

Installation of 240 Exterior Window Scraper Moldings

By Dave Barton

These instructions will guide you through the installation of a set of outer window scrapers on your 240. This is a very simple procedure and if you are an experienced Volvo wrencher, then it might only take you about 15 minutes for each door... a little longer if you're a novice.

If you're installing these on a 4-door 240 (sedan or wagon), you will notice these scraper pieces come in **two different lengths**. The shorter ones go on the front doors and the longer ones go on the rear doors.

If you're installing **used** pieces, you may notice they have experienced a slight amount of shrinkage and they may seem a little short on length. Place them up against your windows. If you see a small gap on each end, adjustments are possible. Since these moldings are very flexible, you will be able to stretch them a small amount before installation if you wish. This is best done when they're warm, such as after they have been sitting outside on a warm, sunny day.

Shrinkage won't be an issue with a new set.

These scrapers will fit all 240's and even some 140's. If your 240 has a very wide metal trim piece below the windows (usually only on '82 thru '85 GL models), they will fit these trim pieces also. The most common type of metal trim piece, is the narrow type shown below.



Old rubber molding on narrow style metal strip



“New” molding installed on narrow style metal strip

Narrow Style Metal Trim Strip Removal:

First you need to remove the metal strips below your side windows (also known as channels). These are the metal pieces that the rubber scrapers are attached to at the base of the window. It's best to work on one door at a time.

For the front doors, you will most likely **NOT** need to remove the mirrors (depending on the model and how much room there is below and behind them), but removing them or loosening them may give you more room to work on some models.

If the metal trim strip you are removing is the **narrow style**, open the door and you will see a small metal tab that is bent over the door frame at each end of the metal trim strip. On front doors for later 240's (built after 1986), there is a tab at the rear only, with the front end tucked under the mirror. Carefully, using a flat screwdriver, bend these tabs out just a little and away from the door. It doesn't take much.



Now place the blade of a screwdriver or plastic trim tool under the metal strip near the rear of the door. You should be very careful to avoid scratching or chipping your paint, so you might place a piece of cardboard or plastic between the tool and your paint. Carefully pry the strip up, slowly working along the strip, until it's free from the door.



Wide Metal Trim Strip Removal:

The wide metal strips do not have the small metal tabs on each end. This type is fixed to the outer door skin with adhesive. To remove it, you will simply place a flat tool under the strip and carefully pry up slightly, slowly working along its length. You should work slowly and carefully, even though some force will be required. Be especially careful with the very narrow bright chrome strip on the outer edge of this trim piece. If you pry under that part, it may come off and you might damage some of the small plastic mounting clips that hold it on. The clips are available from Volvo if needed.

Removing/Replacing Rubber Scraper Molding on Metal Trim Strip:

Once you have a metal strip removed, examine it. The rubber scraper is designed to slide out from either end of the metal channel, however the metal is “pinched” or “stamped”, usually in **three** places to hold the rubber scraper in place. The photos below show the *back* or *felt* side of the rubber scraper. The below-left photo shows the “pinch”, which looks like a dimple. You’ll need to force a flat blade screwdriver into the metal channel at the “pinch” between the metal and the rubber and pry it open slightly by twisting the screwdriver. This step takes a bit of force, so be careful not to shove your screwdriver through your hand. **Gloves are recommended.**



NOTE: When you force the screwdriver into the channel, your old hard rubber scrapers will likely crack and split, so don't be too alarmed at this. Once all three “pinches” have been opened slightly, the old rubber scraper can be slid out. A little soapy water or spray lubricant will help if it's tight but it should slide out easily.



After sliding the old rubber scraper out of the channel, slide the new one in (felt facing the same direction). It may be tight, so some soapy water or spray lubricant will help it slide in easier.

After you slide the new rubber scraper into the channel, use some pliers or a punch and hammer to pinch the channel again in a few places so the scraper stays in place. This is not absolutely critical. If

you want to stretch the rubber scraper some (used scrapers) so it reaches closer to the edges, do it before inserting it into the channel. Pinching the channel will help to hold it in place.

Re-installing the metal strips on the doors is the reverse of the removal process. They can be pushed down onto the doors with your hand or a little tapping with a rubber mallet. A little lubricant sprayed on the door areas receiving the channels will help seat them easier.

You might treat the rubber on these scrapers with a protectant. I prefer a little Vinylex on a rag. Keep the protectant off of the felt side, or it will be streak your windows.

Enjoy your new window scrapers.

If you have discovered any tricks to making this job easier and you would like to share them, please contact Dave Barton at dbarton@linkline.com.