

EXTERIOR ROOF LEATHER CLOTH

Cold conditions

In low ambient temperatures removal of a leather cloth will be a time consuming job. If the car can stand in a warm shop overnight or if a paint oven is available for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour (at 180°F/83°C) removal will be simplified. Before placing a car in an oven it is advisable to check that any contents will not suffer or cause damage at this temperature.

To remove

Remove windscreen, backlight, chrome drip mouldings and mouldings at the lower edge of the leather cloth. Remove the old leather cloth, marking the position of seams as they are reached. Raise an edge at a lower corner of an "A" post and progressively pull away, using a solvent, if needed, such as Bostic cleaner. All the time work edges up first, the aim must be to avoid tearing the material. Once the roof is reached pull diagonally, first one way then another so that the material comes away on a short front at a time. At the base of the "D" posts slightly raise the rear edge of the window moulding to get the material from underneath.

Using a suitable solvent, such as Bostic cleaner, remove the old adhesive from the roof, if this has not already been done.

If necessary make good any paint or other damage to the roof.

To refit—Two operators, one a skilled trimmer, are required

In addition to a new leather cloth a suitable sheet of cheap quality leather cloth about 4 ft x 8 ft will be required as a "separator sheet". The new leather cloth must be clean and free from creases; it should be stored as a roll unfolded, and if necessary it should be ironed with a damp cloth between it and the iron.

Find and mark the centre line of both cloth and roof at front and rear. Apply impact adhesive (such as Holdtite 38 RB 4380) to the under side of the new leather cloth up to and including the seams but excluding the "legs". Lay to one side. Apply adhesive to the car roof but not

to the A or D posts nor to the drip mouldings. On both leather cloth and roof the adhesive must be applied as a continuous thin film that is absolutely free from lumps. Allow the adhesive on both surfaces to become tacky; the separator sheet when placed without pressure must not stick.

Fold separator sheet across short dimension so that the shiny side is outwards and the top side is slightly longer than the lower. Lay the sheet centrally across the roof with the fold just short of a drip moulding; do not apply any pressure on this separator sheet, it must not stick.

Fold and stick the seams of the leather cloth so that water will not lodge in the seams when the cloth is fitted (Fig. 38A). Lift the new leather cloth and fold the front and back ends so that adhesive cannot touch.

Lay the new cloth across the roof on the separator sheet.

At the rear lift the cloth over but keep away from roof adhesive, carefully check position and then stick one seam into position.

Keeping remainder of cloth clear of roof, position and stick the other rear seam. Repeat the procedure at the front seams.

Stick the narrow strip between front and rear which is in front of the separator sheet fold.

The second operator now alternately pulls out the separator sheet a small amount and then tensions the new material whilst the trimmer lays the material down so that it is quite free from creases or air bubbles using a 4 in. (10 cm) "sleeker"; as work proceeds tension needs to be gently increased.

Apply adhesive to the outer faces of A and D posts and to "legs" of material, allow to become tacky, (Fig. 38 B, "A" Post detail), then stretch material and stick down progressively.

Repeat for drip channels (Fig. 38C) and Window apertures (Fig. 38D) and use the sleeker to "bone" the material down to the contours of the body over the backlight aperture. Trim away surplus material and cut out the double material at seams on drip mouldings to allow chrome finishers to be refitted.

Refit chrome mouldings (Fig. 38E, "D" post detail) finishers and glasses.

Remove excess adhesive and Seelastik.