

from the Morgan Oasis Garage

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Friends

Once again faced with the not-so-Herculean task of replacing the lens on the ubiquitous Lucas L 594 turn signal lamp, I made a tool. Of course this was from desperation as I wouldn't dare admit how many paint jobs I've scratched replacing these lenses. Lately I've taken to taping around the rubber boot to avoid paint damage around these lamps.

Over on the lovely Flowerbelle's side of the shop I found a stainless steel "sofa pin" that is a sixteenth of an inch thick and three and a half inches long. I sawed off a quarter of an inch and filed and polished the sawn end so it was smooth as the new schoolmarm's - - - -.

Another big help with this thankless task is a half a cup of warm water with a couple of squirts of dishwashing liquid to use as a lubricant to assist the rubber to go where you'd like it to go. The soap is painted on the rubber and the lens is inserted into its slot in the boot. Now the chromed retaining ring is "offered up" to the boot. Pressing the ring up to the boot, the tool is inserted into the slot and a flap of the rubber is lifted over the ring, using the tool to lever the boot over the retaining ring. Keeping the tool in the slot, the flap is walked around the lamp till the ring is properly seated in the boot.

There isn't any more to it, it's dead simple to make the tool. The next time you have to remove one of these lenses you'll actually look forward to it, not to mention performing this magic on another ham-handed member's Moggie before a suitable crowd.

