

Installing a Seat Bikini on a C5

Just like their human owners, Corvettes can show signs of wear and tear as they age - a little less shiny there, a little saggy here and yes, a little wrinkly in the upper seat bolster area. This is a well known area of wear and now our resident mechanic, (and upholsterer), Ron has tracked down a solution for this problem at a relatively inexpensive cost. A company from Texas called [Corvette Mods](#) is selling a product that covers worn areas and protects them from additional wear. The part number is 1551 and six colors are available to choose from. The total cost, including shipping to Ogdensburg was \$50.23.

Ron ordered a set and installed them and documented the process for your reference. So let's get started.... (captions for pictures appear below photo).



The above plastic seat bolt cover needs to be removed.



Pull the pin out.



The anchor bolt for the seat is now exposed.



Remove the four nuts that secure the seat to the floor. Use a 15mm socket and do the front two fastening points first.



Once the front two nuts are removed, slide the seat all the way forward and remove rear two nuts.





Once the four nuts are removed from the seat anchors, disconnect the electrical connectors under the seat. Now remove the seat from the car. "God Damn That is Heavy!"



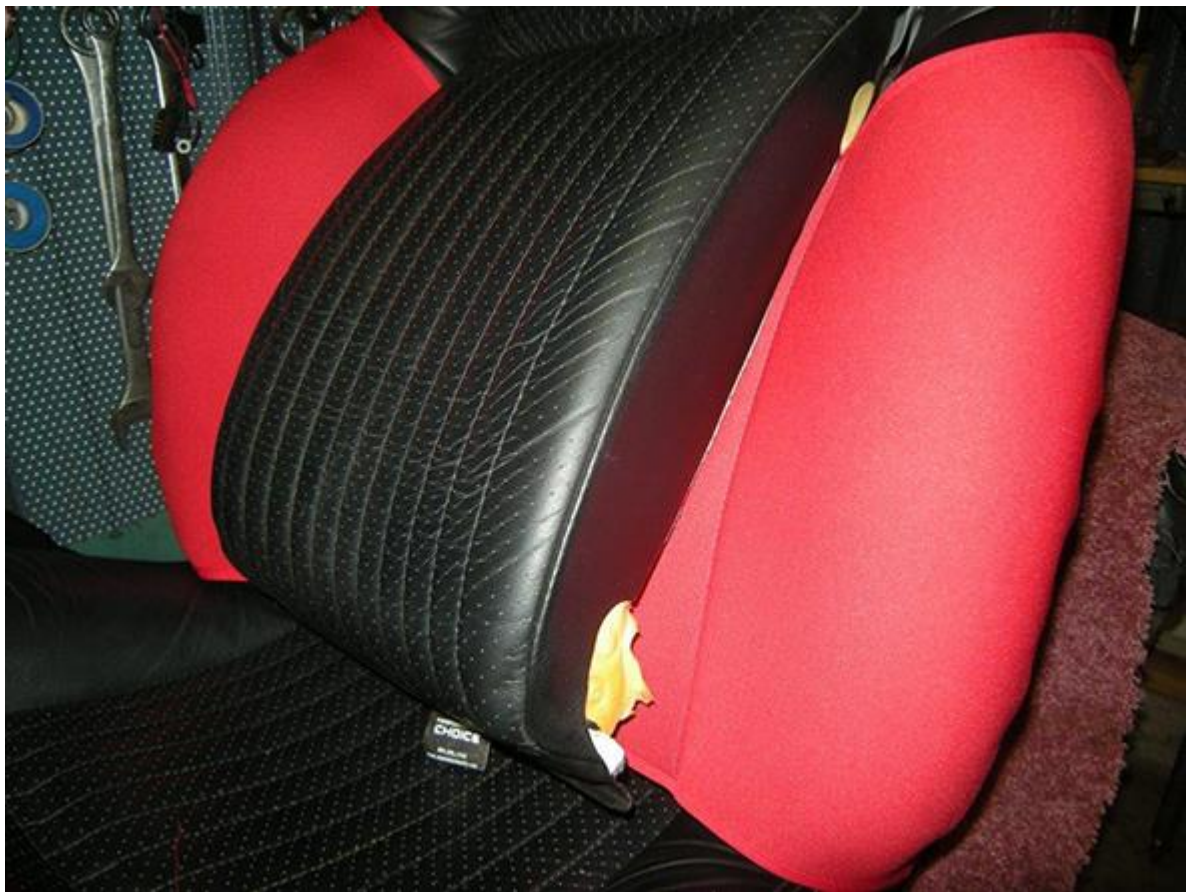
Back of seat - Unclip plastic from the track.



Seat Back unclipped - viewed from the front of the seat.



Place bikini over the top of the seat.



Pull the bikini all the way down. Pull the backpart over the seat. The tag should be on the bottom front.



The edge of the bikini should follow the seams/creases in the seat.



Once the bikini is in place, tuck in the bottom back of the seat.



From the back of the seat, hook your fingers in the plastic seat clip.





Insert the bottom of the original seat cover into the clip to secure it in place. Do one side at a time.





Both sides inserted and secure.



Final front appearance after everything is put back together.



Final rear appearance after the bikini is installed.



Reinstall the seat (it will still be heavy!) by reconnecting the electrical connectors, nuts and plastic covers.



Tools required - 3/8" ratchet with extension using a 15mm socket, small flat crewdriver, small side cutters.

OTHER NOTES:

Install time was approximately 1/2 an hour.

The driver's seat has two electrical connectors, the passenger's side as one.

Bonus Pix:



Looking into the back of the seat. You can see an airbag/seat bolster.





To make the process of installing the plastic track easier, Ron put a carpet on the floor of his garage to protect the seat and set the chair assembly on the carpet face down. This facilitated easily snapping the cover into the plastic track.