

WINDSHIELDS

Date: Wed, 11 Feb 1998 21:00:46 -0500
From: dickinson <dickinson#novagate.com>
Subject: GMC: Glass windshields

I am replacing the front windshield in my GMC. Had the local auto glass company over today to remove the existing ones. I was going to order a new pair from one of our GMC suppliers but was told that if they break the window when installing it- it my responsibility to buy another one!! If they supply the window there would be no extra charge if this were to occur. Since they broke one side in during the removal I am concerned that the installation may also have this happen. Does anyone know the current manufacturer of the windows that I can give to this installer. Thank you in advance.

Date: Thu, 12 Feb 1998 19:11:15 EST
From: davegreenberg1#juno.com (David L. Greenberg)
Subject: Re: GMC: Glass windshields

R&R of the GMC windshields is a bit of black art. I had mine done at Clasco when they were still in business and even they had difficulties. There are several glass mfgs but to my knowledge only one is in the states. For cost calibrating purposes, I paid \$400.00 for each side (Harmon Glass wanted \$3200.00 for both) and I paid \$60.00 each side to install for a total \$920.00.

Harmon, the insurance company's choice, said it cost \$800.00 just to crate the glass. I suspect someone is ripping off someone but it wasn't me.

I would be very nervous about having someone install a windshield in my GMC that hadn't done at least one or two before. You may not have much choice if they have already removed the glass.

I wish you the best of luck.

Dave
David Lee Greenberg
GMC Motorhome Registry
Delray Beach, FL
davegreenberg1#juno.com

Date: Sun, 05 Apr 1998 17:45:09 -0700
From: Thera <WHATT#HAL-PC.ORG>
Subject: GMC: Replacement windows, etc.

> So please tell us about new windows----what kind? How hard was it to put them in? Why do

you like them? PLEASE!

> Take Care

> Arch

Hi Arch....Since I type better than my spouse, I'll answer your note ----with expert consultation of course!

Our 23' is a transmode with Coachman interior. Since it has a rear bath, there are 3 replaceable side windows plus the door window. To answer your questions:

- 1) the new windows were bought from Motor Home Enhancements in Shelby, NC
- 2) putting them in was not too difficult,she says, having had only to hand off tools and help lift the window in and out of the holes...!! <grin>

No, really...it wasn't that difficult and the instructions that come with the windows are clear enough. Unscrew the trim on the inside; use a wide spatula type knife between outside window frame and coach body to loosen the old butyl rubber; and lift the window right out. We encountered only two problems so far: the first was two new windows came in with a bent frame -shipping mishaps- with one needing to be completely replaced, (which was done without hassle, by the way).....The other problem was the window openings as originally cut into the coach skin were pretty ragged. Tom had to do a bit of grinding and polishing to smooth the edges, so the new windows would fit properly (like the old ones should have, but evidently never did!)

3) Why do I like them?

Appearance: the glass is a darker tint than the original, and now matches the door window that we had to replace years ago (when the lawnmower threw a rock at it.)

Slider configuration: the new windows have small sliders at the lower fourth of the glass; much like the kind you see on the Ford Club vans. Now I can open the window on the road without blowing everything around inside the coach! And I like the security of having a smaller window opening....

Better leak proof fit: we found/fixed two window leaks of which we were aware, and one that was a revelation: we thought that leak was from the roof edge, but it turned out to be coming from a ragged corner cut, where the original window never sealed properly. Now, all this is not to say that the old windows couldn't have been refurbished with felt, channel, latches, gaskets, etc...but neither of us felt we had the talent for that, nor wanted to take the time such a restoration would require!

Peg Colf wrote:

We have a 1975 Palm Beach, as far as we can find from previous owners it has never had an accident. The original LOF windshield glass was replaced with Finland made glass. The professional installers had a difficult time getting both pieces of glass into place, the original seal was removed and cleaned and reused. The fit top to bottom seems to be good and center to side at the top good. The problem is at the bottom rear edges. The passenger side stuck out approx. 1/4", the drivers side stuck out approx. 1/2" both had to be "persuaded" to fit.

>

Not to long after the new glass was installed the driver's side glass cracked from top to bottom, straight as could be, at the curved part of the glass. The outside piece of glass only cracked, the opinion was that the glass was curved wrong and a new piece of glass was sent to replace it. When the installers removed the broken glass, cleaned and reuse the original seal, and installed the new glass, using plenty of lubricant, the fit top/bottom & side to side seemed good EXCEPT the bottom read corner stuck out aprox. 1/4" ! Again it was persuader to fit into the seal, with the warning that it was probably going to break.

>

Has anyone had a problem such as this? Are there any adjustments that can be made to the body opening to get a better fit? Are there any measurements that can be made, with the glass in, to check for the "correctness" of the body opening? Any comments would be greatly appreciated!!!

>

I should add that the couch was driven aprox. 400 miles before the driver's side cracked and was parked when it cracked.

> Thanks, Peg

Date: Tue, 26 May 1998 11:51:24

From: "Thomas G. Warner" <warner#borg.com>

The haze on the glass is between the laminates. It can sometimes be removed by using two household irons one on each side. Haven't tried it yet, got this information from my brother who claims to have done it before. He works for General Motors. Irons on low heat will relaminate the glass to the strip of plastic between the glass.

Date: Mon, 22 Jun 1998 06:29:15 -0700

From: Jim Bounds <jimbounds#sprintmail.com>

Subject: Re: GMC: Windshields

Peg,

The foreign glass you have is hand laid and there are irregularities in each. I have installed several of those and have always had a struggle.

Not to mention the glass is not the same color shade as original being clear as opposed to lightly tinted.

I would strongly recommend using Viracon brand glass next time. It is made here and is a much better manufacture and fit. The tint is correct and the install is much easier.

I'm sorry but this info comes too late to save the expense of this other glass, but now you know! There are a few places to choose from for viracon glass, Alex Sirum (941-763-1121) is a good source and will treat you right.

As for using the glass you have, seal it up the best you can from leaking and watch for cracks.
Jim Bounds www.gmccoop.com

Date: Mon, 22 Jun 1998 18:33:25 EDT
From: davegreenberg1#juno.com (David L. Greenberg)
Subject: Re: GMC: Bad Glass

As Allan said, look for glass made in the USA. It is etched in the glass. A lot of glass came from New Zealand or Australia and I have heard of problems with that glass, also. Glass that is forced to conform to the curve will surely not stay.

Alex Sirum has enough American made glass to refit almost every GMC still on the road. He bought out a major supplier late last year.

Dave Greenberg
GMC Motorhome Registry
200 MacFarlane Dr
Delray Beach, FL 33483-6829
1977 Eleganza II

On Sat, 20 Jun 1998 21:33:44 -0400 "The Hamiltons"

<hamilton#king.igs.net> writes:

>Peg,

>

> At the GMCMI Convention in NH last fall I saw a coach with both windshields cracked in a
>straight line from top to bottom where the windshield curves. It was obvious that the glass
>didn't fit properly and was slightly thinner than the original. Both windshields had been in a
>week or two. I believe, but cannot remember for certain, the glass was European-made rather
>than US or South American where some has come from. Where they are made is indicated on
>the glass. We may have to insist on specific replacement glass. The coach in NH got its glass
>from a well-known and respected GMC supplier.

>

> Comments from those more knowledgeable than I on windshields is warranted here. How do
>we make sure we are not getting sub-standard products since they are shipped from hundreds of
>miles away and by people who should know good products?

>

> Al Hamilton
> Kingston, Ont

GMCnetters

I have a report on windows. Cinnabar has screen track \$1.00 per foot. Jim will have window H track as of Thurs. The windows will live.

Take Care

Arch

Date: Sun, 13 Sep 1998 22:17:43 -0400
From: "robteed" <robteed#netimation.com>
Subject: RE: GMC: Window Fogging

Bob,

I haven't tried using a heat gun on the windows yet...I'm afraid to try it...But I will tell You My GMC had been in storage for a few years. I have mine outside now and noticed that the fogging has decreased since setting in the sun all summer. I noticed this last week and began to think about using the gun on it. But the decrease in the fogging is so great that what is left

Doesn't bother me as much. So might just leave it alone.

Just My Thoughts....

Rob Teed 74 Painted Desert

> -----Original Message-----

> Sent: Saturday, September 12, 1998 10:31 PM

> To: gmcmotorhome#mailinglists.org

> Subject: Re: GMC: GMC Motorhome Digest V2 #13

>

> Some time ago there was mention of trying to clear fogged windshield margins by the use of a
>heat gun, but I haven't seen any follow-up since unless I missed it. Has anyone tried this
>method and what were the results? If anyone is planning to replace glass anyway would they be
>willing to try some heating before they discard the old glass?

>

> My glass is in great shape except for the fogging between the laminations and I hate to pay big
>bucks for new glass if there is a way to improve it without replacement. Any help out there?

>

> Bob Burkitt, Cincinnati 77PB rbwesley#one.net

>

Date: Tue, 29 Dec 1998 14:20:08 -0800
From: Gary Miller <grizzly@harborside.com>
Subject: GMC: ELECTRIC WINDSHIELD WIPER

Has anyone installed an electric windshield motor as a replacement for the hydraulic OEM?
Where did you get it, how much \$\$, did it fit without too much modification???? Too much rain
around these parts for Rain X.

Gar'77 Kingsley

North Bend, Oregon Coast

Date: Wed, 30 Dec 1998 07:58:46 -0700
From: Darren Paget <paget@telusplanet.net>
Subject: Re: GMC: ELECTRIC WINDSHIELD WIPER

It's either Gateway or Golby that sells this kit. I think it was about \$500 or so. Darren

Date: Thu, 31 Dec 1998 17:57:36 EST
From: CHill113@aol.com
Subject: Re: GMC: Wiper Blades

Dave, last time I need some wiper blades, I bought them at a truck stop. Just measured the length, I think 20" but may have been 19". What ever but there was no problem.

Justin

Date: Thu, 7 Jan 1999 13:33:43 -0800 (PST)
From: Chuck Botts <g_cbotts@qualcomm.com>
Subject: GMC: new co-pilot windshield

Drove into a rock thrown up by a truck dually. American windshield by Viracon recommended over Finish. I contacted Gateway to buy theirs at \$435 including crating, insurance and delivery they only sell the Finish ones and have for the last 13 years. They said that they had a lot of separation problems with the Viracon and had to work their way through a lot of replacements because they stand behind the products they sell. Now I'm confused.

Input please.

Chuck Botts Waiting for winter in sunny San Diego