

Cleaning and re-using rubber parts:

If you wish to re-use rubber parts on your beautiful restoration, then the following may help you to bring those parts up to look like new. Even if the rubber appears to have perished a bit, this will not prevent its use. Equipment you need will mean raiding the kitchen supplies. . . if your wife will let you. Start with the kitchen sink — this is a good place to work, especially as you need warm water. . .

Step by step — firstly, carefully remove the part from the car without damaging it, of course. Flake off any loose paint, taking care not to damage or tear the rubber. **N**ow to the kitchen sink. Fill it up with warm water — no soap. This is to soften the rubber and make it easier to handle. Let the rubber soak for at least a couple of hours, then fill the sink again with warm water, and grab a Scotchbrite or other type of plastic scourer. Don't use a metal pad, as they rip the rubber to pieces. Scrub the rubber lightly and the paint and perished rubber will come off quiet easily (at least it did when I did it).

The finished product should look much blacker than before you started, and look almost new. Let the part dry for **24** hours, then it can be replaced on the car. **N**ote of warning — put the part out to dry on some paper or cloth, as it leaves nasty black stains on the laminex if you don't.

This method was used successfully on some rubber grommets and door stops, and we decided to commit it to paper to help others. **B**y the way, someone asked me where we got the new grommets, and was very surprised to hear they were originals!
Robyn Couche



Erratum

Last edition, you may have been mystified to read in the index a reference to *Of Rockers, Cranks, and Doing your Block*, under the Technical heading. This was in fact the title of Roger's article on the Traction engine, subtitled *A Look at Bottom Ends and Such*. Unfortunately, one of the famous network of Printers Gremlins slipped into the printery undetected and cut off the main title. Apologies. (*Did you understand all that?*)



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