corlon vent cover repair

One of the questions that comes up quite often in Customer Service is "How do I change my corlon vent cover?" We have used several types of vent covers over the years depending on the year of the Airstream or whether it was motorized or a towable. The vent that I am going to start with is the cast aluminum one used from the early seventies until about 1994; most Classic Airstream trailers and Classic Motorhomes used two per unit.

The casting itself will last a lifetime and can be polished back to its original shine and recoated.

You might ask "why would I need to redo my vent cover"? As you will be able to see during the following illustrations, there are several components involved when installing the vent cover.

1. The sealer around the vent pipe. 2. The screen over the pipe to keep out bugs and debris. 3. The rubber gasket that helps prevent leaks. 4. The cover with drain holes and the exterior sealer around it.

These components can degrade over time due to the elements and need replaced. Also there are drain holes at the bottom of the vent covers that can become plugged and not let water drain properly.

Warning: Always be careful if you are going to get up on the roof and do the repair yourself! Have some one help you with holding the ladder.

So here you go.



Aluminum Vent Cap Installation Parts Required:

Tools Required

101158 Aluminum vent cap Ladder

380114 Rubber Gasket #2 Philips screwdriver 380079 Screen

Box Knife

360180 Sikaflex - 221 Grey Caulking Caulking Gun

6 ea. #8 3/4" S. S. Pan Head Screw

Supplies required

Isopropyl Alcohol

Rags

Gloves



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Step One

Remove vent cap.

Remove the excessive sealant surrounding the vent pipe.

Clean the surface using a cleaner such as Isopropyl Alcohol. NEVER use lacquer thinner or equivalent.

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Step Two

Using Sikaflex-221 sealer, apply a bead of caulking around the vent pipe and Aluminum Skin.

Tool caulking into void surrounding the vent pipe. Nothing works better than a glove and finger.



Step Three

Cut a 6" x 6" piece of window screen and place over the vent pipe. Slide the rubber gasket down over the screen and vent pipe ensuring it comes in contact with the 221 sealant surround the vent pipe

Step Four

Place the casting (vent cover) over the vent pipe and center.

NOTE: The casting has two drain holes that must face the bottom of the trailer or awning rail.

 ${\footnotesize 38 \qquad \qquad {\rm Blue\ Beret/December\ 2008}} \\ {\footnotesize \ \ \, {\rm Periodically\ inspect\ the\ vent\ and\ remove\ any\ debris\ that\ could\ block\ the\ drain\ holes.}}$



Step Five

Pre-drill for the mounting screws using a 1/8" high speed drill bit. Use a stop to prevent from drilling too deep into the interior of the trailer.

Secure the casting to the roof using #8 3/4" Pan Head Stainless Steel Screws.

Trim off any excess gasket and screen material that may protrude past the casting.

You're finished; now it is time to sit back and enjoy a job well done!

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If you have not been to our Airstream website recently please go to www.airstream.com and check out our store for Christmas gift ideas.

GAMES FOR WHEN WE ARE OLDER

I know everyone has certain games that they really enjoy participating in, whether it is Holy Board, Horse Shoes or golf; my favorite would have been Basketball. Seeing that for whatever reason I am no longer as young as I once was; I have found a whole new world of games that I am becoming involved with.



Step Six

Using Sikaflex-221 sealer, apply a bead of caulking around the vent pipe casting and aluminum Skin. Wipe off any excessive sealant with Isopropyl Alcohol

Here are a few of my favorites:

6. Doc, Doc, Goose.

- 1. Sag, You're it 7. Simon says something incoherent.
- 2. Pin the Toupee on the bald guy. 8. Hide and go pee.
- 3. 20 questions shouted into your good ear. 9. Spin the Bottle of Mylanta
- 4. Kick the bucket 10. Musical recliners.
- 5. Red Rover, Red Rover, the nurse says Bend Over. Have a Happy Holidays and we will see you on down the road!