

Matching Defroster Grid Spacing

When replacing an existing defroster with a Clear View Defroster it is sometimes desirable to match up the new grid elements with the existing elements already on the glass.

Preparing the window and defroster

The first step is to remove the fine horizontal heating elements already on the window. This is best done with an industrial razor blade, sharp on one side.

Caution, Radio check

If the defroster has three tabs or a part of the defroster does not seem to be connected to the other elements do not remove this as it is likely a radio antenna or other radio device.

Something still there?

The original defroster is made out of a resistive paint which includes a colorant which leaches into the glass surface. This is why you can remove the conductive paint of the defroster but there may be faint lines in place of the original heating elements.

Because the colorant is part of the glass it is not easy or even possible to remove. Some customers have used lightly abrasive glass polish with good results reported.

Do you need an exact match?

You may not really need to exactly match up the Clear View defroster elements with the original defroster elements. Most customers are happy just installing the new elements in the window unencumbered by the need to match the existing elements. Take a look through your rearview mirror to determine this aesthetic question.

Buss Bars

The side buss bars already on the window do not need to be removed as the Clear View kit is electrically insulated from the bonding surface. The new buss bars can go directly over the existing bars. This goes for the black vanity surface applied to some windows as well. The Clear View Defroster can go right on top.

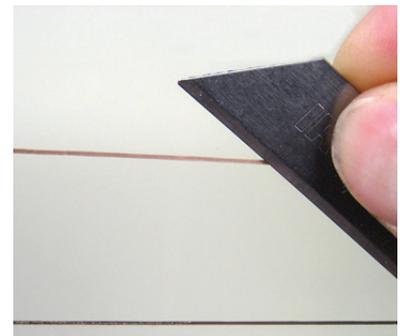


Clean, clean, clean

The next step is to clean the window using a glass cleaner and then the GAP-1 towelette. Do not touch the glass surface after cleaning.

Matching grid spacing

Clear View grid elements are on 1 1/4 inch centers. If the idea is to match the existing grid lines with the Clear View elements this can be done but there are a couple of ironclad rules to follow for success.

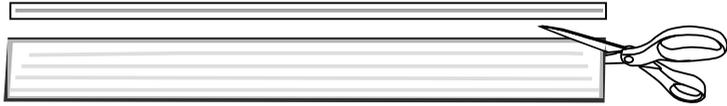


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Matching the grid lines

The first step is to liberate each grid so that it can be hand placed to match the existing defroster elements. Use scissors to cut out each element then place them as per the instructions but matching the layout of the existing defroster elements.

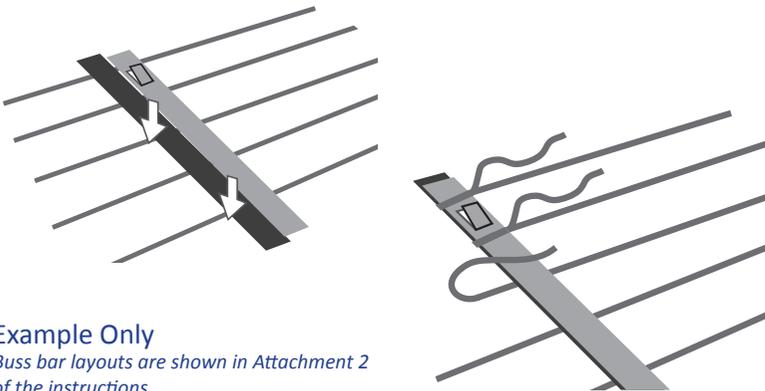


This will allow you to custom fit the elements to something close to the old defroster elements on the back glass.

Three cardinal rules

There are three cardinal rules when modifying the Clear View defroster element spacing.

1. All the heating elements in the kit must be used. So if there are twelve lines in the CV kit there need to be twelve lines on the glass when you're done.
2. The layout of the grids on the side buss bars must be maintained. So if one portion of the buss bar has four heating elements that's written in stone no matter what you do. This may require trimming the Buss Bars and plastic covers to fit the re-sized defroster. See Attachment 2 of the instructions.
3. The elements must bond directly to glass so if you're trying to replace exactly over an existing grid the old element needs to be removed (industrial razor blade) and cleaned.



Example Only

Buss bar layouts are shown in Attachment 2 of the instructions



The heating element spacing is not critical

Do not remove elements or change the layout on the buss bars from that shown in the instructions.

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