

Weekend Wrenchin'



KIRK!



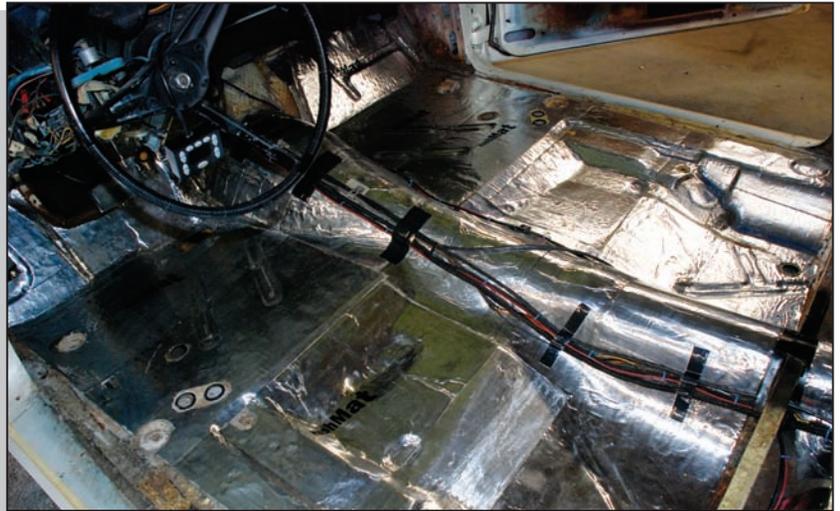
Silence Is Golden...er, Silver: HushMat Installation

Nothing gets old faster than rattles, squeaks and road-noise in a street rod or kustom on a long road trip. So, before you spend all that time, effort and money on making your interior as comfortable as your living room, take an afternoon to ensure it stays quiet too.

That's just what I decided to do on my 1960 Starliner. I plan on driving it cross-country to Goodguys events like Columbus and Indy and wanted to make sure the cruise was as enjoyable as possible. Besides, I already had the whole interior torn out awaiting the newly stitched version.

I contacted HushMat and their experts helped me determine which of their products, and how much of it, I needed to accomplish my task. They suggested one Tape Kit (PF 100), two boxes of 1/4" Silencer Megabond Premium Sound Absorbing Foam (PFSIL1008), and two boxes of HushMat Ultra™ (P400S). This is enough to do the interior floor, doors, roof and trunk. This article will cover the interior floor and roof. Obviously the rest of the car is installed using the same simple techniques.

I had never installed an OEM-style sound-deadening material before, but HushMat's description of their product made it seem like it would be as easy as cutting, peeling and sticking. I'm always a little skeptical when I hear such claims, but they were right! HushMat can be applied to metal, (including oily cold rolled steel, painted and e-coated), plastic and fiberglass surfaces. Best of all, it requires no environmentally unfriendly solvent cleaners to prepare surfaces for application. Check it out!



The tools needed are very minimal. I used just a Shop-Vac, straightedge, scissors and a small roller. HushMat's instructions recommend wearing gloves – so do I, the edges of the foil backing have the potential to leave small cuts.



I decided to start with the floor. I swept it out and vacuumed as well as I could. I suggest using a wire brush if your floor is in sad shape. The HushMat material even sticks to unfriendly surfaces, but better safe than sorry.



Begin by laying a piece of HushMat Ultra (P400S) in place and transferring any shapes to be cut out with a felt-tip pen. I didn't get overly precise with the marking and cutting because carpet will be covering it anyway. Cut the necessary shapes out prior to removing the paper backing.

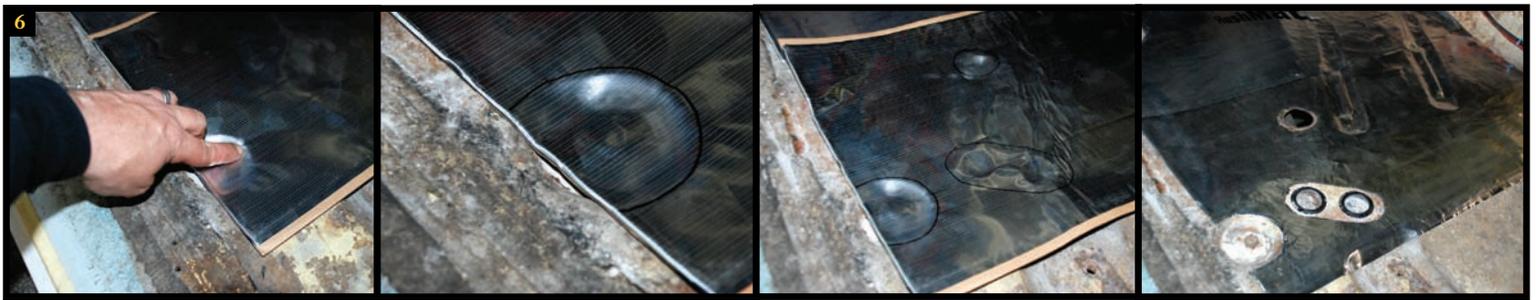


A quick test-fit is a good idea.



Now just peel and stick! The material sticks very well and contours nicely with the help of the roller. Make sure you get out any entrapped air bubbles. No heating of the material or the surface is necessary.

Over



As I progressed I perfected my technique for marking the material. I laid each piece in position and pressed my finger into the depressions that I intended to cut out. That made it easy to see where to mark and cut.



The next step was securing the wires that run from the front to the back of the car. This is where the Tape Kit (PF100) came in handy. Just run the wires in place and tape them down. It couldn't be any easier. The tape sticks very well but can be repositioned.



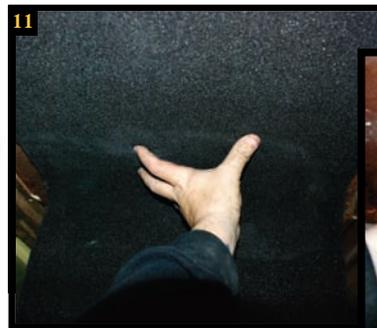
Just keep repeating this simple process. It goes pretty quickly.



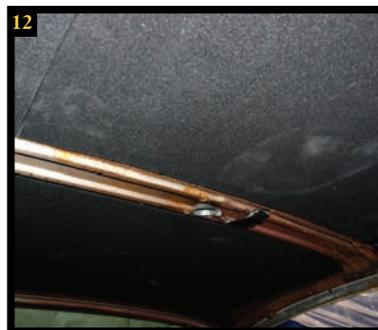
After only a few hours of pretty easy work the results are very satisfying. The inside of the car already has a noticeable deadened quality.



Next, I cleaned and vacuumed the inside of the roof to prepare for the application of the Silencer Megabond Foam.



The installation of the Silencer Megabond Foam was easily accomplished with one person. I just marked and cut it to shape, peeled off the backing paper, and stuck it in place. Then I went over the entire surface with the roller.



In a very short time the roof was complete and looked like a factory-type install. The sound in the interior was deadened even further. I can't wait to get on the road and enjoy the quiet ride!

SOURCE

HushMat
 9900 Pflumm Road, Bldg #11
 Lenexa, Kansas 66215
 sales@hushmat.com
 www.hushmat.com
 (913) 599-2600