

Cheap HUMMER Tricks

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Near the air intake mushroom on the HUMMER, there is a rubber trim piece on the hood and another one on the cowl. The piece on the cowl seems to be perpetually damaged. (See Picture 1) This damage is caused (mostly) by one of the mounting brackets for the rubber piece on the hood. I have seen several trucks where this mounting bracket has actually scratched through the paint on the cowl.



The rubber piece on the hood was added sometime in the 1993 or 1994 model year. Its purpose is to deflect water (from a bow wave sweeping up over the hood) away from the air intake. The LE trucks and some 1993 trucks do not have this piece.

On the civilian trucks (the ones where the windshield will not fold down), it is not important that the mushroom be flush with the top of the hood. On my truck (a 95), I raised the mushroom by adding a rubber pipe connector. This connector is made to join 4" PVC pipe, and is about 4-1/2" in diameter on the inside. This connector is available from most hardware or plumbing supply stores for around \$10 US, including two clamps. In addition to helping keep a bow wave out of the air intake, it also keeps snow from blocking the air intake — more of a concern in some parts of the world than in others.

Since I have added the short snorkel, I don't really need the rubber trim piece on the hood anymore, so I remove it and the two brackets that held it on. (Note: one of the brackets shares mounting bolts with yet another rubber seal, so I added washers to the bolts and reinstalled them.) Picture 2 shows my air intake with short snorkel added and the rubber trim removed.



Note: Another contributing cause to this problem may be the original Stinger aftermarket hood snubbers. Over time, these snubbers broke down and allowed the hood to close a little too far thus pinching the trim piece even more. I have heard that Stinger/MAC has redesigned this piece, but I have no first-hand experience with this new piece.