

Cabriolet Convertible Top

Convertible Top

General

The cloth top is fastened to wooden bows at the front and top rear. A steel pipe bow is used as main support and is connected to the body by a hinge at the door post.

The remaining metal bows are connected to the main bow through hinges. A trim strip is nailed to the wooden rear bow above the window.

27 B0

Raising and Lowering Cloth Top

Lowering

1. Roll down windows or open both doors.
2. Release the three top latches above the windshield.
3. Raise top at front and push toward rear. The cloth must lie between the bows in smooth folds. The rear window should be positioned so that it is as smooth as possible.
4. After the top is completely folded down, a boot is buttoned down over it to prevent dirt and moisture from collecting in the top.



Fig. 129

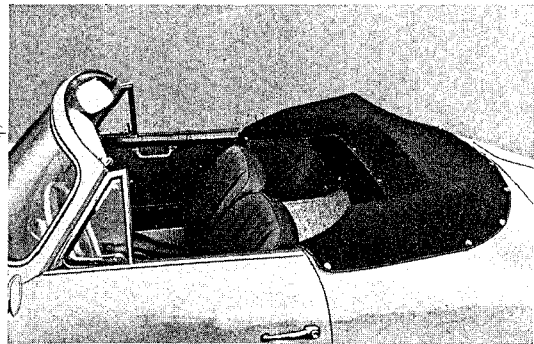


Fig. 130

Note

Clean the cloth and rear window before lowering in order to avoid scratching the plastic window. Brush off cloth and clean the window with a soft wet rag or sponge. Never fold down a wet top.

The top is raised in the reverse order of lowering.

Note

When installing a new top, fasten the top securely in the raised position and wet it down with clean water. The top should remain in the closed position for two to three days to allow the canvas to adjust itself to the form of the roof.

Raising

Raise the top carefully watching the plastic window so that no wrinkles which may crease the plastic will form. It is advisable to lower the windows. Make certain that the three fasteners are properly secured before driving the car.

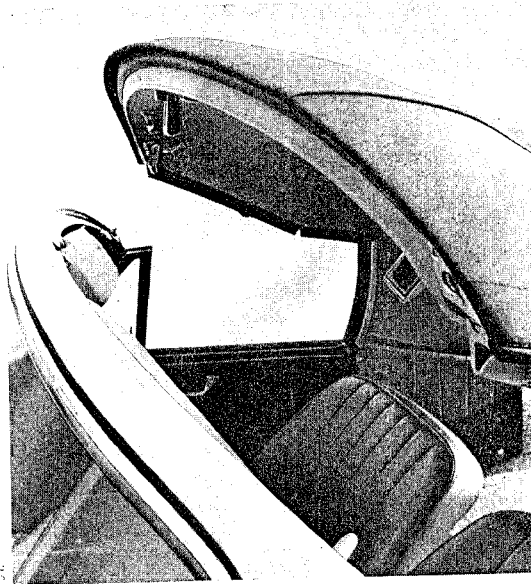


Fig. 131

Note

Never fold down the top when it is wet. In a closed garage it is advisable to open the windows of the car for better ventilation.

To replace the plastic window, it is necessary to remove the canvas portion of the roof so that the new plastic may be sewn to the top with a machine. After replacing the canvas the seam must be waterproofed with rubber cement.

Care of the Cloth Top

The appearance and life of the top depends upon the care it receives. A wet top must always be dried in the stretched position or it will become distorted and cracked.

A dusty top should be cleaned by brushing in line with the grain of the cloth. Dust can cause damage to the canvas through abrasive action and should therefore be removed before folding the top.

To remove oil or other spots, never use cleaning fluid, gasoline or similar fluids. Use only cleaning agents specifically designed for cleaning auto tops.

Wash the top only when absolutely necessary using clear water.

Before wetting the top, brush the canvas clean with a brush. Thoroughly soak the top and apply a special canvas top soap as prescribed by the manufacturer. Work up a lather on the roof and rinse away the dirt with clear water.

After cleaning the top, wash the remainder of the car and dry the surface with a chamtois.

Converting from Soft to Hardtop

Removing soft top:

1. Remove front seats (18 B0).
2. Release the three top fasteners over the windshield and slightly raise the top in order to release the tension of the canvas.
3. Remove the side panels by removing the philips screw at the black arrow Fig. 132.

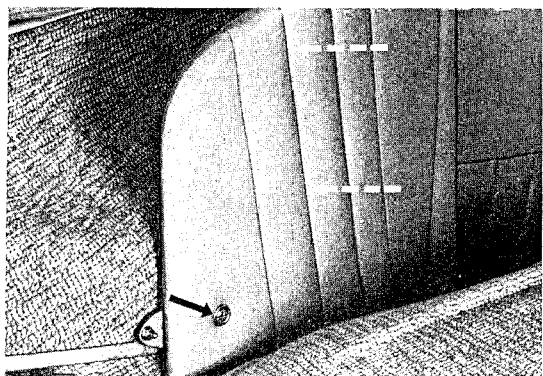


Fig. 132

4. Loosen the head liner from the side walls by removing the retaining screws.
5. Disconnect the turn buckle links from the top and body by loosening the tensioner and prying off the ball joints.

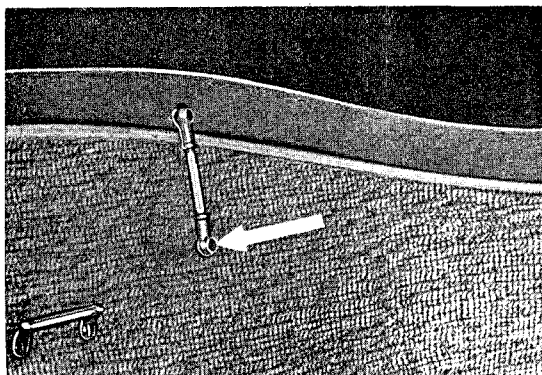


Fig. 133

6. Remove the screws at the two top fasteners.

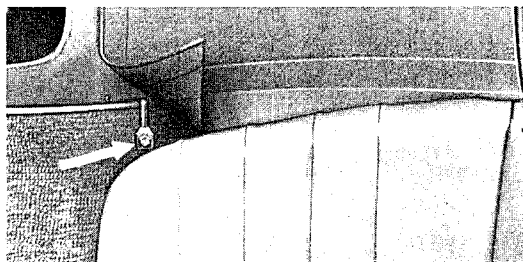


Fig. 134

7. Remove the nuts holding the hinge brackets in the door posts.

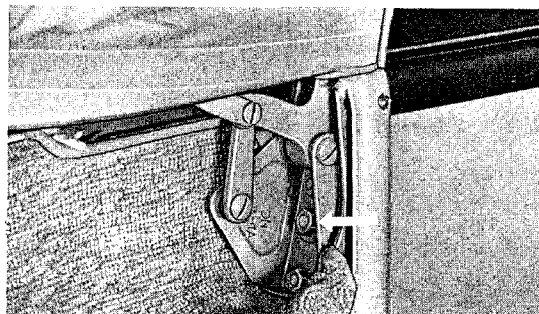


Fig. 135

8. Lift entire top assembly out and to the rear.

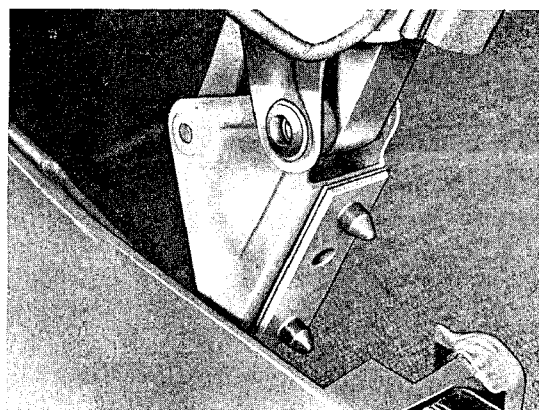


Fig. 136

Installing the Hardtop

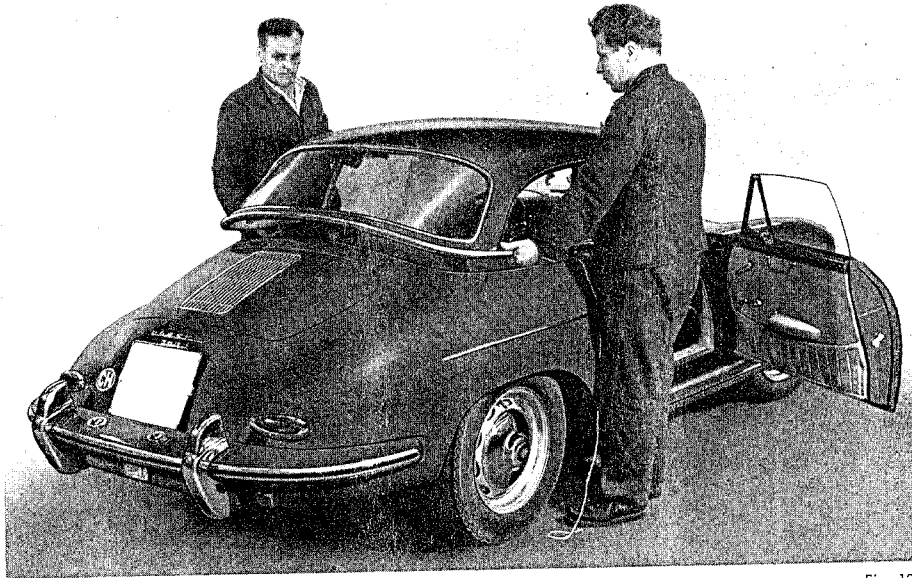


Fig. 137

1. Install a strong thin cord in the groove of the rear weather strip, let extend 30 to 40 cm beyond each end for a good grip.
2. Hook the two turnbuckles to the ball studs on the roof.
3. Lift hardtop in place engaging the lugs in the door post.
4. Place a flat washer and nut on each retaining bolt and tighten the two bolts evenly. Check the position of the roof against the windshield. If the two do not match, the roof may be adjusted forward by shims at the lugs on the door posts.
5. Connect and tighten the two turnbuckles lightly.
6. Pull the cord to the inside so that the weather strip lies smoothly on the inside of the rear panel.

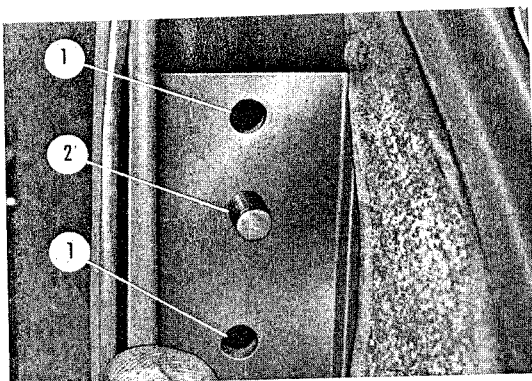


Fig. 138

- ① Sockets for guide pins.
- ② Retaining bolt for hardtop or convertible.

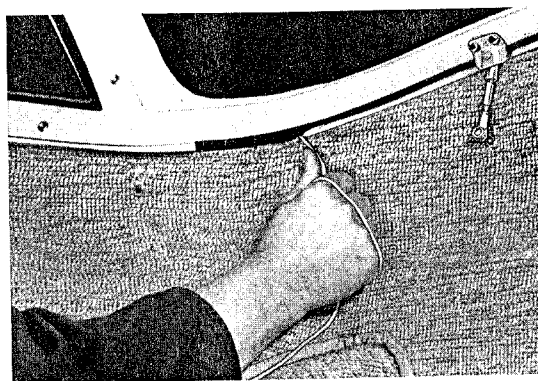


Fig. 139

7. In the event that the outer weather strip does not lie properly, adjust the rubber using a plastic spatula being careful not to damage the finish.

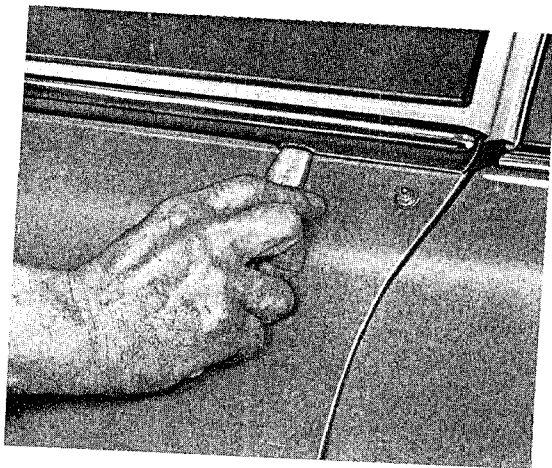


Fig. 140

8. Tighten the mounting bolts and turnbuckles in sequence a turn at a time.
9. Install turnbuckle caps and secure with two punch marks.

- ① Turnbuckle
- ② Cover
- ③ Punch here
- ④ Ball pin bracket

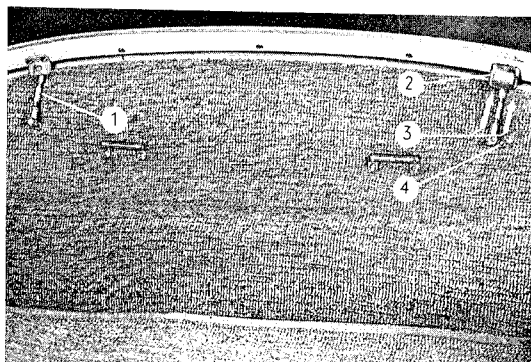


Fig. 141

10. Fasten the three hold down clamps at the windshield.
11. Install side wall panels.
If this is the first time a hardtop is installed it is possible that the screw hole is covered.
The hole can be located as follows:

- a) Engage the two tabs of the panel into the door post.
- b) Mark the position of the wall panel with chalk.
- c) Remove the panel and locate the hole with a punch. The hole is located approx. "a" = 3.5 cm (1 3/8 in.) and "b" = 6 cm (2 3/8 in.) as in Fig. 142.
- d) Insert the screw and apply chalk to the cross slot. Install side panel first in front hooks and then press against screw so that a white mark is made. Punch a hole through the panel at the mark.

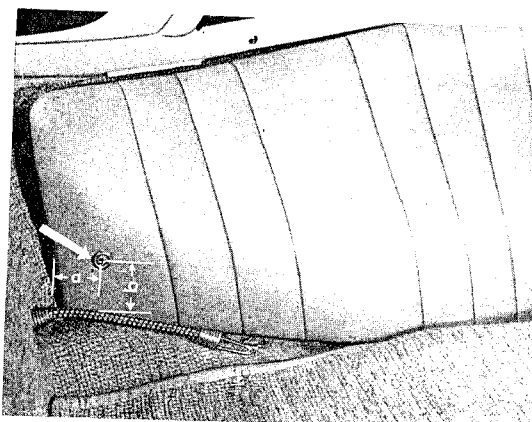


Fig. 142

12. Install side panel.

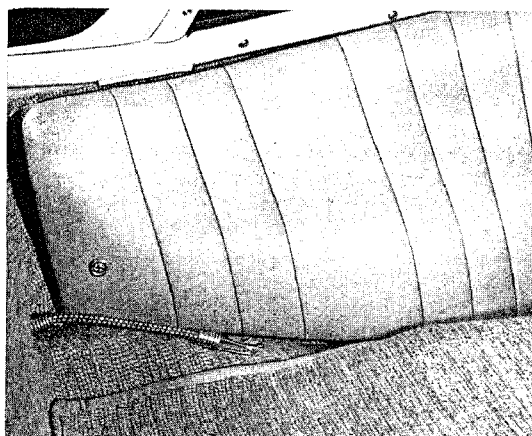


Fig. 143

Removing Hardtop to Install Soft Top

The installation of the soft top is similar to the operation involved in installing the hardtop with the addition of the following points:

1. The convertible top has two connections where an additional bow is mounted to the body. These must be adjusted after installation for proper length before tightening the clamps.
2. The cloth top does not require the cord in the weather strip since it has a different seal with the

body. When the top is fully connected to the windshield and body, it must be properly tensioned and without folds.

In the event that no convertible top was previously installed, the holes for the side panels must be made as in step "11" previous page, with the exception that the hole must be located "a" 4.5 cm and "b" 4.5 cm (1 3/4 in.).

Note

For new convertible tops it is advisable to install the roof in the raised position and tighten the bolts after the roof has been loosely fitted.