

Spitfire Mk IV and 1500 Hood Installation Instructions

For 822371 and XKC1781 hoods

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:

Bradawl

Tape Measure and Chalk

1/2" AF Spanner

Sharp Knife

Durable Dot Socket Fitting Tool (advisable) and Hammer

Drill with Suitable Bit for Removing 1/8" Dia. Pop-Rivets

Pop-Rivet Gun with 9 off 1/8" Pop-Rivets (Part No. RU608123)

Can of Brush-On Trim Adhesive

1. Release the fixings on the hood and the header rail catches from the windscreen. Leave the hood and frame erected.
2. Inside the car, undo the two hex-head screws securing the retaining bar to the rear deck. Set the screws aside for re-use.
3. Fold the hood and frame back into the rear of the cockpit.
4. Carefully remove the header rail seal from its three retaining channels. Examine and purchase a new seal if necessary.
5. Release and remove the channels from the header rail by drilling out the pop rivets. Set the channels aside for re-use.
6. Release and remove the two draught strip tabs from the header rail by drilling out the two pop rivets.
7. Remove the hood from the header rail. Clean the header rail, removing traces of old trim adhesive with sandpaper.
8. Remove the hood listings from the main and rear bows of the frame (the listings are material flaps in the hood, held by Durable Dot fasteners around the main bow and onto the rear bow).
9. Remove the old hood completely from the car, together with its retaining bar.
10. Re-erect the hood frame and place the new hood and retaining bar over it, ensuring that the vertical front edges of the hood-sides align with the tops of the B posts on the car.
11. Attach the new hood by the retaining bar to the rear deck of the car, using the two hex-head screws.
12. Moving to one side of the hood, pull the hood material down and forwards under the rear quarter window. Mark on the hood material with chalk the position of the rearmost of the four studs on the cockpit side of the car. Fit a Durable Dot socket and button to the hood and fasten it onto the stud on the cockpit side.
13. Repeat this process for the rearmost stud on the other side of the car.
14. Repeat the process forwards along the cockpit sides, alternating from side to side, for the other cockpit side Durable Dots (three more per side). On each occasion, remember to pull the hood material forward and down to create a taut fit before marking and attaching the Durable Dot.
15. When all eight cockpit side fixings have been completed, release them from the car.
16. Inside the car, fasten the front hood listing around the main bow of the frame, using the ready-fitted Durable Dot fasteners. Fasten the rear listing to the rear hood bow by its Durable Dot fasteners.
17. With the header rail catches fastened to the windscreen and all cockpit side and listing fixings attached, check that the hood seams are aligned straight along the bows, pulling hood material forward over the header rail on either side as necessary to correct the alignment.
18. Pull the hood front corners forward until the ends of the rain strips align with the rear top corners of the windscreen frame. Draw chalk lines on both the inside and outside of the hood to mark the position of the front edge of the header rail.
19. Pull the centre of the hood forwards and again mark the position of the header rail front edge on the inside of the hood.
20. Apply 1.5" wide strips of adhesive both forward and behind the latter chalk line inside the hood. Note that Stayfast, Double Duck and Mohair hoods will soak up the adhesive, so a second coat will be required in these instances. Apply adhesive 1.5" wide to the front upper edge of the header rail. Following adhesive instructions, allow it time to semi-cure or 'flash off'.
21. Pull the hood forward by one front corner to the two original chalk lines and attach to the header rail. Similarly attach the other front corner and dress out towards the centre ensuring, as you go, a good adhesive bond. Leave for 10 to 15 minutes to allow bond to cure. Do not release header rail to windscreen catches during this time.
22. After waiting for the bond to cure, release the header rail catches and the other hood fasteners, and fold the hood and frame down.
23. Apply adhesive to the rebate on the underside of the header rail and to the hood material forward of the front edge of the header rail. Allow adhesive time to 'flash off'.
24. Attach the material to the rebate, starting with the trim tabs first and re-applying adhesive over the trim tabs as necessary before attaching the remainder of the material.
25. Using a bradawl, gently pierce holes in the material corresponding with the attachment holes in the header rail for the three seal retaining channels.
26. Attach the header rail seal retaining channels with pop-rivets.
27. Using a sharp knife, remove the excess hood material, trimming back to the rear edge of the channels.
28. Pull down the front of one of the hood draught strips until its securing tab is over the rivet hole in the end of the header rail.
29. Gently pierce a hole in the tab with the bradawl corresponding with the hole in the header rail and fasten the tab to the header rail with a rivet and washer.
30. Repeat the process for the draught strip tab on the other side of the car.
31. Refit the header rail seal to the channels.