

Door Hanging Notes, especially on M.G. TC

These notes were prepared after holding sessions at the T Register's Practical Skills Workshop, Bristol last October. They reflect the experience of the members who took part in the practical exercise of hanging doors and fitting catches to an unskinned TC bodytub. The diagrams provided are meant to clarify the notes, but cannot be as effective as having the setup in front of you. I am grateful to David Coppock of the SW Centre for his contribution and assistance at the Practical Skills Workshop. **David Barnes**

Preliminaries: Establish a sound base:

Chassis must be true and level.

Body tub frame must be: true i.e. symmetrical
 braced i.e. attached to scuttle, rear
 wheel arches

Procedure:

1. Check fit of door frame (unskinned) to aperture:
 - i. Adjust size of door frame and / or aperture to optimise gap, allowing clearance for skinning and trim.
 - ii. Adjust profile of door frame to match that of aperture, giving a smooth shape to side of body.
2. Form cut outs for thickness of hinge flanges.
3. Sort out hinges according to NS or OS, and upper or lower. See diagram A on page 12.
4. Trial fit door, hinges to bodytub:
 - i. Use only one undersize screw on each hinge flange to enable the hinge pivots to align on opening door through range of movement. Also permits the adjustment of the position of the hinge on the door frame and bodytub to optimise alignment.
 - ii. Adjust door fit if necessary by using packing pieces between hinge flanges and ash frame. Ensure that gap is even and door profile matches aperture.
5. Final fit:

Use correct fixings to hold hinges to door frame and bodytub. Note that set screws and nuts give a more shake

proof fixing but because the set screw passes through a clearance hole the location is not necessarily precise. The woodscrew should only be fixed once the location of the hinge has been established.

Correct Alignment of Hinges:

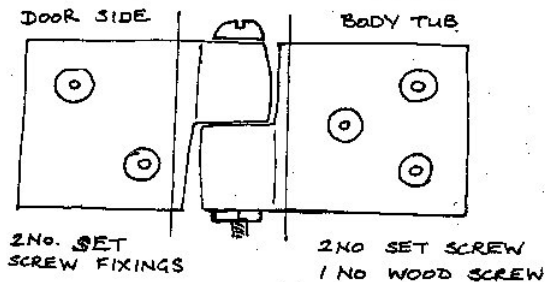
The hinge pivot axis is plumb in side view. See diagram B on p.13

The hinge pivot axis is inclined in section view. See diagram C on p.13

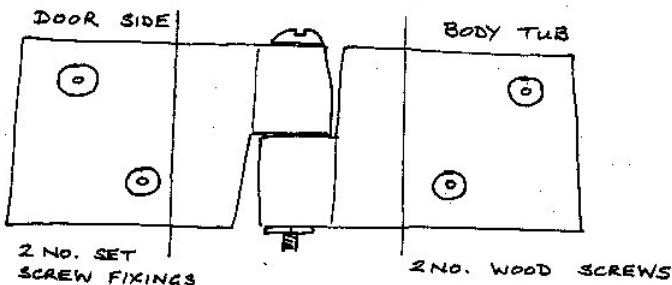
This provides for a degree of self closing of doors, providing the hinges are working efficiently. The benefit of this is that the doors will tend to swing closed if left ajar and thus be less prone to accidental damage. It does not have any benefit if the door catches are faulty and the door opens on the move!

DOOR HANGING NOTES, ESPECIALLY ON M.C.TC DIAGRAM A - HINGE ARRANGEMENT

UPPER HINGE, SHORTER OVERHANG

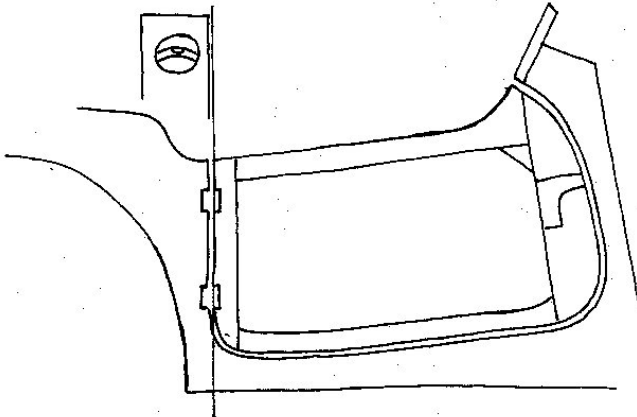


LOWER HINGE, LONGER OVERHANG



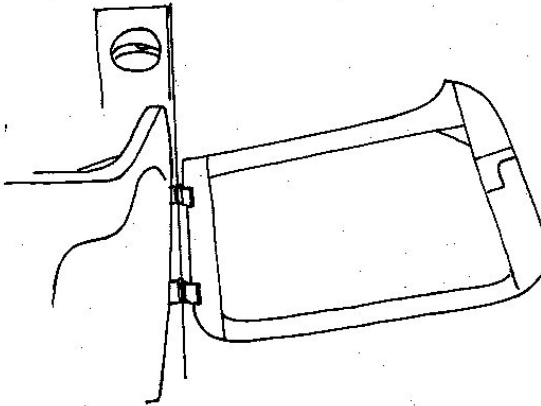
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DOOR HANGING NOTES, ESPECIALLY ON M.C.TC
DIAGRAM B



SIDE VIEW, DOOR CLOSED, HINGE LINE PLUMB

DIAGRAM C



VIEW FROM O.S. REAR, DOOR OPEN, HINGE LINE INCLINED.

Note: Due to variation in individual bodies, setup in Diagram C may not be achievable.

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Fitting Door Latch and Strikers, especially on M.G. TC

Preliminaries: Body must be: true i.e. symmetrical
braced i.e. supported by bulkhead
body and door skinned.

Door hung with: even gap
no snagging of door, aperture and trim.
door profile matches that of bodytub.

Procedure:

1. Fit door latch to door frame using two raised head machine screws. Use a small thin probe to align threaded holes in captive plate behind door frame.
2. Fit striker to A post using two raised head machine screws to captive plate behind bodytub.
3. Close door, engaging latch bolt to striker by door handle or lever, i.e. do not slam door shut! Ease and adjust the operation of the latch where necessary by:
 - i. packing out latch and / or striker with shims.
 - ii. Adjusting the relative positions of the latch and striker by moving the units with the machine screws slightly slackened off, then retighten.
 - iii. adjust the position of the striker block by adding or removing packing washers as necessary.
4. Ensure that:
 - i. the latch bolt engages fully with 2nd or inner hole on the striker block. The 1st hole is a safety position only.
 - ii. the door has minimal free movement when fully engaged on the striker.
 - iii. striker wedge block fits snugly into the aperture of the latch.

General observations:

Rear hinged doors:

- i. provide stylish entrance / exit from car especially for long leggy passengers.
- ii. necessitate door latches to be set up effectively, to cope with normal movement of body and twisting of chassis.