

## dubCanuck1 DIY: Golf/Jetta II Bumper Repair

Well, I had a big bumper lying around a while back and the rebar for it as well. The previous owner of this particular bumper decided it was OK to keep the skin attached to the rebar with duct tape and masking tape (more of the latter than the former). Needless to say, this did not do a very good job of adhering the skin to the rebar. So, I took it upon myself to fix up said bumper instead of buying a new one....well because I'm cheap, and.....yeah, because I'm cheap.

So, on to the story.

Here's a pic of the bumper skin (which came off when I pulled on the bumper).



Here's what the inside of the skin looked like. All but the center spacer was bent and also the screw posts were snapped off at the base. It looks like someone tried to epoxy glue them back on, but that obviously didn't stick.



..And the rebar was bent in the middle, so I pounded it back out with a hammer so that it was reasonably straight again.



So, this being the type of skin with the screw posts and not the clips, I hummed and hawed until I finally came up with an idea to remount the skin onto the rebar.

Let's start with the materials and tools needed to complete the job.

Strapping – Like \$3.00 at your hardware store. Look in the fencing supplies.



Tools:



Hardware:



## Procedure:

I measured the width of the openings of the rectangular spacers. I don't have it offhand, but I do know that the center one was wider than the other four.

I then measured the depth of each rectangular pocket and cut my steel strapping to length. Then using the vice, I bent the pieces into a "U" shape as you can see below.



I also measured in from the bottom of the "U" and drilled through both sides of it. If you look at the rightmost bracket above, you'll see where I drilled through both sides.

Below, is a shot of a hole I drilled in the bottom of the “U”. This is the hole through which we will fasten our skin to the bumper. Make sure to drill it right in the center.



Now, on the bumper skin, measure the same distance from the lip of the rectangle pocket in and drill a hole on either side. This, when lined up with the bracket, will provide a nice flat mounting surface that will fit against the bumper's rebar. It will also force the pockets back to having straight sides so the spacing will be nice.....and no I don't smoke. That's my wife's bowl full of cancer.

Oh, and make sure that when you're drilling the holes in the pockets, that the hole is centered right over where the previous screw tower was. This will ensure that your bracket's holes meet up with the ones in the rebar.

A shot of the hole, drilled through the "pockets". This was the first one and I had to redrill to center it over the stud there, which I had to trim down.



Now, using some of our mounting hardware, you can mount each bracket, along with it's attaching bolt, just like this one.



A shot of the whole bumper with all the brackets in....



What you'll see when you fit the rebar back in.....



Now, put on those big fat washers to spread the tension more nicely.



More....



Now fasten them down with some more hardware. I bent the studs so that they wouldn't back off.



Et voila! C'est fini. The bumper is back on nicely.

I hope that was helpful.

Happy dubbing!

dC