

Rust proofing the Pantera chassis

I enlarged the chassis drain holes and rust proofed the inner frame rails, suspension mount points (horseshoe area), and body seams in the front of each rear quarter panel (behind the gas tank) and against the B-pillar (back of door jamb).



I followed Jack DeRyke's excellent article on this upgrade/TSB. Can be downloaded here: http://www.poca.com/index.php/gallery/?g2_itemId=24756

Added an additional drain hole at the bottom of this structural frame member to ensure any moisture that got in here would easily drain out.



I enlarged the factory drain holes at the base of the vertical frame structure in the rear wheel house, and added 1/2" drain holes in the lower frame rails per Jack DeRyke's article (downloadable above).



I made a simple spray apparatus with a \$6 sprayer from Home Depot, some 3/8" hose, a couple of brass fittings to secure the hose to the sprayer, and a fan spray tip from an old weed sprayer that no longer works.



I then sprayed the inner frame rails with Jasco Metal Prep which converts rusted rust from ferrous iron to iron phosphate and prepares the metal surface for paint. The Jasco costs about \$6 at Home Depot, which is a far bit less expensive than the same designer label products from Eastwood.

To apply, I would insert the spray tip into a frame rail as far as it would go, then spray while slowly pulling the hose back to assure complete and even coverage of all interior surfaces. Do this in both directions from each side where you have access. I inserted the spray hose up into the wheel house horse shoes from the engine compartment side and performed the same procedure on both sides.

CAUTION: This product is acid-based, is a skin irritant, and will etch concrete. Be sure to

wear gloves, goggles, and put a plastic tarp under the car!



I then applied Eastwood's "Rust Encapsulator" to protect against any future corrosion. Here's a picture of the area behind and in front of the gas tank after treatment, This area is notorious for rotting through from the inside since dirt, gravel and moisture all get trapped between the gas tank and the body panel.

FWIW, Eastwood also offers an Inner Frame Rail coating kit. At the time I thought the price of \$20/can a bit steep, but in hindsight it would have been much easier and less time consuming than fabbing my own sprayer.

