

Chapter 5 - Gas Tank Removal, Cleaning, Sealing (Video Clip 5)



81. Gas tank removal and cleaning and sealing was completed using the Eastwood Gas Tank Sealer Kit.

Other items required included (Purchase at local Hardware store):

- Muriatic Acid
- 2 Quarts Acetone
- Box Baking Soda
- Soap



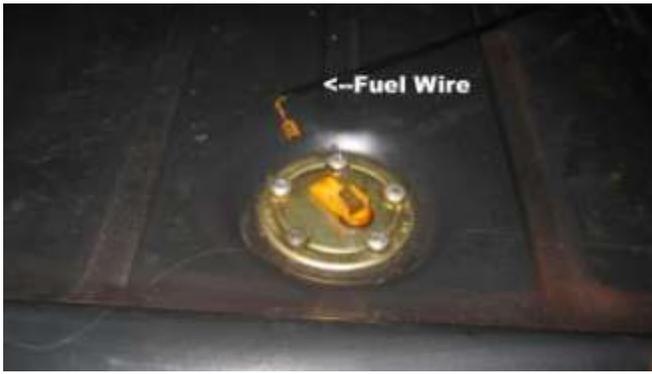
82. Siphon all gas out of the tank.



83. Disconnect the fuel filler and vent tube with a Phillips screwdriver.



84. Fuel filler and vent tube shown disconnected.



85. Disconnect the electrical wire to the fuel gauge and remove the 5 screws to the fuel gauge sending unit.



86. Remove the entire fuel gauge sending unit and clean and store.



87. Remove the 2 front tank bolts with a 13MM socket.



88. Remove the 2 rear tank bolts with a 13MM socket.



89. Remove the small vent line on the right side of the tank.



90. Raise the tank and clamp off the gas line with vice-grips. Then disconnect the line. Note: When re-installing this 9 inch length of gas line, purchase a new line and use clamps at both ends of the gas line.



91. While here, spray penetrating oil on the front 2 body bolts to make it easier to loosen later with a 17MM socket.



92. Remove the tank and flush out with a water hose. Flush out the tank at least twice.



93. Wash out the tank with soapy water at least twice.



94. Pour entire contents of metal wash into 2 gallons of hot water and mix well.



95. Tape up the openings with duct tape and pour metal wash mixture into tank and slosh around. Let the tank set for 5 minutes in each position, top, bottom, left side, right side as shown below. Then pour the contents into a new container.



top



bottom



Left side



Right side



96. Rinse with a water hose at least twice.



97. Measure out 3 ounces of muriatic acid.
Note: Wear gloves and goggles and be extremely careful not to spill any.



98. Pour the 3 ounces of muriatic acid into 60 ounces of water.



99. Carefully, pour the muriatic acid mixture into the tank.



100. Slosh the muriatic acid mixture in the tank and rotate the tank to all sides. Leave tank for 5 minutes in each of the 4 positions as done with the metal was mixture.



101. Pour the muriatic acid mixture into a larger container and pour half a large box of baking soda into the mixture, to dilute the acid, and then discard the mixture down the drain or per your local laws.



102. Pour a full bottle of Eastwood Fast Etch into the tank and slowly rotate the tank to slosh the mixture over all sides of the tank interior. Pour out the contents into a throw away container, and after the contents harden, then discard the container in the trash can.



103. While the tank is still wet with the Fast Etch, pour 1 quart of Acetone into the tank and slosh the mixture over all sides of the tank interior. Pour the mixture out, and repeat the process again with another quart of Acetone.



104. Shake up the two bottles of Eastwood gas tank sealer.



105. While openings are still tapped off, pour both bottles of Eastwood gas tank sealer into the tank.



106. Rotate the tank to all sides. Leave tank for 10 minutes in each of the 4 positions as before. Keep tank rotated for about 40 minutes, and do not let the mixture harden in any position, and then pour out the excess.



107. Let tank set for 48 hours with either a fan directed into the tank or a compress air line set to 1-5 psi. If a compress air line is used, keep the line a minimum of 2" away from the surface of the tank.

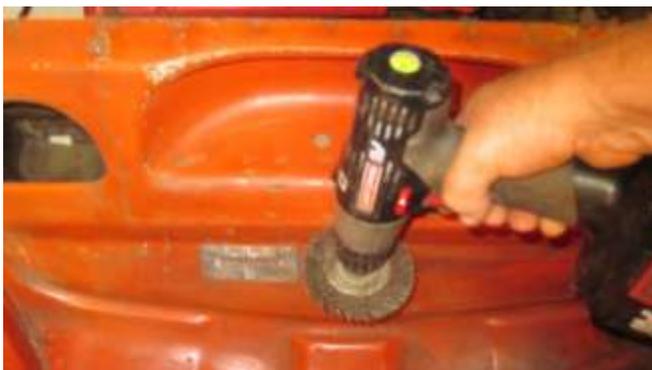
(Work on this section - 4 hours)



108. While waiting on the tank interior to dry, and the floor pan to arrive, start cleaning the body and frame area with a wire brush under the gas tank, since you can't get to this area when the tank is in place.



109. Also wire brush the lip area that the gas tank rests on.



110. Then wire brush the remainder of the trunk area that is accessible at this time.



111. I disconnected ground wires and cleaned off the terminals on both sides with steel wool. I also cleaned the ground contact area, prior to replacing the screws.

(Work for this section - 4 hours)



112. Walt, my welder asked that I make sure the weld area was clean, so I cleaned this area again, and sent him a picture to make sure he was satisfied. Then, I painted the area with a self-etching weld-thru primer. Walt approved.

(Work for this section - 2 hours)



113. View looking inside the tank, from the sending unit opening.



114. View looking inside the tank, from the filler tube opening. The coating does not appear to be as thick as I was lead to believe, but it still looks good, and has to be very clean. The tank has never been cleaned out in 41 years, but it really did not look that bad, prior to cleaning.



115. Then, I sanded the exterior of the tank by hand, by an air sander, and then by hand again.



116. I cleaned the exterior of the tank, with an air hose and wiped it down with acetone for painting.



117. My grandson, McNeil painted the top surface with a Rust-Oleum primer.



118. After the top surface dried we flipped the tank over and painted the bottom surface with Rust-Oleum truck bed liner material.



119. Finished bottom surface. Note: I can't say I was all that happy with this paint. I might not, haven't shaken it up enough.



120. I removed the old paint from the passenger side foot support with paint remover.



121. My grandson, McNeil put on a coat of primer on the foot support.



122. While the tank was drying, I moved back to the body, with a can of "Rust Encapsulator" from the Eastwood Company.



123. I painted the heater channel with the rust encapsulator.



124. A view of the heater channel from outside. As you can see. I also begin sanding some of the exterior paint with 220 sandpaper.



125. A view of the heater channel from the inside of the car.



126. Be careful. Do not get paint on areas to be welded.



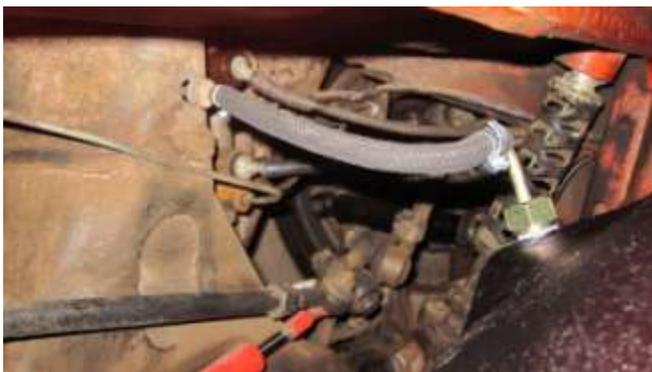
127. Once the tank is fully dry, put some Teflon tape on the outlet pipe threads.



128. Purchased a new fuel tank outlet kit and a new strainer, as shown.



129. Install the new fuel tank outlet as shown.



130. Install a new 5mm x 9" fuel line with clamps at both ends.



131. Reinstall the fuel tank. Note: When I paint the trunk area, I will paint the tank gloss black so it will match the original color and texture.

Work for this section - 6 hours
Work on this chapter - 16 hours
Total hours - 44