Brown Davis MX5 Roll bar installation tips

(Glass rear window version)

Step 1 – Remove carpet clips as shown below, a claw hammer can be a useful tool to aid in this process.





Step 2 – Remove the 4 screws that secure the rear wind deflector assembly and carefully remove the assembly.





Step 3 – Refit the wind deflector assembly to the roll bar. It may be necessary to fabricate suitable brackets for this purpose. In the example below I have chosen to mount the assembly in such a manner that the top portion of the deflector can no longer be folded back. In my opinion, this suits the appearance of the car. For those wishing to maintain the folding ability, brackets would need to be changed accordingly - allowing the wind deflector assembly to be fitted tight against the roll bar unit.





First remove the covers.



Unfasten the nuts and remove the old brackets.



Drill and tap 4 holes (to suit 6mm screws), to suit fabricated brackets such as those shown next.



An example of the new wind deflection assembly mounting bracket





These photographs show the new bracket in place. Note the large hole that was punched prior to folding the bracket. It allows clearance of the fixing bolt that fastens the roll bar to the "B" pillar (see Step 9 below).

Step 4 – Removal of top seat belt support bracket.





Remove the plastic cover and large 17mm bolt from the top of the "B" pillar.



Remove the spacer that is approximately 7mm thick - it will not be required during reassembly. It will be replaced by a suitable spacer (1, 2 or 3 washers – depending on washer thickness) that will allow freedom for the support bracket to pivot and also sufficient height for the plastic cover to be refitted later. Note the 3 tabs on the plastic cover as shown above.

Step 5 – Remove the "B" pillar trim panels.







Carefully lift the center pin using a sharp tool and pull out the fastening clip as shown.



Raise the hood to allow the trim panel to be removed.



Carefully unclip the rear window heater connector from the trim panel. This will allow the complete removal of the trim panel.

Step 6 – Prepare the parcel shelf to accommodate the large flat mounting plate that is part of the roll bar assembly.



You may choose to remove 2 screws (1 on each side) that are located close to the new mounting holes that are required. The photograph above shows the carpet and padding lifted and the left side screw being removed adjacent to one of the new holes.

Step 7 – Remove trim panels from the boot to allow access to fasten the large flat mounting plate that is part of the roll bar assembly.



Remove the split trim panels by unclipping the appropriate plastic fasteners.





Remove the inner metal panel that covers the petrol fittings. Relocate the CD stacker cable if needed. DO NOT allow it to be sandwiched between the roll bar flat plate and the rear parcel deck.



Removing these panels will provide the access needed to tighten the 4 mounting bolts used in securing the large flat mounting plate that is part of the roll bar assembly.

Step 8 – With the hood raised, carefully position the roll bar inside the car. Note that the wind deflector should NOT be fitted at this stage. It will be the last assembly to be mounted. Ensure the mounting holes over the "B" pillar are positioned correctly. Lay the hood back down. It is normal for the hood material to rest on the roll bar support tubes. This will not affect the hood operation or "wear and tear" on the hood.





Refit the seat belt bolts with the spacers that suit (*see Step 4 above*). Clip the plastic cover back in position.

Step 9 – Drill the 4 holes required and secure the large roll bar plate to the parcel shelf assembly. Use the 4 high tensile nuts and bolts, star washers and 2 bottom plates supplied.



Bottom view showing the plate, washers and nuts.

Step 9 – Fit additional "B" pillar high tensile bolts and nuts.





Drill 10 mm holes and fit the bolts as shown.



Now that all bolts are in position check they are all tight.....

- **Step 10** Refit the wind deflector assembly.
- Step 11 Refit the "B" pillar trim and plastic clip. Step 12 Refit the 3 boot trim panels.
- **Step 13** Polish the roll bar and take for a test drive.....