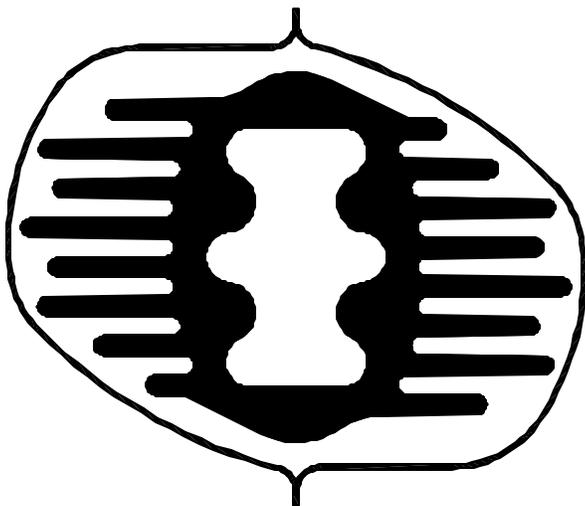


Why Should You Fit Genuine Heat VW Exchangers ?

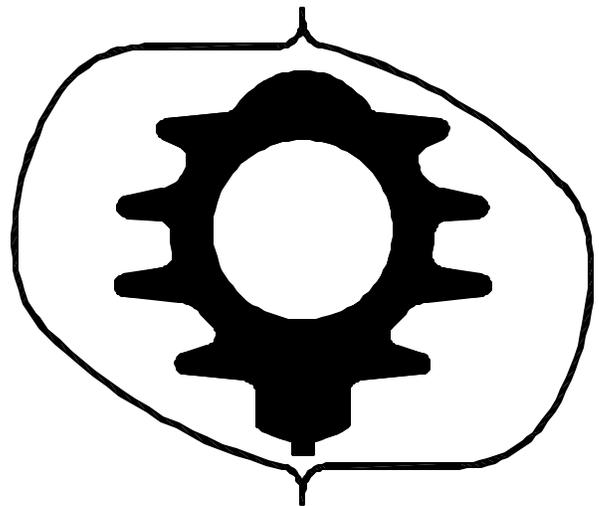
We VW enthusiasts are all too aware of how much genuine VW parts cost and often choose to use aftermarket parts as a cheaper alternative. It is fair to say that a great many of the aftermarket parts originate from the same manufacturers who originally supplied the parts to the Volkswagen factories and are of equal quality, as you would expect. However there are also aftermarket 'pattern' parts available from manufacturers who do not supply parts to the Volkswagen factories. Whilst these parts may look the same as each other, they can be very different.

In 1992 Peter Stevens (whose company 'Autobarn' at the time were Manufacturing 'new British Beetles' built from Mexican parts) examined in detail some of the better aftermarket heat exchangers available and compared them to a genuine VW heat exchanger. He looked at twenty separate areas and the VW part proved better every time, with the most significant difference being on the inside. Although heat exchangers may all look the same from the outside, when viewed in cross-section things are very different, as you can see from the cut away diagrams below. The heat exchange fin surface area of the VW part is considerably larger than the aftermarket part, thus giving a much greater area for heat transfer from the exhaust and hence making it far more efficient. Peter also noted a huge difference in weight with the VW part being as much as 2kg or 150% heavier than the aftermarket part.

The genuine VW heat exchanger proving to be a superior part all round is directly reflected in it's price and as the old saying goes, ' you get what you pay for'.



Typical Cross section through a genuine VW heat exchanger



Typical Cross section through an aftermarket alternative