



[BACK](#)

Headliner Restoration

HOME

DETAILS

THE MOVIE

VIDEOS

MY PURCHASE

HOW TO BUY

UPDATES

ADVENTURES

GALLERY

HISTORY

TECH INFO

PAINT CHARTS

PRODUCTS

LINKS

CONTACT

DONATE

Is your headliner sagging? Tired of it rubbing against your head? Tired of getting dust in your eyes if you lower the windows when you drive because your 35 year old headliner backing foam has turned to a dusty powder? Re-glue it!



What kind of foam backing to use?

1/8" closed cell foam, available from any auto upholsterer and some hardware stores. Traditional foam (open cell) can wick-up the headliner glue and leave indented hand/finger prints as you press it onto the roof. Closed cell foam won't do this.



What kind of glue to use?

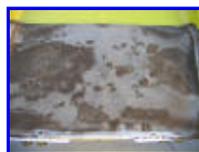
3M 8090 - It's heavy duty glue designed for exterior vinyl tops. "Normal" headliner glue will not hold up under the heat since the headliner is glued directly to the underside of the roof panel. Countless people on the DeTomaso mail list can tell you about their re-glued headliners falling after one Summer of driving.

3M Super Trim Adhesive 8090 is available from countless online sources, as well as your local Napa Auto Parts store.



Instructions

1. Scrub the headliner, front and back, with simple green to clean thoroughly and remove all remaining foam. Let dry thoroughly.



2. Mask the interior of your car with plastic before scraping any of the old foam from the underside of the roof. I did not mask mine when I scraped the roof with a shop vac and plastic scraper and headliner dust found it's way into EVERY crack and crevice in the

< [Previous](#) [Forum](#) [Like](#) [Easy Surf DeTomaso Pantera](#) [Off](#) [Surprise Me!](#) [Next](#) >

Last Updated 09/19/11



scraped the ceiling. It took A LOT MORE time to clean up the mess when I was done than it took to the hang plastic when I applied the glue.

3. Carefully scrape excess foam from the roof of your car with a shop vac and plastic (NOT metal) scraper. Take care not to push too hard into the sheet metal or you could make a mark/dent visible from the exterior. That's why you don't use a metal scraper. I recommend taping some plastic up in your interior because this WILL make a dusty mess.



4. Lay the headliner upside down on a large piece of cardboard and spray an even coat of glue (not too heavy) onto the back side of the headliner. Also spray an even coat of glue onto the sheet of closed cell foam. Allow each to get tacky/dry (follow the directions on the can).

5. Carefully place the headliner onto the foam. Be careful not to get any wrinkles in the headliner because it will bond with the foam as soon as it makes contact. An extra set of hands will come in handy to have someone hold the headliner up as you lay it carefully onto the foam making sure it stays taught and does not have any wrinkles. Allow the foam to overlap the headliner on all sides. I used a paint roller to apply even pressure to the headliner to thoroughly bond it to the foam, then let it set overnight (probably don't have to wait that long; it's just what I did).



6. Cut the headliner out of the foam sheet, using the edges of the glued headliner as your guide. You now have a brand new looking foam-bonded headliner with the perfect shape.



7. Clean all screws and grommets for the headliner trim. I used a brass brush and Simple Green (one of my favorite cleaning solutions).



8. Mask the entire interior of your car with plastic if you haven't already. I sanded the underside of my roof lightly to make sure the surface was ready for the headliner. Spray a heavy but even coat of 3M 8090 adhesive to the underside of the roof. This is a MESSY job. Be sure to do it in a well ventilated area, and also make sure you don't get any overspray on adjacent vehicles, cabinets, driveway, or garage floor. Also spray an even coat of adhesive onto the backside of your headliner/foam that's been cut to shape. Let the two dry according to the instructions on the can.



9. Install the headliner. Extra hands are very helpful (nay, necessary) at this step. I started at the front-center and worked my way back and out to the sides using my hands to gently press it to the roof, taking care to avoid wrinkles and kinks. Once it was in place, I again used a paint roller to apply even pressure to the entire headliner and make sure the bond was complete.



10. Enjoy the additional headroom! Your headliner will look brand new! Mine does.

Additional Information:

Mike Dailey's [Headliner Replacement article](#) was my inspiration to try this on my own.

[TOP ▲](#)

All content on this site is the property of Garth Rodericks. Any images on this site acquired from the web are believed to be in the public domain. If you are the copyright owner of any image displayed on this site, please notify me by email so that I may give you appropriate credit or remove it altogether.

©2006 Garth Rodericks



DeTomaso Pantera

[< Prev](#) / [Talk](#) / [Like](#) / [Sites](#) / [Join](#) / [Surprise](#) / [Next >](#)

..