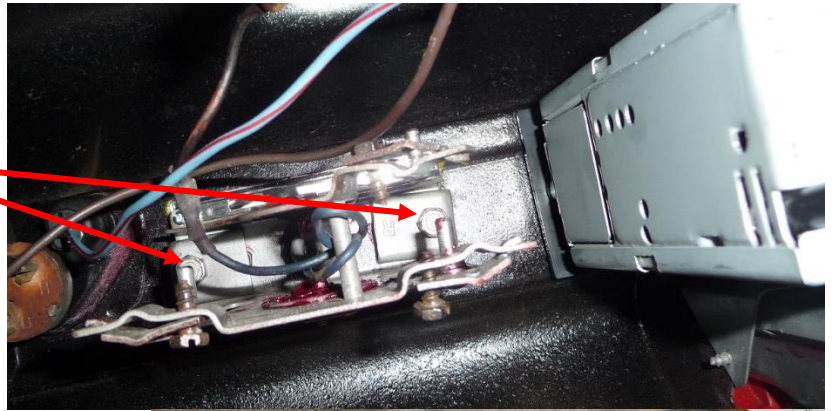


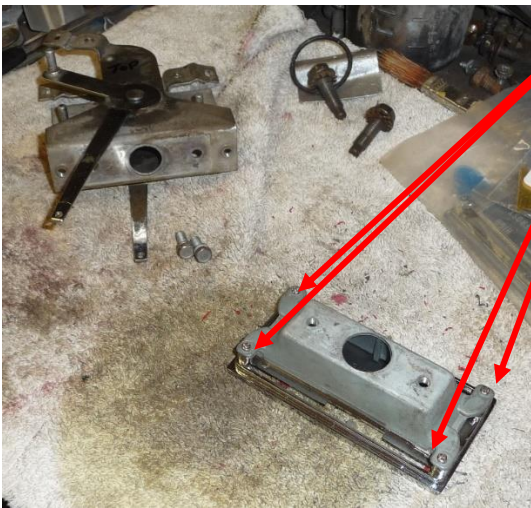
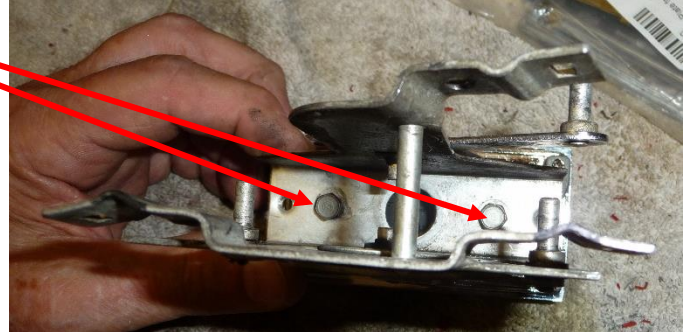
## SAVING FACE by Scott Mc Gilvray

A lot of T-Birders would like to improve the appearance of their heater face plate but are apprehensive about removing it from the dash. This method allows removal of the face without disturbing the control lines attached to the back. Don't get me wrong it's still not easy but it is well worth the effort.

Looking at the assembly from the rear you see that there are two bolts holding the mounting clips in place. Remove these two bolts and two more bolt heads appear behind them. These two bolts (screws in some cases) hold the face to the housing.



The knobs come off first by removing these two bolts this allows the face assembly to be removed from the front. The chrome face is bradded to the bulb holder portion of the housing. File down or carefully grind off the nubs that hold the face to the housing, at the four corners.



Notice that there is a brass plate backing up the plastic lens, this defuses the light so don't throw it away.



It is now time for reassembly and this is the same whether or not you are using a new chrome face plate. Trial fit the bulb holder housing to the face plate. See how far the tabs go down over the mounting pins. The face plates are designed to be bradded in place. Some face plates may do this well but I don't trust any of them. When drawing up the mounting bolts and clips it puts pressure on the face itself and they often come apart. To insure a strong connection the four posts should be drilled, taped and screwed together.



The screws are number 4's so the tap is a #4-40. Meaning it's a number 4 screw with 40 threads per inch. The shortest screws I could find were 1/4" in length and they were still too long, cut them off with a screw cutter part of your wire stripper. The proper size drill bit (#43) and tap



should be available separately from a good hardware store, no need to buy a whole set unless you don't have or can't improvise a tap handle.

Final product reinstalled and polished.



Pictures for this tech tip by:  
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