Supplementary Brake Light Installation

Here you will find a complete installation guide for the supplementary brake light fitted in the rear windscreen.

This specific part was available in the Australian market where the local legislation enforced this specific feature as of 1990. Such feature became enforced by European Union legislation as of 1998 where every car produced for the European Union market should have a 3rd braking light. It is an active safety feature and it would be advisable for everyone having a car produced before 1998, to install such light as statistics have revealed the rear-end collisions have been reduced by 50%. Such kits are available in auto parts stores; there is a large variety of generic type supplementary braking lights but if you can find the original part intended for Alfa 33, it would be better since it is a straight fit.This kit has been an NLA part (No Longer Available) for quite some time from Alfa Romeo and I have been lucky to find this specific part thanks to Mr. Ken McCarthy from Brisbane, Australia who helped me sourcing this item.There was a minor problem on this kit as a bracket for keeping the red light was missing. I had to fabricate a bracket in order to fit it in the window frame; this was a problem of minor importance since everything else like red light, wiring harness and the light plate itself are in mint condition.

Let's begin

Here is the kit as it arrived; plate and red light - not shown is the wiring harness

The screw that keeps the plate firm to the window frame will pass through the hole you see in the middle of the plate. We had to fabricate a bracket which would hold the plate; an accurate measuring of the distance between the retaining screw and the edge of the plate had to be performed.

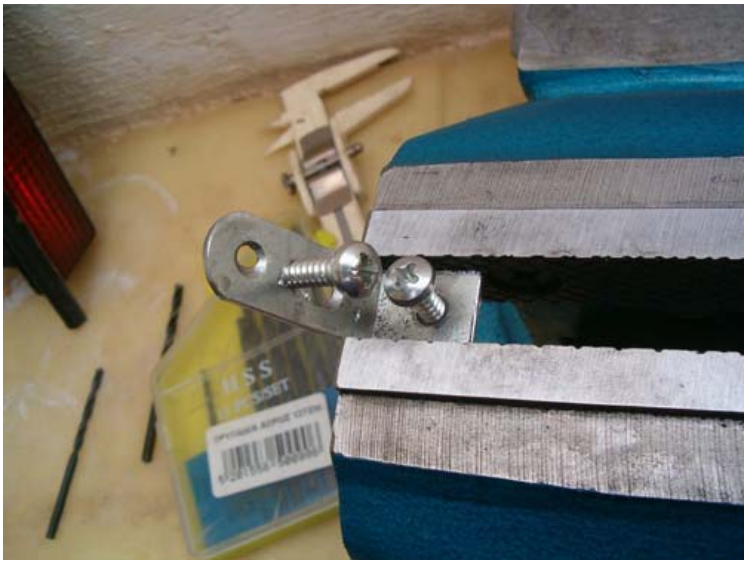
This is the middle of the window frame where the bracket will be installed

A vice is a must for such cutting jobs - here the bracket is cut to the measured distance

filed to smooth the sharp edges of the metal ...

... drilling an extra hole will help us align the bracket to the plate much easier and precisely.

new hole drilled



demonstrated are the screws that will be used. The rightmost screw will actually bolt on the window frame and the leftmost will keep in place the lamp plate

Having measured the centre of the frame, a mark will help drilling

punching once or twice will help the drill do a perfect hole; no scores or pitting to the rest of the paintwork

drill in action ...

... and first hole ready!

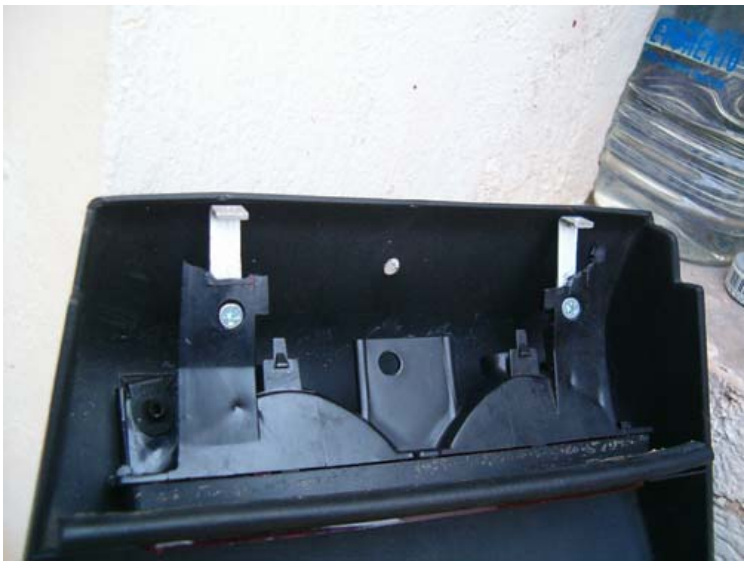
test fitting the plate! this is how it will look later when finished

an aluminum piece will help us fabricate two small brackets for the red light. Aluminum is a very nice and handy material to work with; easy cut & easy bent.

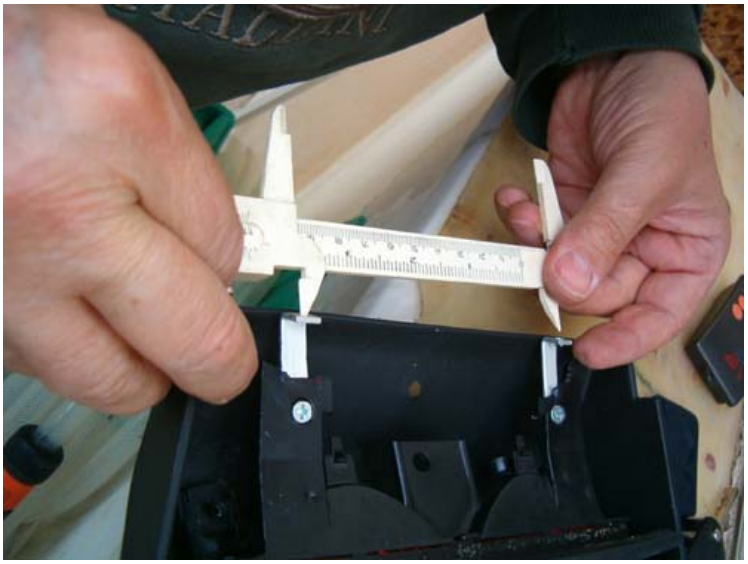
more drilling ...

... and the first bracket has been fabricated - I'll need one more

fitting the bracket



and seems that we are ready to proceed installation on the window frame



measuring again; such job requires measuring twice and cutting once!

taking measurement on the window frame

drilll again in action for the right bracket ...

... and for the left bracket

ready to accept bracket

time to tidy up the wiring harness

you can use heat shrink tubes to make it look nice and neat

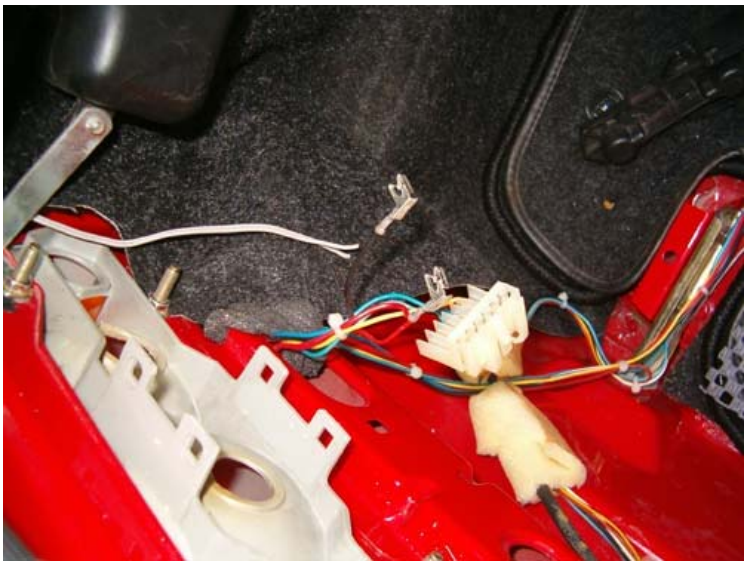
Here you can see the process under which the cable passes inside the window frame. I have used a steel cable that will actually transfer the leads for the light. Steel cable intended for bicycle brakes is perfect.

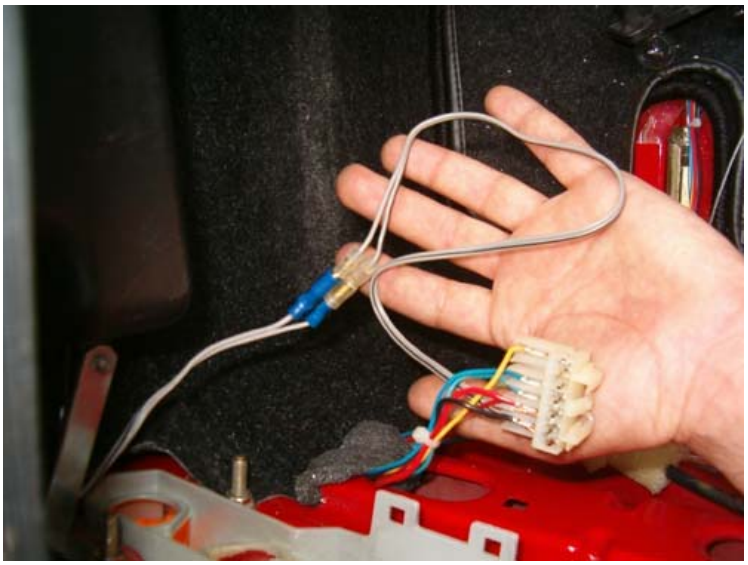
a close up of the process

and the lead has exited from the window frame

it is now time to pass the lead inside the rubber snorkel and hide it above the headliner

follow the route towards the rear lights behind the boot trim



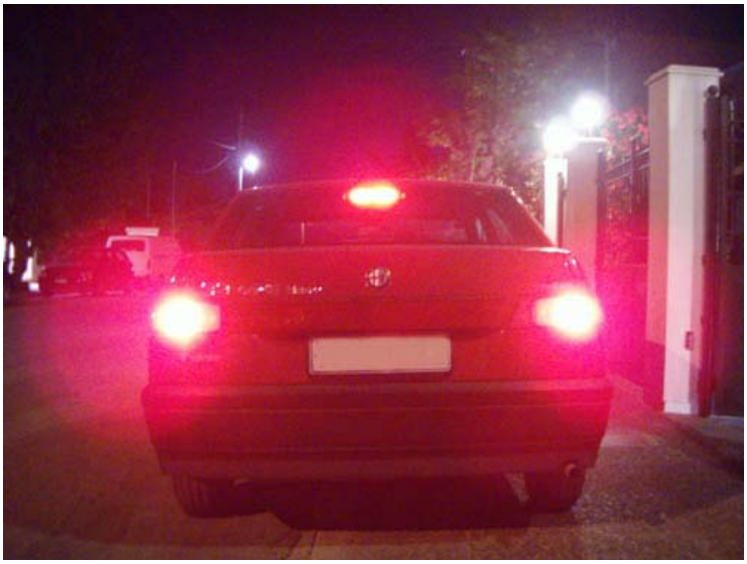


the lead has now reached the rear light and time to wire it up to the electrical system; the white connector you see is for the rear lights. Red and Black leads are intended for the brake light, so I will hook up the supplementary light lead to the above leads.

I have used connectors to ease installation and possible future need for disconnecting the harness.

Here you see the light attached to window frame and ready to finalize installation

Plate is finally attached and ...



... I can see!