

Rufus Modifications:

I appreciate that not everyone will consider all the modifications listed below are an improvement, but for me they are. Although a number of these modifications could apply to many kit cars it should be borne in mind that they specifically apply to my NG TA.

1. Engine oil warning light.
2. Tandem brake master cylinder.
3. MG Midget rear wheel cylinders (they give a better brake balance than the original MGB ones).
4. MGB front brake hose at rear axle (a better length in the NG TA application).
5. Brake hydraulic system lock-up switch (as an anti-theft device).
6. Nylon fuel pipe from tank to electric pump and fuel pressure regulator.
7. An additional nylon fuel pipe from carb input to tank for a fuel return system. To prevent over-fueling and airlocks
8. Malpassi Filter King fuel pressure regulator.
9. Fuel cut-off switch.
10. Stainless steel exhaust system.
11. Exhaust system to be hung from chassis not body.
12. Electric panel on bulkhead above passenger's legs .
13. 12-way fuse box.
14. Bespoke (home made) wiring loom.
15. All new switch gear.
16. Stainless steel headlamps.
17. Headlamps to be mounted on purpose built brackets attached to the suspension subframe and not off the shock absorber brackets.
18. Hamburger rear lights.
19. LT circuit ignition cut-off anti-theft device.
20. Battery master switch.
21. USB charging system for iPads and iPhones etc.
22. Cool box electrical socket in rear luggage area.
23. MG Midget heater valve tap.
24. Aluminium cladding on bulkhead.
25. Fixed bonnet side panels (they originally opened with the top two bonnet sections).
26. Lower steering column support (Plummer block).
27. Short running boards (to allow easier cockpit access when the doors are not used (the doors will only be used when the soft top is erected).
28. Rear mudguard protectors.
29. Parabolic rear springs.
30. Reduced rate front springs.
31. Reinforced handbrake mounting at transmission tunnel.
32. Suicide doors.
33. Mini MK4 heater.
34. Wood rim steering wheel.
35. Cockpit seat (single backrest with twin cushions).
36. Roll-over protection bar incorporating headrests (but not if it looks ugly).
37. Wind deflectors on sides of windscreen.
38. Stainless steel marine bolt door locking system.
39. Complete new dashboard in faux burr walnut.
40. Inertia reel seat belts.
41. Secure luggage area in rear section of the body.
42. Four tie-down points (eye-bolts) in rear luggage area.
43. Passenger footrest.
44. Fitting for sun/golf umbrella as per Emma's extreme soft top.
45. Purpose bracket for 'Tom Tom Rider' motorcycle Sat Nav.
46. Private plate 'BXZ 446' (Emma is BXZ 644 which will go on Mungo, when I sell Emma).

Summary:

Concentrates the mind a bit doesn't it? That's the beauty of a kit car; the build is down to what you want it to be. If you were to do these type of modifications to a classic car you would be heavily penalised in a 'Concours' event where cars are judged on originality; and it would probably make it difficult to sell.