

My Split Bumper MGB

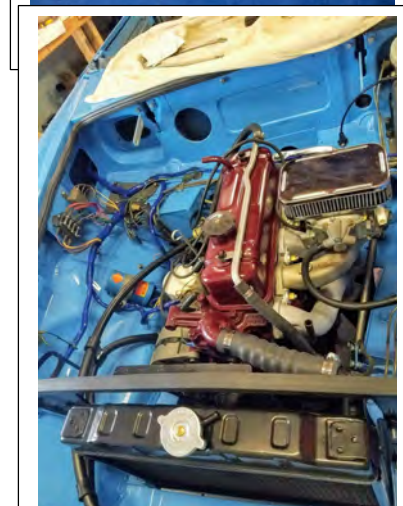
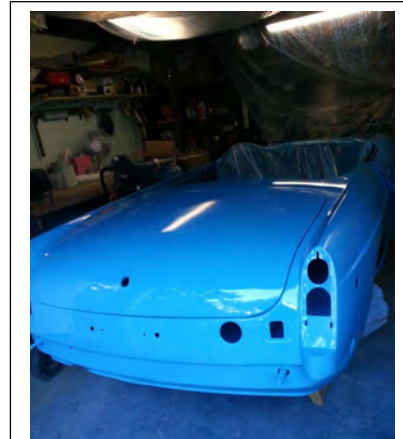
Andy Heins

I purchased this car in August of 2021 after searching for something fun to drive. My car is a 1970 MGB that had recently gone through an extensive restoration that included a complete strip down of the body, engine overhaul and repaint, new seat covers and interior. The 1970 MGB is unique in that it is the only year the MGB had a split rear bumper.

The previous owner had worked on the car for about 5 years and got it to the point it was driving and running well but sort of ran out of steam. There were lots of unfinished items when I purchased the car and one by one I have been trying to finish it.

The biggest challenge was installing the brand new canvas top, which was accomplished at one of the Club's tune-up clinics. Other items I needed was some reworking of the electrical system to get all the lights working. New carpeting installed in the trunk. Fixing items on the dash, installing the heater and a new alternator and battery. I purchased four NOS wire wheels that are much nicer than what is currently on the car but have yet to swap them out. There are still a few items in the engine bay to mount that were non-essential but are in the various boxes the last owner gave me. I also need to replace all the data plates as they were removed when it was painted.

When purchased, the car had an earlier year single rear bumper. I began searching in earnest for the split bumper and found they are quite scarce. Even rarer are the license plate lights that mount inside the bumper ends. I was able to acquire a good bumper without the lights. I have found a couple lights since then but they are only suitable for parts. When mounting the split bumper, I noticed things didn't quite match correctly. I then determined that when the previous owner welded in a new rear body panel it was from a different year! I was able to get them fitted but an MGB expert will know something is not right!



I have to thank Ed Hill, my neighbor, for going with me on the initial purchase and for helping with all the little projects on the car. We try to go to most Club functions together in our cars and usually have a great time doing it.