



V8

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RV8 Cheap, Simple Fix

Repairs are not always difficult and do not necessarily require large sums of money to achieve the desired effect. In recent discussion with RV8 owner, Ian Hanstead, he mentioned that although he has owned his RV8 for nearly 9 years now, the glove box lock has never worked, even though he has the key for it. So recently he carefully removed the lock from the car and soaked it in penetrating oil overnight. By the next day the job was done. A quick clean up and it was back on the car in full working order. How's that for a cheap, simple fix?

On the subject of glove box locks and cheap simple fixes, the MGBGT V8 (in common with the 1800 B, the MGC and the RV8) requires the key in the lock to operate the mechanism. If, like me, you require frequent access to the glove box during journeys, having a key in the lock all the time is unsightly at best and dangerous for the passenger in the event of an accident at worst. Years ago, my wife discarded an empty hair

conditioner bottle and a thought occurred to me. I took the lid off and cut the key down to size. I then filled the upturned lid with Isocon P38 Body Filler and stuck the remaining part of the key into it. After setting and with minimal clean-up work, I now have a glove box 'knob' to gain access to the glove box. It looks very much in keeping with the rest of the interior and the best part is that it cost me virtually nothing!



Battery Removal/Installation

Next month we will be featuring the twin 12v battery installation for the chrome bumper MGBGT V8. (The rubber bumper cars have a single 12v battery in one compartment only.) We will have an account from an owner as a 'supply and fit' operation at a garage, together with the experiences of an owner who bought the batteries and cables and did

the job the himself. If you are anticipating such a job yourself, I strongly recommend you invest in (or borrow) a Battery Carrier, as shown in the picture. I bought this Sealey Bt91/9 carrier from Amazon last year at a reasonable cost and it has transformed that trickiest of jobs, battery removal and installation, which now becomes a single-handed job! The other hand is needed to hold the cables out of the way but the battery carrier, when correctly placed on the battery, (across the car, as the opening is a little wider in that direction) transforms this operation into simplicity itself.



I usually manage to 'fiddle' the two jay shaped brackets down the sides of the in-place battery and carefully install the retaining clamp across the top to complete the job. However, this requires a level of patience and three hands!