



Upper and lower shrouds on the exhaust manifold

V8 exhaust manifold shrouds

The standard V8 induction set up is a complicated affair. When the car is cold, heated air is drawn into the “lobster claws” from below, through flexible steel tubing connected to pressed steel “shrouds” that are closely bolted around the front of the standard cast iron exhaust manifolds. Most V8s have lost their shrouds over the years, either when the cast iron manifolds have been replaced or simply not fitted after induction system work or they have rusted away.

Yorkshire member John Davies wanted to return his pair of MGBGT V8s to the standard Factory arrangement and needed two sets of shrouds. Fortunately the uppers (BHH1297 and BHH1298) are occasionally available on eBay as “New Old Stock” but the lowers (BHH1247 and BHH1248) are rarely available in good condition.



Lower and upper shrouds with the wooden pattern former

The challenge had been overcome by Paul Gill in Caerphilly in Mid Glamorgan in the 1980s when he restored his rubber bumper MGBGT V8 (Glacier White 2518). He created a wooden pattern former (using poor condition lower shrouds as a shape guide) and a colleague fabricated a set.

Now 35 years later, the wooden former was called into action again – this time loaned to Yorkshire restorer David Barber, currently recommissioning an early rubber bumper V8 (Black

2102). Turning steel sheet into a small, complex set of compound curves that emulate the original stamped component is a significant accomplishment, albeit one that most people who view the car will never see or appreciate!

Regrettably investment in the time required means no further sets are planned.



Parts set out before the new upper and lower shrouds were made



Footnote – sourcing replacement Hot Air Shroud to Air Cleaner ducting on an MGBGT V8

There are three useful workshop notes with suggested ways of resourcing the ducting as it's no longer available as a replacement part.

V8NOTE534 and V8NOTE536 contributed by Angus Munro cover both sourcing and fitting replacement ducting. Tony Lake recalled looking at the Revotec website when digging into cooling fans for the MGBGT V8 and saw they have flexible aluminium ducting listed on their website in 1m lengths at “very nearly the right outside diameter – 51mm v 50mm”.

V8NOTE653 contributed by Jonathan Stein highlights suppliers of replacement ducting in the USA and the UK. He found a perfect match in a VW part. It costs about US\$10 and has enough length of ducting to furnish 3 to 4 cars. He bought it from JBUGS.com in California and their part number is 028129087A. AutoDoc offers this part in the UK”. The AutoDoc website lists 6 different versions of this piping from 4 different suppliers. Prices vary from £6.02 to £12.60 depending on length and supplier.