

How to repair an MGF / TF mesh wind stop by Hainsie

Quite a common problem for MGF/ TF owners is the hole or ladder in the mesh of the wind stop. The question is what can I do about it?

1. I could buy a new wind stop – possibly £100
2. I could darn it like a pair of tights – it'll look worse, trust me!
3. I could replace the mesh fabric – but how to do it ? am I capable ? and where do I get replacement fabric? This'll be nearly as expensive as the new wind stop, surely?

Fortunately, I have been through the pain of trawling round many a fabric shop enquiring as to suitable stiff fishnet type material and have found the perfect stuff readily available at no risk of embarrassment to male purchasers.



1. First things first, go to Ikea and buy yourself a roll of "Flynn Lill" panel curtain in assorted colours <http://www.ikea.com/gb/en/catalog/products/40141668>.

You'll find it in the curtains and blinds section on a roll that's about 3m long by 60cm wide and its £1.36 per roll - bargain!! If you go in the morning, breakfast is worth trying out too.



2. After your exciting foray to Ikea and hoping that you didn't buy too many extra things to occupy your time assembling, you need to take apart the wind stop.



The mesh is held in by two rubber strips that push it into a recess around the top and base of the tubular wind stop (as in the left hand photo). Gently remove the rubbers and set aside.

3. Next you need to remove the fixing brackets.



These are held in place by one screw either end of the wind stop. Use a 4mm allen key to remove them and pull out from the tube.

4. You should have a table of bits that now look something like this:



5. Now cut your new fabric roughly an inch or so larger than the old fabric you've removed
6. Place the fabric over the frame loosely, with the bottom edge about 5mm over the bottom groove of the frame. Push the bottom rubber in, making sure there are no folds in the mesh fabric.

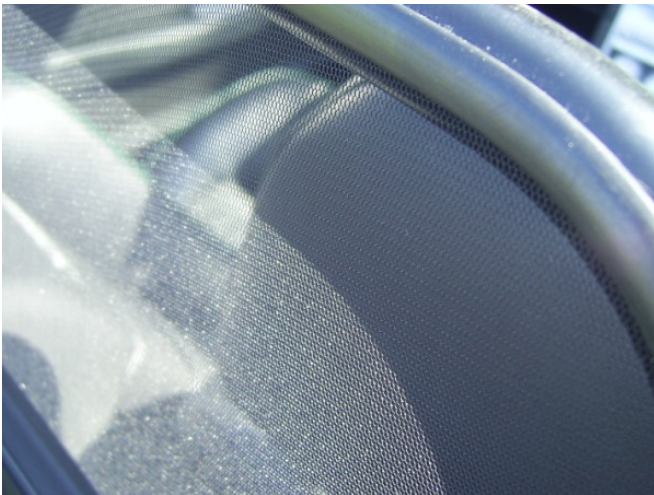


7. When you have put the bottom rubber into the recess and given it a sound tap (a rubber mallet was useful here) start from one side of the frame and stretch the fabric whilst inserting the rubber over it and into the groove. Don't worry if you do a bit and it looks ruffled, just go back and try again.

8. Cut off any excess mesh sticking out from the rubbers, I also had to trim the rubbers to fit as they had stretched a bit on removal.



9. Refit the wind stop brackets and the wind stop to the car and job done!



10. Go out for a spin and if you have any hair (unlike me) it shouldn't blow around as much as it did with that hole in it! Some say that this has been tested to 100mph. Not bad for £1.36 and about an hour of your time (not including that spent in Ikea of course!)