

STAG BOOT GAS STRUT

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My Stag has a luggage rack on the boot, and after struggling for 5 years using a stick to prop the boot open, I decided to do something about it. I bought a gas strut from *Struts Australia* in Laverton and fitted it to the RH hinge (Fig 1). It works really well and now I can get rid of the stick!

Fitting the strut turned out to be a relatively simple job. For the top mount I used the existing hole in the RH hinge drilled out to 7mm to suit the strut (Fig.2). The bottom mount is the bent bracket as per the drawing (Fig. 3), bolted to the existing lug on the RH inner guard near the fuel pump (Fig 4). I used the existing caged nut and drilled one hole, using the bracket as a template for the second bolt.

To find out what weight the strut is required to support, I tied a string to the hole in the hinge where the strut mounts, attached it to a suitcase scale and read the scale. It was 17kgs, meaning the force needed to be exerted by the strut is roughly 170 Newtons. So, I chose a 180N strut, just to be sure. Don't worry if you don't get the force measurement quite right, *Struts Australia* will alter the gas pressure in the strut up or down to suit.

I used a K195-15-6 gas strut with a force of 180 Newtons.

Cost: \$24.75 + postage.

Struts Australia, 3/110 Fitzgerald Rd, Laverton Nth, 03 9369 8113



Fig 1

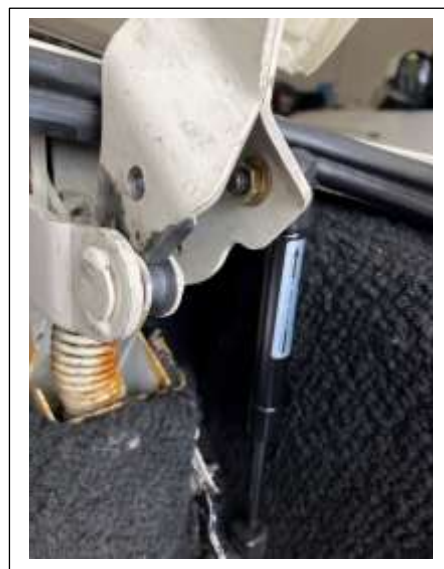


Fig 2

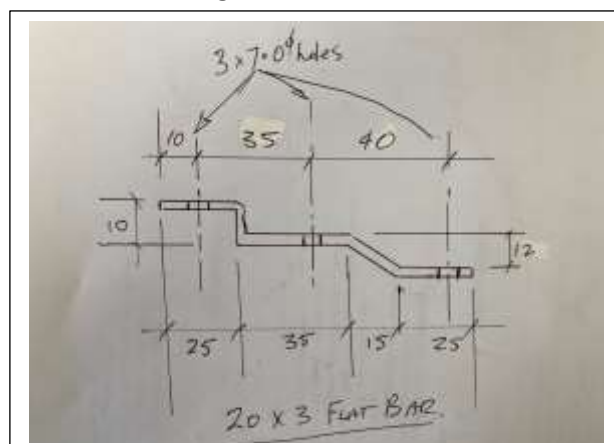


Fig 3



Fig 4