

20 To have that correct, from-the-assembly-line look (and trust us, the judges will look), you need to ditch the retaining nuts that come with the repop lamps (photo A) and use the correct washer-head nut shown to the upper left of it. But that's not all; the bell spacer shown in photo B is also required, due to the angle of the rear valance. Not only will your installation look correct, but also the lights will seat better and stay tight.



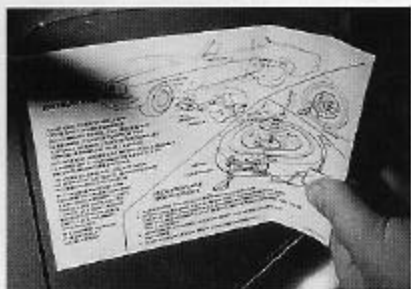
21 When the backup lamps have been snugged in place by hand, take a small, flat object, such as a pocket screwdriver, and carefully seat the seal lip around the chrome lamp housings. These seals will often shift during installation, so make sure they're seated properly before final tightening of the lamp hardware.



22 While we installed the fuel filler mounting hardware earlier, we left the fuel filler cap for later. After installing the retaining wire bale, you can carefully seat the filler cap and check to ensure that it doesn't come in contact with the taillight panel. If it does, you can always install more cork gaskets behind the filler-neck lip.



23 Here's where hindsight became 20/20 for us. We figured we would leave the trunk-lid weatherstrip for last since it was a rather easy item to deal with. Unfortunately, during the application of our 3M black weatherstrip adhesive, a drop of the adhesive escaped our tube and landed on our new trunk mat. Although we acted quickly, it was too late; the mat had a chemical "etch" where the adhesive had dripped. Heed our warning and install this gasket before any new detail items get put in the trunk.



24 Oftentimes at shows we notice that some owners overlook the most obvious things, such as this jacking instruction decal found on the trunk lid. Many times it's the wrong one for the car, or it's simply not installed at all. This sticker is going to be noticed by any judge (the good judges will catch the little things), so do yourself a favor and get the correct one.



25 Though black-and-white pages don't do our Anniversary Gold and gleaming chrome any justice, take it from us, the finished results are inspiring—enough so. My neighbor bought a '68 hardtop to work on after seeing this project come to life in my garage! Now get out there, grab your CJ catalog, and get ready for the show season. I'll be seeing you out there (if this 289 is any good!).

SOURCES

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