

Saturday, March 05, 2005
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Hi Tim,

We bought curtains for Linda's '31 Woodie from Richard Hayes in California. What beautiful work he does! They are super and he was very helpful in their installation stressing tightness stretching being very important. I devised an installation method to ensure tightness and alignment, which worked very well and thought other club members may be interested in.

Dave Westenberger – Colonial Virginia Model A Club

POP RIVIT THOSE CURTAINS ON

I can just picture all those “O Yeah?!” club members now so here goes.

1. Having original wood, (except for right & rear top rails) I found stud holes were at different depths so I started by measuring the individual depths, subtracting 1/2", cutting and gluing in 1/8" wood dowels into those stud holes more than 3/4" deep.
2. I cut off the pulling pin of a dozen 1/8" steel pop rivets leaving about 1/2", which I sharpened with a file.
3. Insert the 1/8" end into the stud holes around the window opening leaving the sharp ends protruding.
4. With the assistance of my better half we pushed the new curtains onto the pins after stretching them as tight as we could. The “Hayes” fabric is pretty thick and tough so that great Model A tool (hammer) was employed along with a 1/4" drive socket and short extension to push the fabric over the pin.
5. You may have to reposition the fabric for alignment and tightness. When the curtain looks happy, I took a pencil and drew around the protruding rivets (all 12)
6. Remove the curtain, lay on a good workbench on top of a clean sheet of 1/4" ply (2' x 4') and draw a 7/16" circle around each marked grommet location. Punch your holes using a 2x6 underneath. Install the grommets.
7. Remember: the grommets go on reverse on the rear quarter and rear header tops (29s-June 30). (They fit inside. I forgot to reverse ours as shown in the left picture.)
8. Install your studs and curtains. They came out perfect!

