

Repairing the petrol cap

Tools/parts required:

5mm drill bit
Wire snips/pliers
3mm Allen key/socket
Ballpoint pen spring
Superglue/Araldite glue
Sealant (petrol resistant silicone/Hermatite)

This becoming a common problem as these cars age but luckily the cure is simple, cheap and quick;

Remove the petrol cap from the car; you need a 3mm Allen key to remove the 4 bolt/screws holding the filler cap on and bear in mind the cap is also secured to the body by thick black sealant so you will need to apply brute force when pulling it free from the body.

Drill the rivet heads ever so slightly using a 5mm drill bit.

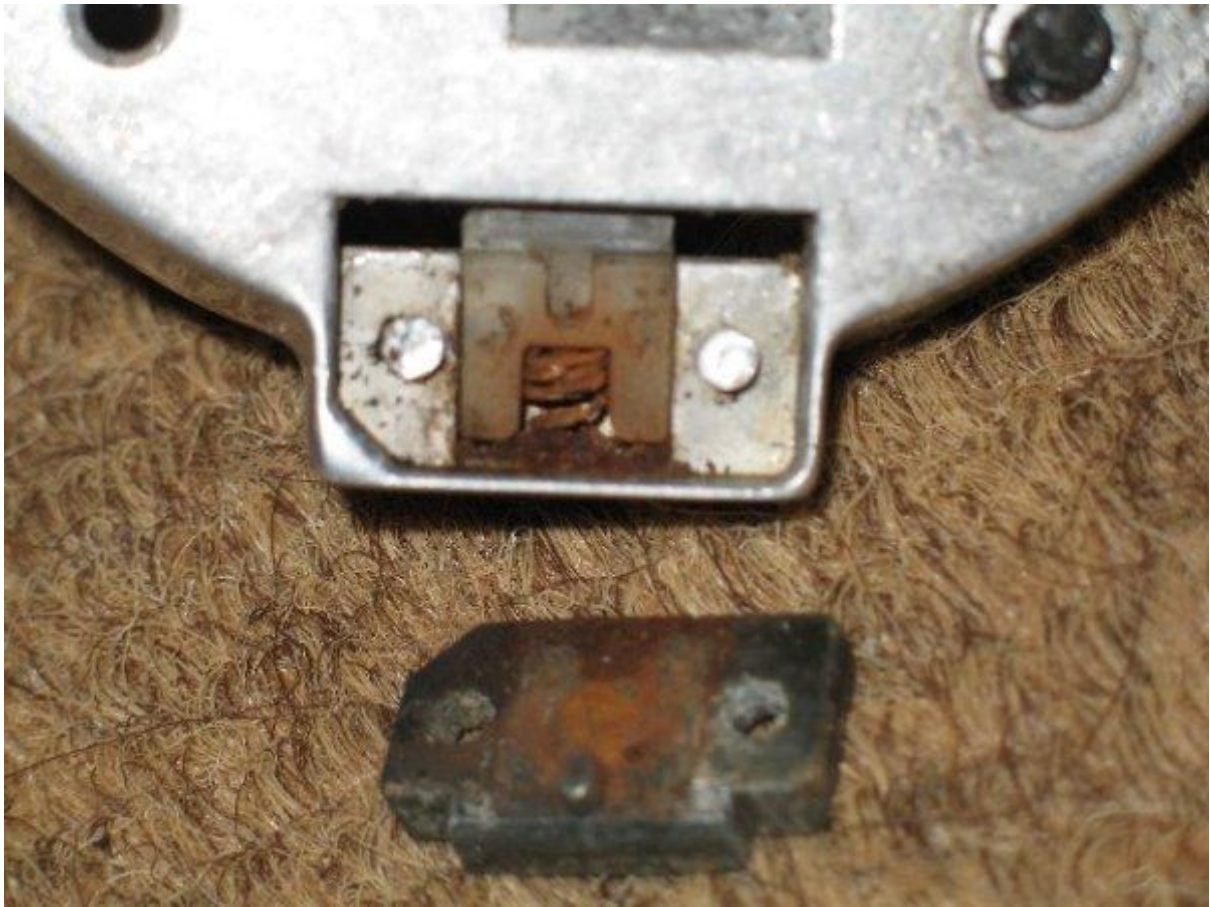


You want to drill just enough to remove the "lip" of metal that keeps the plate in place.

Close up:



Then the plate can be removed and you can see what's behind the plate:



Take out the plastic clip and there's not much left of the spring:



Now use wire cutters to chop up part of a new retractable ballpoint pen spring:



This shows the little knob on the back of the metal plate that keeps the plastic clip from being pushed out too far by the spring.

Put the metal plate back on, two blobs of superglue/Araldite to hold it in place, and refit (*remember to use a sealant between the cap and the body to avoid rainwater leaking into the fuel tank!*) and enjoy your fully working petrol cap!

You can see here how far the plastic clip is supposed to stick out:



Any more than half way in and it will fail to hold the cap shut.

This job should take half an hour, or one hour maximum.