I have owned 20 GTs, including four V8s. Whilst the back seat of a GT is just about usable by a small child, there is very little leg room and not much head room either, so the cars tend to be used as a 2-seater hatchback, with the rear backrest laid flat for extra storage. As the backrest is not very tall, when it is folded down over the rear seat about 8 inches (200 mm) of potential load

space behind the seats is wasted. So some years ago I made up a taller backrest with a raised lip to gain more load space and since then I have gradually improved the design with stronger hinges and shaped corners. Here is the latest version, as fitted to the V8 I have recently rebuilt, Damask 0450.

I have also had a one-piece carpet

made to cover everything, so I can now carry the mythical "two sets of golf clubs" in style.

I notice that the new GTs made by Frontline are going to use a similar system, presumably because the original rear seat would not comply with today's design regulations.

Note & photos: Barrie Jones

