



CLEAR LENS RENOVATION

The fast and efficient way to restore shine to worn plastic lenses.

WORDS AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY MIKE RENAULT

Many classics use plastic lenses to cover interior courtesy lights. Years of use can leave them looking dull and tired. You may not be able to save a badly cracked lens, but this method will reduce the appearance of surface crazing and small scratches will be filled. It also restores a shine to the lens.

There's no reason you can't use this method for indicator lenses or dashboard gauges too. If you're not happy with the result, you can buff the polish to a shine or simply repeat the process.

If you're not happy with the final finish, the polish can be scrubbed off in water with a soft brush while it's still wet.

Workgauge



TIME (Minutes) **0060** **COST (Pounds)** **0003**

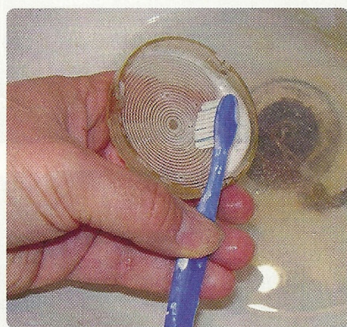
Toolbox

- Future acrylic household floor polish
- Tweezers or similar holding tool
- Shallow tray

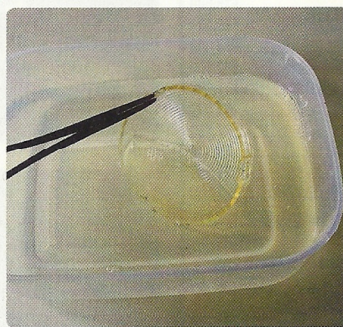
START



1 Get a good one
This lens came straight out of a scrapyards Rover P6. It's the ideal candidate, being uncracked and not yellowed by years of cigarette smoke.



2 Wash and brush up
Warm water, household soap and an old toothbrush are all you need to get years of dust and grime off the lens. Once scrubbed, let it dry completely.



3 Time for a bath
Fill a shallow container with Future floor polish – the clear, non-perfumed variety. I found the acrylic-based type was best for plastics. Dip the lens in the polish.

FINISH



4 Smoothly does it
Twist and turn the lens to let the polish run evenly all over without runs. Gently remove the excess with a small brush. It should be dry within an hour. **CM**