

## INTERIOR STORAGE RACK

by Debbie Markley



The need for usable storage space prompted me to come up with this quick and easy project. It can be used to store equipment, umbrellas, flashlights, fire extinguishers, etc. Most anything can be secured via bungee cords. Items must be secured or they will fall off the rack like the change that made its way out of the bottom of my purse and onto my lap. One nice thing is that when the soft top is removed, the rack looks great and the sun shines right through.



Here is what I did to make it. I purchased a length of closet rack from the hardware store and four large hose clamps. The rack goes above the visors and below the windshield frame and connects to the roll bar above the doors. Take the visors off. Make a template of where the rack will wrap

around the center window pillar and cut that centered on your rack first, observing that your visors need to fit through the slats. Next cutout the ends of the rack to length and to fit around the window frame. Spray paint your choice of color.



The rack is installed by using two hose clamps on each end of the rack on the roll bar above the



window. I put felt under the hose clamps to prevent damage from the sharp edges of the clamps. Reinstall the visors, they will fit right through the rack. If extra support is needed there are holes in the underside of the windshield frame where you can install cable guides to stabilize the rear of the rack. I did not find it necessary as there was not much flex in the rack

even with it fully loaded. One problem commonly encountered was that the paint from the rack came off on the top of the visor. Make sure the paint has cured before installing the visors or using the rack. You can see the effect in the photo of the black rack. I would suggest using a clear sealer.

This project can be adapted to trucks with the center Monsoon console. It will require making custom straps that connect it to the screws that hold on the visors and straps to hold it to the existing screws for the molding.

