



New Radiator Built Up Ready

### Replacement aluminium radiator for an RV8

Here Julian Drew explains that he purchased an aluminium Radtec radiator for his RV8 last September because "I was a little concerned that the relevant standard replacements available were probably units that had been refurbished a number of times already and having experienced a couple of poor examples, I felt a new fabricated unit the way to go".

"In terms of fitting the Radtec radiator, this was fine. The out and in through the bottom as normal, and finding the mountings were all in their correct locations. Sizing was pretty much spot on, although the shape of the side tanks are more square on the uprights, but this does not present any real problem. One point to watch for is the small retaining clip that supports the expansion tank metal pipe coming from the far side of the radiator. As the clip needs to be adjusted to fit the thicker material with the aluminium, but this really is a straight forward operation".



The Radiator cover does mask most of the radiator, however, the expansion take off union is visible and would look different with a radiator not being black powder coated to match the original.

"The mountings for the fan assembly were all positioned where they should be and made fitting the fan quite easy. I would however take time dismantling the fan brackets from your old radiator and again take the time to clean them up so they are ready for fitting on the new radiator. The radiator cover assembly to the top also fitted well, confirming the suitable position of the radiator lugs etc".

"I would suggest you pay the little extra to have the radiator powder coated in black, similar to the original, as I guess the aluminium coloured radiator may look out of place through the grill etc, especially with the black bumper grills we have on an RV8. That's unless of course you prefer a rather different look.

The build time from Radtec was a few weeks I seem to remember. The staff at Radtec were quite helpful with any questions I had.



Through the grill, an un-powder coated aluminium radiator would stand out somewhat as the grill is also black. Similarly, from the inside of the engine bay a silver un-powder coated radiator would be quite noticeable.

### Why did I choose an aluminium radiator?

The main reason I went for an aluminium radiator was to get a new fabricated item. I had with my previous RV8 found the available replacement RV8 radiators were reconditioned units with new cores, but the side tanks seemed not to have gone through the same level

of reconditioning. My experience of the radiators I was sent was they had damaged/out of shape hose unions. I ended up sending it back as I was not really happy with them, only to find the second replacement in a similar state.

The **aluminium option** is of course fabricated for you once you place the order so new unions and other parts are an advantage. But the cost is high and you do need to rely on a near exact match. Since buying mine I have heard some buyers of fabricated radiators have had difficult experiences with the aluminium unit not fitting well and having difficulty with the fan mounting. That said I would be very careful to ensure when ordering the aluminium unit that you feel confident as you can that Radtec or anyone else will be able to provide a suitable unit.

I know also of **another option** and that is using a local radiator specialist. I remember with my previous RV8 I had originally researched having the radiator reconditioned locally. Which is essentially what Clive Wheatley mgv8parts and Brown & Gammons do. **Arrow Radiators** in Melksham seemed to be able to offer this facility, which is becoming more difficult these days in terms of finding a suitable repairer. But it's likely there will remain a few specialists that offer this facility in different geographic locations in the UK and overseas. Some web searching may support this, furthermore, bespoke manufactures do exist that fabricate for race cars, but I would be more cautious here of getting the right design.

**Radtec advertise the RV8 option**, which is what drew me to their radiator in the first place.

**What does a Radtec aluminium replacement radiator for an RV8 look like?**



#### **MGR V8**

Part Code: RMGRV8

All alloy radiator designed from an original pattern. Fitment as per original so no modification is necessary. Powder Coating:

**£432** including VAT

Link: <https://www.radtec.co.uk/shop/makes/mg/mgr-v8-2/mgr-v8/>



Radtec is a well-known name throughout all forms of motorsport, we have been supplying the industry for over twenty years. Our aluminium radiator and intercooler range has been tested in extreme climate and race conditions time after time, and thanks to a company policy of continuous research and development the performance of our products has reached a level that we feel is without equal anywhere in the world. The experience obtained from motorsport is now being used in fast road applications to great effect, with high performance upgrades available for virtually all makes of road going cars. Vintage and classic vehicles are also areas where Radtec are leading the way in high performance cooling upgrades.

Radtec is a highly specialized business based in Staffordshire England that for several years has been leading the way in innovative design and manufacture for the motor industry. We supply products such as radiators, intercoolers and oil coolers to an extremely high performing level. We also supply fuel tanks, water tanks, and dry sump tanks and are prepared to work with the customer when it comes to design criteria on a single purchase or batch purchase basis. We also undertake aluminum fabrication work for many of our customers and are happy to do so

Radtec currently supplies products all over the world and with the launch of our e-commerce based website we are hoping to increase export capabilities, towards this end we have tried hard to produce a website that makes ordering online easy and fully informative.

Radtec is also the producer of the brand name water wetter COOLBOOST. This is one of those products that once tried seems to be continually re-ordered by the customer and while performing the task of increasing the cooling capacity of your system also has strong additives to keep it clean and corrosion free.

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Radtec, manufacture and supply OE parts for the Swedish supercar, the Koenigsegg CRX, which I must confess I have never heard of!