

Stripdown of Elan Door

Lots of pictures again. My car must be one of the most documented elans around 8-)

This is the first rev of the text, its sketchy, but i'm bored and its sunny so I want to go drive!!

The door, you've seen it before I'm sure...



remove the two trims, they ought to be just stuck on with an adhesive for the bottom material, peel it off gently. You can remove just the areas around the screw holes, seen in the detail below. The top leather part is stuck on with a rubber compound just pull it off. Clean up the excess rubber for later, and put them somewhere safe.



this is a tricky little bugger, i took off the driver side fine, but i broke the passenger lock cover, the idea is that the orange part can be coerced into popping out, this allows you to lift it off, its not that easy. take your time or order a new set 8-) I don't think you're really meant to get them off without damage, but it is possible.

The orange/red part is prone to breaking, hence lotus sells them in 10 packs, part no. A100B6151H



here is is removed, and the reason you have to remove it, that screw

Screw No 10 x 5/8" part no A100W5191F



Door handle assy, in the top of the handle there's the end of the metal rod, if you're lucky it'll have moved up. Grab it with a pair of flat nosed pliers and pull it out. the handle will come off. I didn't bother with this part, this time, you can get the plastic trim off very easily without removing the handle.



After the trim is removed.



The plastic triangle at the window corner, its stuck on with a plastic velcro like thing, just pull it off.



after removal.



the inside of the door hides another screw.



middle of the door, another bolt. Earlier Elans have a little plastic triangle, here as well. Don't lose it , its apparently about \$100 8-)



close up of the bolts running along the bottom of the door.



close up of screws removed, on left side of handle, and you can see the two others to remove on the right hand side , note they have washers behind them, watch out they don't fall as you remove the bolts. A tip for when putting them back on is to get some sticky glue to hold them, pritt stick works fine.



after the panel has been removed.



a close up of the speaker assy.



if you want to get inside the door panel, you need to remove the couple of black plastic panels which are held on by little pins, these need to be removed by either pulling them out or drilling them out with a small bit. tricky but not to hard. These little fasteners are called fastex scrivets. A100W6470F pack of 18, Carl Keil suggests pushing the pins through the tap and then recovering them later, good idea..



Back of the speaker. remove the plastic, unclip the wire retainer and the 4 screws at the front of the speaker, it'll pop out. Speakers went through a few revisions so yours might be different. The lotus speakers are ok, i replaced one side with the equivalent Boston speaker, it didn't have anywhere near the level of bass that the lotus speaker had, but the high end was better.



Here is the top door insert after I've applied some black silicon adhesive sealant, put plenty on, wear gloves though its icky stuff. Of course you won't have the problem I did, which was when taking the picture I dropped it and of course it landed on a light colored carpet jam side down 8-). Make sure you remove all the old silicon before doing this and give it a clean with a light solvent.

Clean the target surface make sure its dry, and stick it in place, it takes about 24 hours for this stuff to set, but i found after an hour it'll hold its own, if not you probably didn't have enough on.. Be warned though this stuff stinks for a week or two, might be advisable to crack the window a little, or drive with the top down for a while.



As for the lower trim, i used a spray fix adhesive that worked really well, spray it all over and apply it, takes a while to cure, and you might find yourself sticking it back on for a day or two,. but once it sets its fine, i used it on the other door about two months ago and its fine.

DON'T use a permanent adhesive, super glue, epoxy etc. you might want to get it off again later!

Thats it, I've stopped at actually removing the outer skin, It'll have to come off though as the power window broke 8-) but I'll probably let the dealer do it, its pretty involved I fear.

Charlie