



TClinic

DUPLICATING TC SIDE CURTAIN MOULDINGS by Bill Fulton

If you have a TC without side curtains, or have the replacement type and would prefer the original style, here's how you can duplicate that chrome moulding.

First go to a junk yard, and ask to see their junked VW Karmann Ghias. If they have none, go to the parts department of a VW dealer and purchase some of the chrome moulding used on the rocker panel of the Ghia. It's a teeny-weenie bit thinner, but it's the closest thing available in duplicating the original chrome strips.

Next, borrow a friend's set of original style TC curtains and remove the chrome strips. (Sorry, but this is the only way folks!). Cut each duplicate to match the original pieces, insert the appropriate number of 8/32 x 1/2" flat head screws, secure with matching 8/32 nuts and presto — not only do you have original-like side curtain moldings, but unlike the originals, they'll never rust!!

Printed by TCMG in 1974

2002 Update

Moss Motors now carries original looking moldings for the TC side curtains out of stainless steel rather than the chrome over steel. They state: "For TC owners who are die-hard purists or Concours enthusiasts, our "do-it-yourself" finishing strip kits include over-length strips which must be custom mitred to duplicate the originals."

Since there are reproduction side curtain frames out there now it would be more accurate to custom miter the trim strip corners than to use original strips as patterns. There could be slight differences in frame angles between old and new frames.

Finding a Karmann Ghia in a junk yard today or finding a VW dealer that can get the moldings is pretty slim these days. A brief search on the internet though turned up original style reproductions at about \$150 per set for the Ghia moldings.