

TECHNICAL CORNER



Getting the Rubber to Stick to the Running Board

Handy technical tip from an old newsletter – Fullers “Metal Grip” adhesive is still available in the market.

The Right Adhesive:

Before settling for a reliable adhesive, we tested 4 well known brands. This involved trying each product on a separate portion of rubber and sticking them to a strip of metal. Next a weight was put on top of the rubber portions and left for a week. Three of these products could be later peeled off with fingers and with minimal effort applied. The fourth, “Metal-Grip” made by Fuller, required pliers and considerable exertion to remove, leaving particles of rubber stuck to the metal.

Preparation:

The metal surface of the running board should be roughed up with some emery paper or an electric sander. Similarly prepare the under surface of the rubber to be applied.

New rubber has an inhibitor on its surface to prevent it sticking to the mould during manufacture. This inhibitor prevents any adhesive bonding to the rubber. You will recall that in order to apply patch to the tube of a tyre, the surface of the tube must be roughed up before the patch will stick successfully.

A.Taylor Whakatane

Supply of Rubber for Running Boards

M8TCNZ Member, Neil Wakeman from Melbourne has recently sourced Running Board grooved rubber from UK.

“It’s reasonably close to the original with 4 flat top ribs per inch and the back side has a fairly rough embossed pattern, which I imagine is for additional surface area for the glue. The supplier is a firm called Woolies Trim in UK and cost £5 per meter 30 cm wide, plus postage of course.”