

## PRODUCT REVIEW:

# Hoffmann Speedster Wind Deflector. By Alan Aspden

*Some years ago we discovered the advantages of using some kind of wind deflector to keep that cool chill from the back of your neck.*

*I bought a large one of those net roller blinds from Halfords and fixed it to the cross member below the back seat. When needed we would roll it open and fix it to the headrests with some improvised straps. It proved remarkably effective but frankly looked a bit of a botch up.*

As regular readers will know we use our car quite a lot for holiday touring. We were getting more than a little tired though of having to close the hood every time we parked up just to have a look at something which caught our fancy. The wind deflector shown is a fantastic solution to this problem, but first the bad bits.

The kit comprises of two boards covered in black vinyl which form the horizontal part. An extruded aluminium section with a solid Perspex screen fixes onto the front edge and prevents the two boards from drooping in the middle. Also hanging from the aluminium section is a black vinyl curtain which should fix with press studs below the rear seat to hide this area completely from view. However the male parts of the press studs were missing in my case. On receipt of the deflector the webbing which formed the hinge between the two solid sections was starting to come un-stapled. This has completely fallen apart now. Further niggles are that the hinged solid section is too big to store flat in the bonnet area of a 1303, a three piece section would have been better, and the Perspex/aluminium part is so wide that it can only be stored on the back seat. Having got those gripes out of the way, I have to end on a high by saying just how effective it is, we now use the car with the hood down in temperatures which would have been unthinkable previously. Can there be any better modification to a cabrio than one which allows you to use the car with the hood down for much longer? When on holiday we inevitably



*A nice fit, the Perspex is full width and lets very little wind past.*

have lots of stuff in the car and without this solid section, which sits on top of the rear seat backrest, we would have to revert to securing the top every time we left the car. We can now also leave the car parked up with the hood down and not have to worry about the bits & pieces left on the back seat. Again this has made the car much more useable with the top down. The curtain completely hides anything left on the back seat.

Minor niggles apart the quality of the pieces look first class, the solid sections

are very neatly covered and the aluminium cross section is painted black to match. There is also a very nice bag with a Velcro seal, to store the cross member in to prevent scratching of the Perspex. It is a little expensive at 340 euros (including postage from Germany) but I think it has been the best value spend ever on the car as it makes it so much more useable. Obviously it is not suitable if you need all four seats.

Hoffmann Speedster can be found at [www.hoffmann-speedster.com](http://www.hoffmann-speedster.com)



*The curtain completely hides anything left on the back seat.*