

Look back to your Rear Package Shelf.

BY ERIC SCHMID

PART XII IN A SERIES

In previous articles I described the entire restoration of the interior of my '65 Riviera. Now we come to the last episode of the interior restoration, the rear parcel shelf. Again, this part can be bought ready to buy and there are various providers who offer this part in the last pages of the Review magazine! As far as I'm concerned, I'm a fan of bringing old parts to new splendor and no matter what condition they are in, if it's always possible, I'll restore them.

When I removed the parcel shelf, I realized that in many places it was not what it should be. There were various places that were drawn by the many years of use extremely passionate and either broken or deformed by moisture.

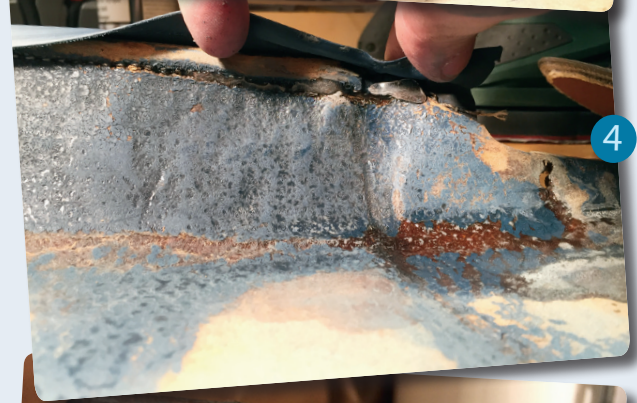
After the removal, I decided to first look at everything - especially all breakages of the parcel shelf (Fig. 01).

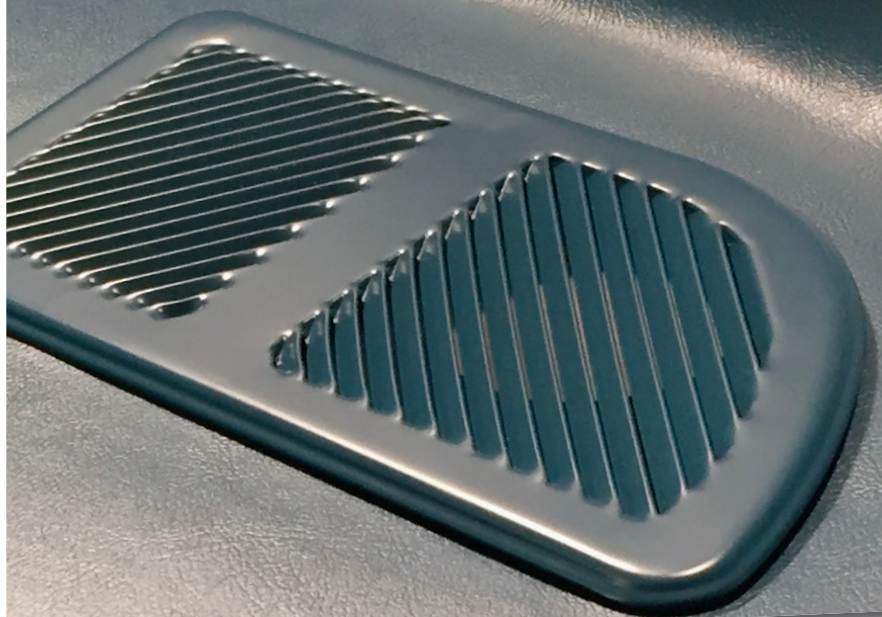
In the broken areas, and also where I noticed additional gaps, especially at the points (Fig. 02 - Fig. 05), I decided to repair them with epoxy and to reshape them by grinding. Due to the epoxy, the heavily worn areas again got the necessary rigidity to survive for many more years.

When the repairs were done and the epoxy cured, everything had to be thoroughly sanded again (from coarse to fine). Then clean the sanded hat rack with an alcohol-soaked cloth.

The rear shelf has at the rear edge a plastic lip, which is sewn on (clearly visible on Fig. 01). It is important to leave this lip on and not remove it.

Now it's about cutting the vinyl to the correct size and sticking it on.





First cut the rough shape (Fig. 06). Once the shape is roughly cut, it makes sense to staple the vinyl to the parcel shelf so it does not slip (Fig 07). Then trim the vinyl all around with 2.5-3cm edge around the rear shelf with scissors (Fig 08).

Now the vinyl is ready to be glued to the cleaned parcel shelf - the most important step in the process. It is best to use a very strong contact spray, which is necessarily resistant to high heat (solar radiation can reach incredibly high temperatures, which could dissolve the glueing of a cheap glue). It is also very important that vinyl and hat rack are free of dust particles before they are firmly glued ... Any slight bumps would later be a disturbing factor and with the sun and heat, possibly unsightly bubbles.

When gluing the entire back of the vinyl as well as the entire surface of the cleaned parcel shelf with the contact spray to be sprayed all over. Allow the surfaces to dry slightly before they are brought together (once brought together, they can hardly be taken from each other!). It is best to lay the vinyl on a surface or table and then carefully place the parcel shelf on top, starting with the seat front. Then slowly roll the parcel shelf onto the vinyl until the back side where the plastic lip is attached (Fig. 08). Then turn the whole thing over and use a scooter or a dry cotton cloth to gently but firmly press from front to back. Then press the supernatants by the edges and glue them in place. Cut off the protrusion on the rear plastic lip, lift the lip and pull the supernatant under the lip.

If you did everything right, it should look like Fig. 09.

For the rear ventilation, cut out the hole recesses along the edge with a scalpel and replace the ventilation grille (Fig.10). Your hat rack is now ready for installation in your car.

Voilà. For a while, I will publish any more articles. At a later date, once my car is completely finished, it will be specially presented in an edition of the Riview.



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