

86.5-92 MKIII Toyota Supra Repairs and Modifications

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Repairs

1. Body

Body molding (repair N/A or T)

I replaced some molding strips on my car because they fell off when I was driving down the street, and some of them looked bad. To remove:

Front - Remove the screw securing the sidelight / indicator assembly and carefully pull forwards to gain access to the plastic clip, which holds the front end of the trim, and pry it out. Remove the rear screw and carefully pry the trim off. The side repeater light then just unclips.

Rear - Remove (pry) the plastic clip out and carefully pry the trim off.

Door - Open the door fully and locate the nut at the front next to the door check strap. If you are lucky, the nut will undo, but if like mine it does not, then starting at the rear of the door, pry the trim off until you get to the front, then try sliding the trim off the stud, or as a last resort, carefully pry the trim away from the stud. If the plastic retaining clip comes away from the trim, it can be stuck back on with polyurethane sealer.

Rear wing trims -Front - Remove (pry) the plastic clip out and carefully pry the trim off.

Rear - Remove the front screw. It will be easier at this stage to remove the rear interior side trim panels. This allows easy access to the three captive 8mm nuts. Undo these, then carefully pry the trim off. If any of the captive nuts / studs spin, the trim can be carefully forced sideways away from the studs.

Rear end trim - To remove the license plate unit and trim, the tail lights first need to be removed (six 8mm nuts each), then undo the two 8mm nuts holding the unit. At the top of the unit, in the center, there is a plastic clip, which I found was best unclipped by using a shock force on the back of it, using some kind of drift (use a screwdriver if your careful). When the unit is loose, several wires need to be disconnected, unclipped, and fed through the rear panel.

Now would be a good time to replace the 10+ year old clips, especially if any are cracked or broken.

The Symptoms

When they look ugly, some of the peices are missing, have to remove them to get at some rust, or when your painting the car.

The Difficulty

I would give this 1 star. It is very easy to do, and does not take much time. The only difficulty is paying for the new trim, which is around CDN\$1500 for all of it. Look in local junk/scrap yards for a MKIII with useable trim, or call Jeff Watson at Jay Marks Toyota.

The Problems

The peices go on great, but while they are off, make sure to clean out any dirt or rust, otherwise you will just have to do the whole process over again.

The Results

It looks great now, no more faded cracked moldings.

Time and cost

Total cost for all of the trim is around CDN\$1500, but I only did a door and near the wing. The wing section was around CDN\$150, while the door trim was CDN\$250. It took me about 30 minutes to complete.

Submitted by NashMan