



## How To: strip & repair windscreen washers

Courtesy of **gg8tcw**

OK, having watched numerous threads on this topic, I was feeling rather smug that my window washers were all working fine... until last week, when i got nothing more than a dribble out of my rear window washer. Called my local stealer who said if it was blocked, then they would not repair it under warranty and it would cost me £114 plus VAT

I thought i'd give it a go repairing it myself....

Firstly, (unlike me) remember to empty all the fluid, if possible out of the washer tank otherwise you'll get soaked later on...

I jacked my car up and placed a load of bricks next to the trolley jack as i don't have any axle stands. I hate working under cars.

Wheel off and this is what you're looking at.



There are quite a few screws and bolts to undo here, but you only need to remove the inner arch behind the wheel.  
After that you'll see that there are 3 plastic "rivets" which clamp the side of the inner wheel arch to the wing.



Just place a skewer into the centre and the little plastic rods pop out and can be recovered once you've taken the inner arch off.



These are what the plastic "rivets" look like once they are out.



and these are the little plastic rods.





Now the inner arch is removed, this is what the underneath of the car looks like. You can see the white water bottle tucked up very tight on the left of the picture.



In order to remove the water bottle, there is just one 10mm bolt to undo. (As this is the only bolt that holds the washer on, when re-fitting, add a bit of thread lock to ensure it doesn't shift). You also need to take the indicator side repeater off the wing. This is very simple to do. Simply take a plastic item such as a credit card and slip it under the rear of the lens (i.e. closest to the driver's door), push forward and then it will start to slide out. unclip the light/lens from the wiring loom.



also at this point, you need to disconnect the concertinaed white filler tube. This simply unclips and needs a bit of force to push out.



Now you can slide out the water bottle. It is connected by the two water pipes to the washer jets, a low level water sensor and the indicator loom. There is no way you can get confused with the electrics as the male and female connectors are colour coded! Thanks BMW! You'll see i've put a bit of masking tape on the water pipe that goes to the black pump. This was to make sure i didn't accidentally cross them over when putting them back together.





I took the water bottle out and could not see any gunk at all, but washed it through 4 times to make sure it was all clean.

Re-fitting is simply the reverse procedure.

However, My rear jet was still useless, so, time to strip the rear of the car down!

Everything you need to get to is stored within the boot lid. The main central trim is secured with just 4 number screws.



Then, unclip the emergency pull cord from the trim.



These are the only screws that hold this bit of trim to the boot lid, However it is also secured with a number of poppers as shown in white below.





At this point I didn't remove the trim, I went on to undo the side pieces of trim, which again have poppers, but are only held on by 1 screw each, which doubles as the holder for the boot cover.



Once these were undone, it was a case of prising off the bits of trim.







The centre trim piece that covers the centre brake light is entirely held on by poppers.



I then had a look at the stripped out car which looks like this..





I decided to undo the non-return valve (as pointed out) and see if water would come through, which it did, although very soapy. (bear in mind i only refilled with clean water)



By doing this on a number of occasions and blowing through to into the wiper, i cleared any blockage and it now works perfectly!

Putting the trim back is quite easy, but these are all the parts you will have taken out:



and the reverse side of the pieces..



The large centre piece goes in first and just needs to be thumped back in, making sure all the poppers have located their holes and set in, otherwise you'll end up with rattles!

You'll then be left with all this to put back..







The three pieces can be put in together, but make sure they are linked up together as shown.

Lined up:



pushed in together



I hope this helps anyone who has any washer problems and fancies giving it a go themselves instead of funding the Stealer's Christmas Party Fund.