

NOSTALGIC MOTOR CARS UNLOCKS THE HISTORY AND MYSTERIES OF THE 1963-1985 AVANTIS

How to Remove an Original Inside Mirror and Install a New Avanti Mirror Part #1750632 on your 1963-1985



The original Studebaker Avanti inside rear view mirror Illustration #2145-8 part numbers 1351302w or 1351302w were extremely small. The 1st 1351302w was 1½" x 4 ¼" then 1351318w was increased in size to be 2" x 5¼". These tiny mirrors along with the beautiful factory rake (front lower than rear) of the original Studebaker Avanti, and with the location on the bottom of the windshield it makes it difficult to see a vehicle behind you. They seem to disappear because of the factory rake, then with the distortion formed in the lower edges of the glass, these all contribute to very poor visibility looking in your inside rear view mirror.

Avanti Motors did change to a larger mirror and offered a day/night mirror, but most were still down to the bottom of the windshield.



Avanti Motors continued to use the original inside mirror stems Illustration # 2145-11 part # 1356356 and Illustration #2145-11 Part #1356357 until 1970. When they were redesigned to part #1750030 (2 stem halves 2 special screws \$20) Both halves were the same and of a superior, heavier design, which held their position much better.

By Dan Booth
Nostalgic Motor Cars

Dan Booth has over 46 years of exclusive, hands on Avanti sales, service, collision and parts, not Studebaker cars or trucks, just 1963-1985 Avantis.

They also had special screws that had nylon filling a drilled hole in the screw, which kept the screws tight. These new heavier stems were used until about 1984. They also introduced a new inside, day/ night mirror part # 1750031, in 1970.



Original small mirror

1750632 Inside Mirror \$16.00

In about 1983, a new inside rear view mirror part #1750632 was introduced to production. The new mirror used a different mounting base which is included with the mirror.

You could order from Avanti Motors your new Avanti with the mirror located at the top of the windshield. All the new Avantis I ordered, and sold, I requested the mirror to be in the top location. Then about 1981 or 82 through 1985 all the mirrors were located in the top location.

I have seen a number of Avantis 1963-1980, with a large aftermarket mirror, located in the upper position but the windshield still has the original base Illustration #2145-15 part #1351306 glued in the lower original position.

Avanti Repair

I ask owners why the original base is still glued to the windshield. Their answer is they are afraid of removing it as they may break their windshield.

I've been asked to write an article about how to remove and add the new Avanti mirror part #1750632 to any 1963-1985 Avanti.



1750632 Day/Night Mirror \$16

Removing the old base, Part # 1351306 is very easy, and I have never broken a windshield by removing the base the way I taught myself over 50 years ago.



Very carefully, lightly clamp on a set of vice grips on the ball of the base 1351306. Take a propane torch, with very low flame, and keep the flame about 2-inches away from base and the locking pliers. The flame and torch will be parallel with the windshield. The edge of the flame will be about 1-inch from the windshield. Concentrate the flame on the ball of the base and the locking pliers. Don't pull on the locking pliers, but apply a very light twisting motion as you heat the ball and locking pliers.

In a few seconds, you will feel the vice grips moving the base with your light twisting.

The base will now come off and normally leave the glue on the windshield. Don't forget everything is going to be HOT ! After everything cools down, take a new single edge razor blade and remove the glue on the windshield.



Glue Kit \$4 - New base included

To move your mirror up, measure over from side to side about 3½-inches down from the bottom edge of the outside upper stainless molding and mark the windshield for center, with a magic marker.

Prep, per package instructions, the inside of the windshield where your outside felt tip marker is. Some glue packages want you to also clean the mounting base. Remove the mounting base from the mirror and immediately mark the mounting base on the side you will see, from the inside of the car, with an arrow showing up. It's very easy to install this tab upside down and/or backwards, depending on the mirror brand. Most glue instructions want you to put a small drop of glue in the center of the mounting base.

Then hold it for 2 minutes. Don't forget to wait the time specified, on the instructions, before installing the new mirror to the base.

The greatest thing about the new and improved day and night mirror part #1750632 is it is totally reversible. You can remove the new mirror and base, just like you did with the original base, with the vise grips and a propane torch. Then glue the original base back in its original place for authenticity.