

Cut the hole in the shell and remove any sharp edges.

Now bend and clamp the alloy 'U' sections inside the cut-out. The large holes are for the polished trim studs to fasten through later. They need to align or even be 20-30% covered by the cut-out edge at this point. In the picture bellow, the holes highlighted in the corners need to be closer to the edge or the polished trim won't cover the body properly.

Don't be tempted to trim the shell . Just stretch and bend the aluminium into place and. It's easier to trim the screen once you've got the aluminium fixed. If you trim the shell too far at this point, you can't recover it by making the screen bigger!



Fix the frame

You need to commit to fixing the aluminium frames. Keep the trim holes on or just under (max 20% hidden) the body line. They need some bending and twisting but will follow the body line if you make them.

The multi holes in the aluminium are there to aid bonding (the glue should ooze through) Bond the aluminium into the shell using PU adhesive (e.g tiger seal, Sikaflex etc) or, we have used two part 'Snapfix' Methacrylate in the past to speed things up but, it's pricey so be warned. Clamp everything in place and walk away till your adhesive has gone off properly.

Now the screen...

Pop it in your new hole and see what you've got.

The screen must sit properly on the frame with a small gap to the body ... It is likely to need

trimming. Work on 1 or two areas at a time, mark the edge where it needs easing, take it out put it carefully on your clean, well padded trestles (you don't want to mark the underside). A course flap disc in your angle grinder is perfect for removing material from the screen edge. Aim for a 1-3mm gap on the screen sides once it sits in the opening. Once you're happy with the fit, open the mounting holes up in the screen and/or body (we've used a 3mm dremel router tool for that job in the past. The trim studs have a small rim so allow for that to (so the trim can sit flat).

Trim fitting...

Once you have clearance through the mount holes you can start to bend the polished trim into place. You'll be surprised how you can manipulate it into shape with fingers and thumbs. Fit it loosely and mark the ends for cutting off under the two centre cover trims.

Now take the screen out and paint the car. It is of course possible to retrofit the Grassbank screen so your car may already be painted.

Final fitting...

Dry fit the screen and polished trim.

Carefully mask 2-3 inches on both sides of the polished trim (screen and body). Use a few layers of tape so you can peel them off 1 at a time once you start cleaning up.

Remove 1 side only of the polished trim. Run a 5-6mm bead of PU sealant (black or grey depending on your car colour) around the underside of the polished trim (either side of the studs). If you keep it off the studs now it will mean you don't get sealant inside the car and on your fingers once you start putting the nuts on.

Carefully put the trim back in place. Work from the centre and have a friend (wearing disposable gloves) gently push the trim down as you nip the nuts up on the inside. Use even pressure when pushing the trim and carefully tighten the nuts so you don't distort the trim by pulling it down to hard. Lots of the sealant will have oozed out... We use a plastic spatula to scrape the bulk off before starting to wipe down and remove a few layers of masking tape.

Now remove the other side trim and repeat.

Note that we don't advocate bonding under the screen (to keep the mess out of the car) and have always had success with just bonding/sealing the cover trim. It might make life easier too if you ever have to replace the screen but that's not an issue for now!

Other bits TBC...



These two support the parcel shelf and the small side trims around the base of the roll cage. Glue them in so the radius edge sits on the z3 scuttle panel about 15mm back from the edge. The other edges bond to the shell. Use PU sealant or similar.

Headlining preparation:

TBC

