1988-93 GMC Aluminum Grille Installation Instructions

For installation of billet grilles that require cutting of the stock shell, proper tools, knowledge and skill are needed. Carriage Works is not responsible for care & accuracy of the installation, only for Fit & Finish of its products. Use a qualified installer or contact original vendor for references to complete all instructions.

TOOLS REQUIRED:
- Phillips screwdriver
- Cutting disc or saw
- Rotary tool or rat-tail file
- Grinder
- Electric drill and 1/8" drill bit
- Rivet gun
- Files
- Sandpaper

Step 1 Remove the stock grille panel. Parking lights must be removed to get to some of the attaching screws.

Step 2 With a die grinder (a saber saw, hack saw or diagonal cutters can also be used), cut the grille bars and inner rim out of the grille panel. Leave about 1/16" of the bars to avoid damaging the surface of the opening.

Step 3 After the bars are removed, grind the inside of the rim down even.

Step 4 Block sand the surface to prepare it for painting.

Step 5 Trial fit the new grille and mark where the round vertical support bars intersect the horizontal bars on the top and bottom of the grille opening.

Step 6 With a rotary tool (or rat-tail file), grind notches into the horizontal bars about 5/8 " deep. Check the grille and adjust the depth of the notches so it fits flush with the front of the grille panel. Depending on the year, the top bars may not need to be notched.
STEP 7 With the grille in the desired position, mark each point where the round vertical bars contact the grille frame on the top and bottom.

STEP 8 Drill 1/8" holes in the frame at each of these points. When all holes are drilled and the grille checked for fit, the reworked frame should be painted body color or '87-'90 GM accent charcoal poly, Code #58.

STEP 9 Install the grille by attaching the vertical support bars to the frame with the pop rivets supplied.

STEP 10 The entire grille unit can now be reinstalled in the truck.
STEP 7 With the grille in the desired position, mark each point where the round vertical bars contact the grille frame on the top and bottom.

STEP 8 Drill 1/8" holes in the frame at each of these points. When all holes are drilled and the grille checked for fit, the reworked frame should be painted body color or '87-90 GM accent charcoal poly, Code #58.

STEP 9 Install the grille by attaching the vertical support bars to the frame with the pop rivets supplied.

STEP 10 The entire grille unit can now be reinstalled in the truck.