

Installation of side repeaters for Volkswagen Beetle (Mexican)

- ◆ My VW Beetle is black and the look of my vehicle is important to me, so I was looking for something in particular. I searched the internet and found a number of possibilities but decided to buy side repeaters from a company called AutoArt. They were available in clear or smoked (among other colours). Smoked was the best option for my car and I was pleased to see that the lights meet the legal requirements.



- ◆ For a penny under £20 (including postage and packaging), you will receive everything you need for complete installation (apart from tools of course). I was impressed with the quality and the design. The adhesive pad that bonds the side repeater to the body is made by 3M, which is a further indication of the quality. I would recommend this product without reservations.



- ◆ On the quarter panel, mark the area in which you wish to fit the side repeaters. For aesthetic reasons, it's best to have the same spot on both sides. The lamp socket is about 14 mm in diameter. Start with a small bit and increase to a 14 mm drill bit to make the hole. Alternatively, drill lots of little holes around the circumference and file out the hole (I couldn't find drill bits larger than 13 mm in the DIY store).



- ◆ Push the side repeater in position, remembering to remove the backing paper from the adhesive pad. Fit the bulb and connector and run the wiring down to the point near the spare wheel where the front indicator wiring passes through the bodywork. You will find connectors here (do not confuse the headlight connectors for those of the indicators). Simply connect the side repeaters into the circuit (brown is earth).



When the wiring is connected, switch on the hazard warning lights to see if the side repeaters work correctly.

This modification cost just £20 and brought me a step closer to getting my Minister's Approval Certificate for purposes of registration. It was a fairly straight forward procedure and required only a few basic tools and a cordless power drill. Although the 3M adhesive pad is of good quality, it is recommended that the bodywork is sealed with rubber sealant or similar as an anti-corrosive measure.