

Early Sprite Mk I Hood Installation Instructions

For 14A4806 hoods with nine peg fixing to windscreen

Important: Before attaching any fittings to the new hood, ensure you have the correct hood for the car.

Your new hood is a high quality, jig-assembled product designed to fit your car as perfectly as the original item. Reading and fully understanding the instructions before starting installation and, very importantly, installing the hood in warm conditions will help towards a successful outcome and a taut, wrinkle-free finish to your new hood. Cold hood material does not stretch easily, making the task more difficult and achieving a less satisfactory result.

It must be stressed that the instructions assume the hood frame is in good, undistorted condition and that all hood attachment and reference points on the car (for instance, windscreen position and angle) are dimensionally correct relative to each other. We cannot be held liable for a poorly fitting hood if this is not the case.

Tools and Consumables Required:

Sharp Knife or Hole Punch
Tape Measure and Chalk

Tenax Socket Fitting Key (advisable)

1. From inside the car, pull down the spring-loaded hood frame and secure it at its lowest setting.
2. Release all fixings on the hood and remove it from the car, leaving the hood frame erected but at its lowest setting.
3. Slide out the metal retaining strip from the sleeve in the rear of the old hood and fit to the new hood, ensuring it is centrally positioned.
4. Place the new hood over the hood frame, ensuring that the vertical front edges of the hood-sides align with the tops of the B posts on the car.
5. Locate the metal retaining strip in the rear edge of the hood into the chrome teardrop retainers on the rear deck of the car.
6. Ensure that the rear of the hood is centrally positioned on the car by measuring and marking the centre on the rear edge with chalk and measuring outwards to the positions of the two teardrop retainers.
7. Release the spring loading on the hood frame, allowing it to rise and tension the rear section of the hood on the car.
8. Check inside the car that the hood seams run straight along the hood frame bows (the bows are the hood frame members running across the car over your head); gently pull the hood forward on either side as necessary towards the windscreen to correct alignment of the hood seams to the bows. Also check that the rear bow is pivoted out to its full extent.
9. Under the rear quarter window on one side of the hood, pull the hood rear edge down so that it just touches the rear deck of the car. At the same time, pull it gently forward round the cockpit edge towards the B post to tension the material.
10. Mark on the hood material with chalk the position of the rearward of the two Tenax pegs on the rear corner of the cockpit.
11. Cut or punch a 3/8" diameter hole in the hood material, using the mark as the centre point. Fit a Tenax socket in the hole and attach to the peg on the car.
12. Repeat the process for the rearward of the two Tenax peg and socket positions on the other side of the car.
13. Repeat the process for the forward of the two Tenax peg and socket positions on each side of the car.
14. Pull the bottom of the vertical front edge of one of the hood-sides forward and down to meet the top of the B post.
15. Mark on the hood material in chalk the centre point of the hood attachment turn-buckle at the top of the B post underneath.
16. Cut or punch a 1/2" long by 3/8" high hole in the hood material, using the mark as the centre.
17. Attach a turn-buckle eyelet around the hole, pushing the four tags of the eyelet through the material.
18. Fasten the clinch plate for the eyelet on the inside of the hood by locating it on the tags and then bending the tags flat. Attach the hood by the eyelet to the turn-buckle on the car.
19. Repeat the process for the turn-buckle eyelet on the other side of the car.
20. Returning to the front of the hood, measure and mark with chalk the centre of the front edge.
21. Pull the centre of the hood front edge forwards over the top of the windscreen frame, until it just covers the frame and meets the glass. Line up the centre mark with the centre 'Lift-the-Dot' peg on the windscreen frame. Mark with chalk on the material the position of the centre peg underneath.
22. Punch or cut a 3/8" diameter hole on the chalked peg location mark.
23. Position a 'Lift-the-Dot' socket over the hole in the hood and gently push its four tabs through the hood material. Note that the dot on the socket should point downwards.
24. Secure the socket by bending the tabs over a socket clinch plate on the inside of the hood. Attach the hood by the socket to the centre 'Lift-the-Dot' peg on the windscreen frame.
25. Check again inside the car that the hood seams run straight along the hood frame bows; gently pull hood forward on either side as necessary towards the windscreen to correct alignment of hood seams to bows.
26. Holding the hood front edge part way along from the centre on one side, pull it down over the windscreen frame and at the same time outwards towards the side of the car, to tension the hood edge along the top of the windscreen frame.
27. Mark with chalk on the material the position of the next peg out from the centre of the windscreen.
28. Punch or cut a 3/8" diameter hole on the chalked peg location mark.
29. Fit a 'Lift-the-Dot' socket and clinch plate by the previously described process, then attach the hood by the socket to the windscreen peg.
30. Repeat this process for the first windscreen peg out from the centre on the other side of the car.
31. Repeat processes 26 to 30, alternating socket fitment from side to side of the car, until the hood is completely fixed along the windscreen top edge by nine sockets. Note that the dot on the outermost socket on each side should point slightly towards the side of the car instead of straight down the windscreen.