

Alternative 2CV Outer Driveshaft Gaiters

I have encountered two possible substitute outer driveshaft gaiters that will fit the 2CV driveshaft and appear to be superior to the original. The first, which I have seen on more than one occasion, is the gaiter intended to the Citroen BX. The second, I found myself. Interestingly, the gaiter for a Mini is an excellent fit, and also seems to be made from thicker rubber. The Mini gaiter has fewer 'bellows' - type folds, but does the job effectively nevertheless. I fitted a Mini gaiter to one of the driveshafts on my Lomax earlier this year, and have experienced no trouble whatsoever with it. In years to come, genuine Citroen spares may become more expensive, but Mini spares should remain reasonably priced for some time yet. There is also much more chance of picking up Mini spares in an autojumble than Citroen items (I bought two Mini gaiters at £1 each this way Tom

THEM BOOTS

Have you ever struggled fitting those outer CV boots? You Have?

Well so have I!...But not any more!

You know what it's like, you've got the drive shaft in the vice with the splines uppermost and you just can't see how you are going to get that boot with a 5/8 hole over the end that is 1 3/8.

I suppose like me you probably resorted to 'Luck Judgement' and a couple of screw drivers, praying it wouldn't split. Well, No More!

Like most good ideas (well I think it's a good idea). It's simple. A taper! I made mine from stainless on the lathe, but any taper that is 1 3/8 at one end and less than 5/8 the other will do. You could even whittle one from a bit of wood, or even cut the snout of a wife's watering can if really desperate!

DRIVE SHAFT NUT REMOVAL

These nuts are fitted extremely tightly, to release them on my donor 2CV I selected the worst wheel from the car and then cut out the centre of the wheel. I allowed the car to rest on the ground and was then able to access the nut with a socket through the hole. A volunteer is needed to apply the foot brake HARD.

TERRY BALDWIN

(I know this is an old one, but I still get asked, don't forget they need to be done up just as tightly, and remember never go back to line up the split pin holes or go forward Ed)