

66-76 A Body Non-Air Heater Box Foam Restoration Kits

This is going to be a brief overview. See <http://www.DetroitMuscleTechnologies.com> for more detailed information. This will be basic rebuild.

- Disassemble the non-air box. This is really a simple box to take apart. In general be very careful. The box itself is very brittle; probably a combination of crude, 60's/70's plastic technology and 30+ years of age. Take pictures with a digital camera for reference.
- Wash all the parts very well in hot soapy water. There is usually 30+ years of leaves and movie tickets inside the boxes.
- I usually glass bead all the metal door parts. The same results can be achieved with elbow grease or a wire wheel. Clean. Then paint all the metal parts with a good enamel or epoxy paint. I have been using Rustoleum #7519 Stainless Steel.
- To apply foams, use a quality high spray adhesive. Again I've been using 3M Hi-Strength 77 (available at upholstery supply, craft supply or commercial hardware stores) but any quality spray adhesive should work. Look for high strength and/or high temp. Follow the directions on the can but most require that you spray both surface; the door and the back of the foam (be SURE you are spraying the correct surfaces – remember the photos above). Let dry for a minute or two then press the foam to the door. Doing all the doors should only take a few minutes.
NOTE: Some of the foams are larger than the doors. This is intentional and is just like factory.
There is one foam approx .6"W x 7" long that attaches to the RH side of the heater core. This is used to seal the shaft edge of the heat door. You may not see the "remnants" of a foam strip if the heater core had ever been replaced.
- There are some minor differences across the years. The early pre-75 boxes used a variety of screws on the boxes. The 75 and 76 years used all the same fasteners everywhere on the box; a #10 x 5/8" plain hex head screw.
Also the 75 and 76 heater boxes used the foam with the trapezoidal cutout on the heat door. The earlier years had a plan flat door and used the solid foam. I have included both foams in the kit.

- One item that is usually missed the white foam strip. It goes under the edge of the metal blower motor backplate where the cardboard slips under.



- Before assembling the 2 box halves, install the off white rope caulk in the channel around the edge of the box half. Note where the old caulk is. It won't look like the new stuff. It will most likely look like old chewing gum in the channel. Be sure to dig this out when cleaning the box (in the first step).
- When the box is assembled, attach the rubber black foam strip with adhesive backing to the fresh air vent to cowl area on top of the RH side of the box. Make sure this area is very clean before applying this foam. You will probably have to trim the last 1/2" off the foam strip for a perfect fit. Finally use some 3M Weatherstrip Adhesive (use the black stuff 3M# 0811) to attach the 2 ends of this foam piece.
- Finally slip the neoprene foam tubes over the heater core tubes. There are 2 different sizes since there are 2 different sized heater core tubes. These foam tubes seal the holes where the heater core tubes go thru the firewall.

Again I should have info and pictures soon on
<http://www.DetroitMuscleTechnologies.com>

Also see the great write up on rebuilding an A body heater box at
http://www.moparmusclemagazine.com/projectbuild/155_0311_valnt_temp_project/index.html

Thanks, Jim & Loretta Fillmore