

FITTING INSTRUCTIONS **FOR NEWTON COMMERCIAL KARMANN GHIA CARPETS**

The following instructions cover all our Karmann Ghia carpet range – not all will apply to your set of carpets.

To make fitting easier and more accurate we recommend the “steaming” procedure on the square weave carpets only.

On our range of wide and narrow weave carpets we recommend warming the back of the carpet with a hairdryer, approximately 12 inches away from the carpet in a sideways motion. The backing contains a mouldable agent which when warmed will match the contours of the shape you are fitting to. We recommend that you warm the carpet, place it onto the area of fitting, hold for two minutes and remove. This should now have taken the desired shape. If so apply glue and then fit to shape.

VERY IMPORTANT Ten minutes spent reading these notes will almost certainly improve the quality of the job you are about to take on.

BEFORE YOU PUT GLUE ON ANY PIECE OF CARPET PLEASE CHECK THAT:

The carpet set you ordered is the correct colour and that all the pieces are present and fit correctly. Pieces returned that do not fit will be replaced. Pieces returned cut or glued will regrettably be charged for.

POINTS TO CONSIDER BEFORE FITTING

1. Does your car leak?

Your new carpets will be at least stained at worst ruined if allowed to stay wet.

2. Have you prepared the floorpan?

The floorpan must be absolutely clean and rust free, if necessary spray or repaint areas that will show through the carpet to give your car a professional finish.

3. Have you got the tools and equipment you need?

You will need some or all of the following; 1 Pencil (B only), 1 tin good quality contact adhesive, 1 or 2 paint brushes (small enough to fit into tin of glue), 1 or 2 square yards/meters of clear polythene, Bolster or wide end cold chisel, Hammer (not too big please), Special Tacks, 1/16.in. drill bit, electric drill (cordless if poss.), small flat end punch, large pair of good quality scissors, large sheet of cloth (to use when glueing), cleaning rags, **PLUS LOTS AND LOTS OF PATIENCE.**

4. SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY

If you are using inflammable glue, please make sure that you, people helping or watching DO NOT SMOKE, LIGHT UP CIGARETTES OR CAMPING STOVES (used for steaming/stretching carpet pieces prior to fitting) anywhere near your glueing area or the car. Please also remember to keep your car and garage well ventilated as a build up of toxic/explosive fumes could be fatal.

5. You are nearly ready to begin.

Remove ALL the seats, hinge covers (for cabrio), and seat belts if fitted and clean the dirty grease from the seat runners. Carefully remove all carpet fixing tacks from sills, emergency seat, pedal area etc. Do not throw them away, we'll use them again later.

6. Make sure all soundproofing material and head lining is firmly in place or fitted before starting. You can end up with ugly pockets of loose carpet or lumpy wheelarches and tunnel. It is better not to use spray glue for soundproofing & allow time to dry before glueing carpet on top.

7. PROCEDURE OR BASIC STEPS TO FOLLOW WHEN FITTING YOUR CARPETS.

Tools and **SAFETY**, fitting order, steaming and stretching, glueing, finishing off, clearing up, replace seats, panels, stand back and look pleased with yourself

8. FINALLY Remember take your time (a weekend on average), and enjoy yourself. Grab a cuppa and we'll start.

FITTING ORDER FOR CARPET SETS

FROM THE INFORMATION BELOW WORK OUT THE FITTING ORDER FOR YOUR SET

8 PIECE SETS (rear seat forward).

Front wheel arches, Tunnel, Pedal area, Front wheel arch lower, Sills.

Before any carpet is fitted to the Rear wheel arches, large rear mat or all the arm rests it is necessary to fit the leathercloth under the Emergency seat & on the edges of the arm rests, as carpet pieces are glued over sections of it. Also the leathercloth covered rubber tubes must be in place on the A & B posts.

17 PIECE SETS. UP TO 1969.

Small pieces fitted to the left & right of the large rear mat, Wheel arches, Large Rear mat, Rear of Emergency seat, (hinge covers for cabriolet up to 1969), Tunnel, Front wheel arches, Pedal area, Front wheel arch lower, Sills, Under Emergency seat, Arm rests.

FLOOR MATS. These go in last.

STEAMING AND STRETCHING PIECES INTO PLACE

This work is carried out **BEFORE** any other fitting takes place and **AFTER** you have checked that all the pieces fit.

LOOP PILE CARPET

2 METHODS to soften the carpet.

1. You can rub the carpet between your hands to soften the *size* used to stiffen the carpet & make it more pliable.

OR

2. Use either a camping stove or your kettle to steam the back of the carpet to be shaped, a non automatic kettle will make life easier. **REMEMBER** *the wetter the carpet the better it will stretch and form into shape.* For wheelarch carpets hold the ends and form shape over bent knee until required curve is achieved, Check for fit & form into shape on the wheel arch then allow to dry before gluing into place.

FELT TYPE CARPET

DO NOT STEAM this type of carpet, but rock from side to side on the ball of your banister or similar to achieve the same results & form the carpet to the required shape.

IMPORTANT DO NOT APPLY GLUE UNTIL PIECES FIT WITHOUT ANY WRINKLES.

FITTING TIPS FOR USE IN GETTING IT RIGHT FIRST TIME

1. During the time spent looking at and checking for fit you may notice , depending on your carpet set some small lines drawn on the back of one or more pieces. These are cuts that may be required to make that piece fit a little better. Most of these lines have been taken from original VW patterns and some I have included. Whether you use them and how deep you cut them is left to your own judgement.

2. As the loop pile carpet is slightly stiffer than the original material it is important that you make sure it follows the contours of the body or floorpan exactly as the rubber floor mats or carpets will rise up at the edges ruining the look of the overall job. This is where the Bolster or wide cold chisel is mostly used, to work the carpet into right angled corners.

3. All contact adhesives have varying amounts of **open time**. This is the length of time after becoming touch dry when a good bond can be made. It depends mainly on the amount of glue applied and surrounding temperature. It is best to apply the glue to the carpet first as the thinner layer on any painted surface may exceed the **open time** become too dry and your carpet will probably come unstuck in a short time. **NEVER TRY TO APPLY HEAT TO SAVE TIME**

THIS METHOD IS USED ON ALL PIECES EXCEPT THE PEDAL AREA.

4. When you have put glue on to both surfaces to be fastened and when touch dry cut from your sheet of polythene a piece slightly larger than the piece of carpet itself. Place the polythene over the glued area on the car leaving approx. 1 inch of glue showing at the top. Now position the piece of carpet carefully on top of the polythene and glue. You have now partly glued this piece in place. Carefully check the piece of carpet to see if it fits correctly as any repositioning can easily be done now. Most contact adhesives do not stick to polythene. If you are happy with the fit hold the carpet at the top and tug a little of the polythene down from the bottom, pat the carpet to hold it in place and re-check for fit. Carry on until the polythene has been removed. Now press down firmly all over. When using this method on the tunnel cut the polythene into foot wide strips leaving gaps for gear lever and handbrake which must be wrapped in polythene or clean rag.

5. If your carpets are held in by "special tacks" and you cannot find the original hole, try using an old needle held in a pair of pliers and prod around until you locate it. Use the 1/6.in. drill bit to make a new hole if you think it necessary. The flat head punch is used to tap the "special tack" into the carpet pile.

6. To remove pencil marks from paintwork use a small quantity of car polish on a clean cloth.

7. If the edging becomes dirty during installation it can be cleaned with a little soap and water. If soiled with oil use one of the well known hand cleaners.

8. CLEANING HEADLINING AND RUBBER MATS

To clean the headlining (not cloth type) before fitting carpets use either VW interior trim cleaner or Jif with a nail brush. VW rubber mats can be cleaned in the bath (wait until your Mum or wife has gone out) again using Jif or similar cleaner with a nail brush and lots of elbow grease. When dry, spray with VW interior trim cleaner or Mr. Sheen and brush in with a soft bristle brush ensuring the entire surface is covered. Leave to dry for a few hours and buff up with your Mum's best polishing cloth (only joking Mrs _____.)

FITTING OF INDIVIDUAL PIECES

1. SMALL PIECES ON REAR FIREWALL.

These are more difficult than they look but if you remember that the edging tape faces to the top surface of the wings you should be OK.

2. WHEEL ARCHES.

Make sure that you have steamed & stretched these pieces before glueing and use FITTING TIPS 1,2,3 & 4. Do not be worried about snipping excess carpet from the corners under the window, as the rear mat will lie flatter, but check with the rear mat before you cut to make sure you cannot see any raw edges.

3. LARGE REAR MAT

This piece kept to basically two patterns up to 1969 (cabrio & coupe). The correct shape will already have been discussed by us at this stage so when fitting, see below.

a. CABRIO UP TO 1969. COUPE ALL YEARS.

Use fitting tips 2,3 & 4. After checking that the wheel arch sections are correctly fitted where they meet this piece & the soundproofing is firmly glued to the firewall you can now put your adhesive onto the rear mat. This is a large piece to fit & to make sure no glue gets onto the emergency seat it is advisable to cover it with a large piece of clean cloth before fitting or gluing the firewall. The ventilation up under the rear window is not good so I place the Vacuum hose next to me to suck out the adhesive fumes out of the car whilst applying the glue in this area. Carefully position the carpet over the polythene (as in fitting tip 4) & pull it from the bottom

a bit at a time **ONLY WHEN YOU ARE HAPPY WITH THE FIT.** If not re-position it now. This is a large piece and must be fitted with care & it is very important to get the position right at the top edge, checking that the rest of the piece fits before pulling the polythene out. It is possible to get glue from this piece onto bits of the car as you carry this section in, so be careful and cover anything in the way with an old cloth.

b. CABRIO 1970 ON

There is another long narrow piece that fits under the rear window & is quite easy to fit over the large rear mat.

4. REAR OF EMERGENCY SEAT.

FITTING TIPS 1,3 & 4. For Coupe this piece overlaps the large rear carpet. For Cabrio it is slightly short of the lower edge of the Emergency seat to allow the seat to be raised without touching the bodywork behind.

5. FRONT WHEEL ARCH UPPER.

a. CARS UP TO 1959 (no cardboard over screen vent tube)

FITTING TIPS 1, 3 & 4. Start by tucking the carpet under the A post strip, making sure no loose carpet pile is showing. Carefully fold the carpet around the fresh air vent tube. This carpet should be just long enough to reach the bulkhead. Make sure the carpet just touches the bodywork under the luggage area.

b. CARS 1960 ON.

As above except carpet is glued over the cardboard section covering the fresh air vent tube.

6. TUNNEL CARPET ALL YEARS.

Use FITTING TIPS 3 & 4. Put the hand brake boot on first and start at the pedal end and work your way backwards making sure the pile of the carpet is in a straight line on top of the tunnel. Use the bolster chisel to get the carpet into the corner where the tunnel meets the floorpan or you will have problems with the floormats later on.

7. PEDAL AREA CARPET.

This is probably the easiest piece to fit. It is held in place with glue and on earlier cars "special tacks". Use FITTING TIP 4.

8. FRONT WHEEL ARCH LOWER SECTION.

This section must be offered up & shaped before applying any adhesive to find out where the glue line will be making sure the heater vents on earlier cars are correctly positioned. You can put a line of masking tape where the two pieces of carpet to make sure no glue shows after fitting.

8. SILL CARPET.

USE FITTING TIP 4. Tuck the polythene in the gap under the sill cover plate before the carpet to make sure the carpet does not stick as it is tucked in. When you are happy pull a bit of the polythene holding the carpet to make sure it stays in place. Fit the rest of the carpet taking care where the sills overlap the front lower section, use special tacks if required. Cars post 1969 cut the hole for the heater outlet after the carpet is glued into place.

9. UNDER EMERGENCY SEAT ALL YEARS.

a. UP TO 1962.

This piece stretches from side to side & folds over the bar under the emergency seat. Use FITTING TIPS 3 & 4. Work from the areas where the carpet folds over the seat support bar making sure the pile is in a straight line making sure the carpet can rise just above the area where the arm rest meets this piece.

Smooth the carpet down into the hollows under the seat & around the tunnel. When in place put special tacks in the corners of the carpet where it meets the arm rest & bottom part of the "B" post strip.

b. 1962 ON.

As above but this piece is narrower and only fits under the emergency seat. The armrests are longer and cover the rest of the panel out to the door posts.

10. ARM RESTS

a. CARS UP TO 1962.

This piece fits on the top of the arm rest & just butts up against the piece under the emergency seat. Put special tacks in the corners.

b. CARS 1963 ON.

This arm rest piece is longer & folds over and down to the floor. It fits between the "B" post & emergency seat section. Use special tacks in all corners as before. Cut any heater holes when in situ.

11. FLOOR CARPETS

These are put in place after all other carpets have been fitted and the car cleared of any scraps of carpet. They are designed to be a tight fit and should not move during normal use. It is recommended that you use rubber overmats to protect your new carpets especially during wet weather or if your car is used daily. The overmats can easily be removed for shows or other occasions.

AFTER THE CARPETS ARE GLUED AND TACKED IN PLACE

Brush or vacuum out the car, place in the floor carpets or rubber mats, seat belts, clean off any pencil marks, put new grease on the seat runners and fit the seats.

WELL DONE YOU'VE FINISHED