



1955-1957 Thunderbird Porthole Window Installation Guide

This kit is intended to convert the '55-57 original Ford fiberglass non-porthole removable hardtop to window "ports." the non-ports and porthole tops from the factory differed in two major points: (1) The factory "ports" had gussets as spacers and strengtheners, bonded right to the hole; (2) The non-port has five headliner bows while the port has four. This kit is a duplicate of the original Ford parts once available as an aftermarket accessory item; they were discontinued in 1957 along with the manufacture of the original hard and soft tops. Unless this kit is used in the installation of port holes, the installer runs grave risks of damaging the fiberglass in the top, resulting in cracks, surface irregularities, and a non-original appearance.

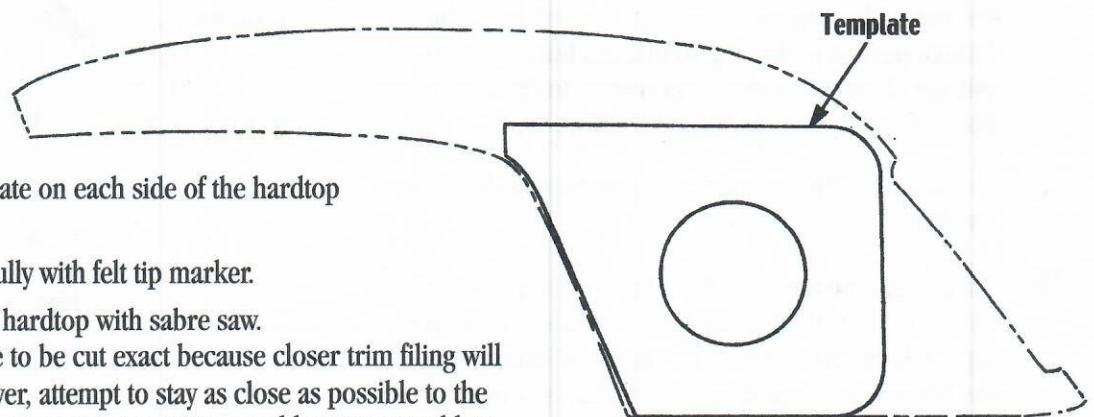
Porthole Window Kit Components - (Available Separately Upon Request)

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| (2) Outside Porthole Rings
RH Part #T 30534 & LH Part #T 30535 | (2) Spacer, RH & LH, Part # T 30500 |
| (2) Inside Porthole Ring, Part #T 29004K | (8) Screw, Part # SP 5230 SM042 |
| (2) Glass, Clear or Tinted, Part #T29710 | (1) 4-Bow Headliner Kit* |
| (1) Hole Cutting Template | (2) Weatherstrip Seal, Part #T 29904 |

*The 4-Bow Original-Type R replacement Headliner Kit is available in perforated white, off white, or pure white.

Installation Process

1. Remove headliner and bows from your existing hardtop.
2. Place hole cutting template on each side of the hardtop as shown in Fig. 1.
3. Mark hole outline carefully with felt tip marker.
4. Carefully cut hole in the hardtop with sabre saw.
Note: Holes do not have to be cut exact because closer trim filing will be required later; however, attempt to stay as close as possible to the hole size in the template. Any oversize cutting could create a problem with porthole ring installation.



(Figure 1)

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5. You are now ready to install the outside porthole rings.
6. Begin by installing the spacers in their correct location. The spacers are marked "L" for left (or driver's side), and "R" for right (or passenger side). Be sure both are on the proper side for fit and appearance. Note that the "V" notch goes at the top.
7. Drill the bow seat at this time, as shown in Fig. 2. Carefully drill a 1/4" hole in this area about half way through the flange to seat #4 bow.
8. Center the spacer flange over the hole on the inside of the hardtop wall. **Caution:** Check again that you have the spacers on their proper side. See Fig. 3.
9. Secure the spacer in place with epoxy cement; carefully follow mixing directions on cement container to ensure proper adhesion of the spacer.
10. Hold spacer in place to dry with "C" clamps.
11. Once the epoxy cement has dried, you will now replace the headliner. Carefully follow instructions provided in the Headliner Kit.
12. You are now ready to install the outside porthole rings.
13. Look for a "LH" or "RH" marked on the backside of the ring to determine whether it fits the right hand or left hand side. To determine the top of the ring, look for the thinner portion; it has two screw tabs. The top is halfway between the two screw tabs.
14. Angle the top of the outside port ring into place so that the top screw tabs are on the inside of the hardtop and the rest of the ring on the outside. You will push the bottom portion of the ring so that it is flush with the outside of the top; it may be necessary to do some minor filing of the hard top to accomplish this.
15. Use strip caulking to seal the ring to the outside of the hardtop.
16. Put the glass seal around the edge of the glass; cutoff any excess rubber. Put in place from the inside of the hardtop, making sure to place the "FoMoCo" etched logo at the bottom. The logo should be readable from the outside of the car.
17. Now put the inside porthole rings in place, lining up screw holes with the outside ring. Install the screws and the job is complete.

