Lil Emery to the Rescue: Grille-ing the V-Rod

Radiator Protection and Styling Story and Photos by G.P. Garson

Installation of GR Customs "Precision Cut" Grilles

It always helps to have a bike-lift so you can have some comfort level while working on a bike. But when push comes to shove (and you won't need to do that with these hi-tech configured radiator Precision Cut Grilles), working with the bike on the side-stand in the grass is very do-able with just simple hand tools. And that's how it was accomplished in this case situated smack in the middle of the L.A. Calendar Queen Mary bike show. Since it was hot enough to melt your tattoos, we added a few cold bottles of water to the tool box then got started, actually timing the bolt-on process just to see how "easy" was easy.



Tool List:

- 1. T-25 torks wrench
- 2. 2. 4mm Allen wrench
- 3. Phillips screw driver4. 10mm 6-point socket or wrench
- 5. towel to cover front fender as protection6. tube of thread locking compound



Installation Process:

1.Cover the front fender with the towel to prevent any oops! Dropped the tool scratches. Take a swig of water.



2. Remove side-covers by removing two tork screws found underneath the radiator housing. Pull out the bottom and lift on top, then repeat for the other side of the radiator, removing that cover. Place screws in safe container.



3.Next move the brake reservoir out of the way by removing the two Allen bolts on both sides of the radiator housing. Carefully slide down the metal clip and pop the brake reservoir wire from the cover and separate from the radiator.



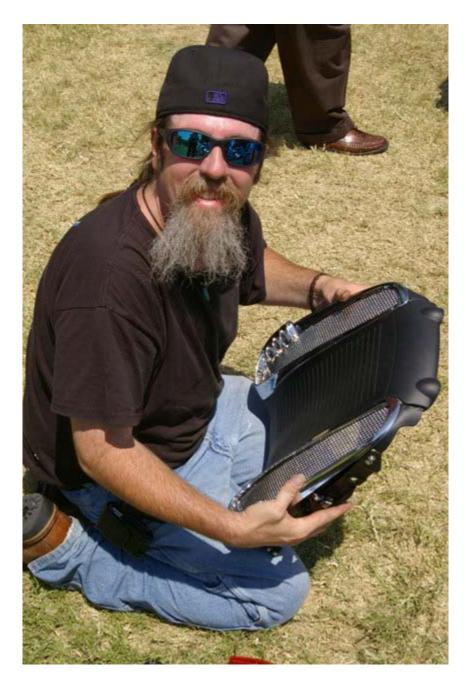
4. Now remove the bezels from the radiator cover by removing the three 10mm nuts. Then remove the two Phillips screws. Repeat this process for the other side. (Time out for more water.)



5. Remove radiator cover.



6. Install the Grilles between the chromed inlet bezels and the radiator cover. The fit is exactly correct so will slip in easily.



7. Install the radiator cover assembly. The cover sits atop the cross member. Now slide the cover back in place. Next, re-install the bolts and use thread locking compound for security sake.



8. Re-install the side covers basically following the disassembly steps in reverse. Again, using thread locking compound. Then re-attach the wires to the left side cover and slide brake reservoir back into place.



9. You're done. You've been Grilled. Took us about 20 minutes lying in the grass. With a lift, maybe 15 minutes. Now no more worries about damaging your delicate and expensive radiator plus you're styling with the "Precision Cut" Grille upgrades. Okay, take another hit of the water and give yourself a toast... V-Rods Rule!