

# NEWTON COMMERCIAL

## INNOCENTI MINI REPLACEMENT SEAT COVERS FITTING INSTRUCTIONS

**Please read through these instructions before commencing so as to familiarise yourself with the method used.**

Our seat covers are designed as replacements for the original covers and so will fit over original foams (if they are in good condition) or Newton Commercial can supply a set of new foams to replace the originals.

Innocenti seats are quite complex in that fluted cloth centre parts of the seat covers are held against the seat foams using trim wires and string, This makes them one of the more difficult types of Mini Seats to fit.

Follow the Instructions below and you should get a good result.

### **TOOLS REQUIRED**

Large flat screwdriver – to remove seat clips

Contact adhesive (spray) – to repair any foam damage

Hammer – to fit seat clips

String – thin strong nylon type to tie trim wires

Scissors – Trimming seat cover

Large sacking needle – to sew string through calico hoops around trim wires and foam  
(If suitable needle is not available then make one from thin wire)

### **NOTE**

1. Trim one seat at a time so that you always have a finished seat for reference.
2. Base or Squab First? – This depends on the seat type.

**FIXED SEAT** – Start with the squab (backrest) first and then the base.

**RECLINING SEAT** – Start with the base first, then the backrest.

This is important as in each case it will give you the best access up inside the seat cover.

First remove your old seat covers by taking off all clips and screws (on recliners), peel back the covers and cut away the strings holding the trim wires in place. This will allow the cover to be lifted away from the foam.

Normally the foams are in reasonable condition and can be re-used. Check all the diaphragms/springs and the seat frame – repair/replace as necessary. If required re-paint the frame at this stage. Remove the trim wires from the old seat covers – these can be re-used.

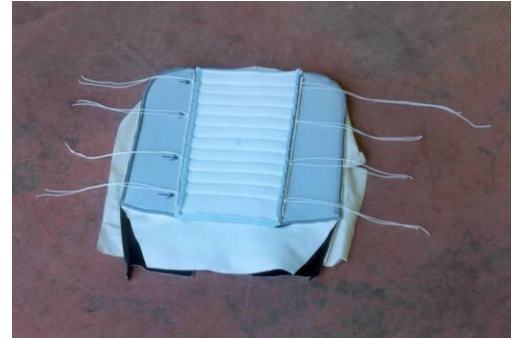
**FIXED SEAT** – Remove base foam, diaphragm and springs from frame.

**RECLINING SEAT** – All foams can stay on frame

## BASE COVER

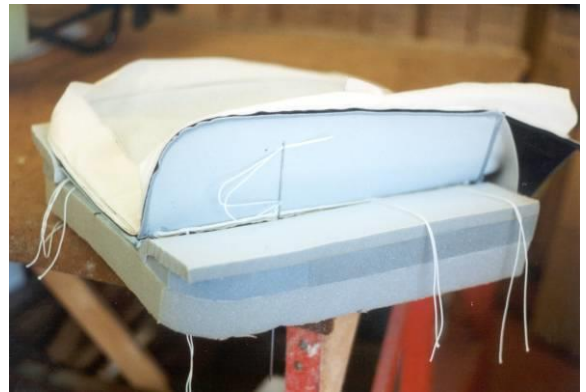
- a) Insert the trim wires into the calico hoops
- b) Cut 8 lengths of string at 30cm long
- c) Using a needle, thread the lengths of string through the calico hoop, passing under the trim wire. Tie a knot at the middle of the string.

**The positions are shown in Picture 1** →



- d) Lay the base cover on top of its foam – the trim wires will lie along the edge of the side rolls. The front edge of the cover must be along the front edge of the foam.

- e) Again use the needle to thread the string vertically through the base foam at each not position. **See picture 2 to the right** →



- f) Looking from underneath the foam, you now have eight strings along each side of the foam directly under the edge of each side roll. These strings can either be tied securely over another wire. Which then can be tied or hog ringed to the diaphragm or tied directly onto the wire base diaphragm. This will hold the centre-fluted section of the seat firmly onto the foam and the whole assembly onto the frame  
**See picture 3 to the right** →



- g) Push the rear of the flap over the rear of the seat frame, do not fix in place at this time.

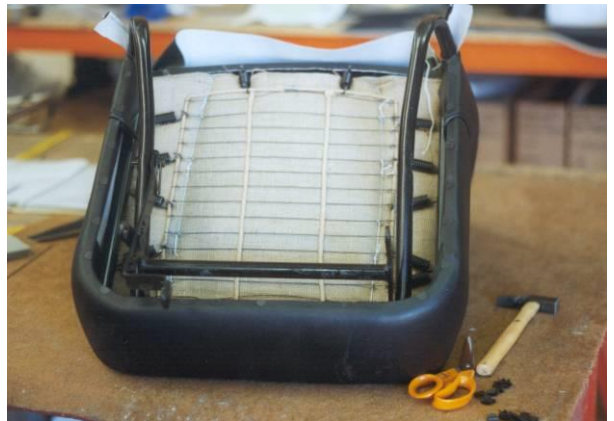
- h) Glue the wide calico flap in place over the sides of the base foam – this will hold the top of the cover in position. **See picture 4 to the right**



- i) Glue a base wrap (use soft felt or approx. 12mm thick foam.) over the whole of base frame / foam up to the top of the calico flap. See picture 5 to the right →



- j) Fold the base skirt down over the base wrap all around this will be a tight fit and will require pulling firmly. Start at front middle – clip the cover onto frame. See Picture 6 to the right →



- k) At the rear the cover can be glued and clipped around the tubular part of the frame. See picture 7 to the right →

- l) Pull rear flap tight over frame and clip into place

If your seat is a recliner and you have just finished your base cover – cover it with the polythene bag that your seat covers arrived in. This will protect the base cover while you fit the squab.



If your seat is fixed – re-tension and clip the sides. Then fix front and rear flaps as shown in instructions for squab.

## SQUAB COVER

- Refurbish squab foam – you may need to replace the soft felt that wraps over the foam
- Insert the trim wires into the calico hoops (cover inside out)
- Cut 8 lengths of string (50cm long)

- d) Using a needle, thread the string through the calico hoop, passing under the trim wire. Tie a not in the string to leave a single length as long as possible tied to the wire.  
See picture 8 to the right →



- e) When all strings are tied turn the cover right sides out. **\*\*SEE NOTES FOR RECLINER\*\***  
**\*\* Recliners have a shaped board glued in a pocket at each side of the cover – either re-use the originals or use them as patterns to make new ones. Glue these boards in place.**

- f) Glue polythene over top and sides of squab foam, this will allow the cover to slip easily over the foam
- g) Pull the cover carefully down over the foam. Grip the cover firmly at each side, holding the piping. This will avoid tearing the joins along the piping. When halfway down – stop – make sure all strings are pulled down the front of the squab foam, and then continue to pull the cover down over the foam

- h) **FIXED SEAT** - With the cover pulled down evenly at the sides. Temporarily clip the side skirt over the lower frame. This will hold the cover firmly against the top and sides of foam -  
**OR RECLINING SEAT** With the cover pulled down evenly at the sides, fix using a screw and cup washer, the bottom of the cover to the frame at the pivot point. The screw passes through the cover and the board. This will hold the cover firmly in place against the top and sides of the foam. See picture 9 to the right →



- i) This next step requires great care, as you will need to put your hands up inside the cover but take care not to put unnecessary stress on the cover. The recliner can be fully reclined at this stage to give better access.

- j) Starting at the top strings – push the needle with string attached through the foam approx 10mm below the point where the string is tied to the wire. The string must pass through the foam and straight through the diaphragm then out between the cover and frame at the rear.  
See picture 10 to the right →



The recliner can now be put back to the upright position.

- k) When all 8 strings are threaded through in a similar way – again start from the top. Pull the string firmly and tie off onto the wire diaphragm. When all eight strings are tied, the fluted centre of the seat cover will be held firmly against the foam and the foam against the diaphragm

**NOTE**

**FIXED SEAT** – Unclip the sides – re-fit the wire diaphragms as per fitting instruction, it the base cover re-tension and clip the squab sides

- l) Push the front lower flap through the gap at the bottom of the squab – pull evenly and clip/trim to the rear base frame over the top of the already fitted base flap . **See picture 11 to the right** →



- m) Insert an edge softener foam along the bottom of the frame and then pull the back cover over the frame and clip in place. **See picture 11 above**. Use your other seat as a reference to see how it is trimmed.

**HAPPY MOTORING!**