

MX-5 passenger performance modifications

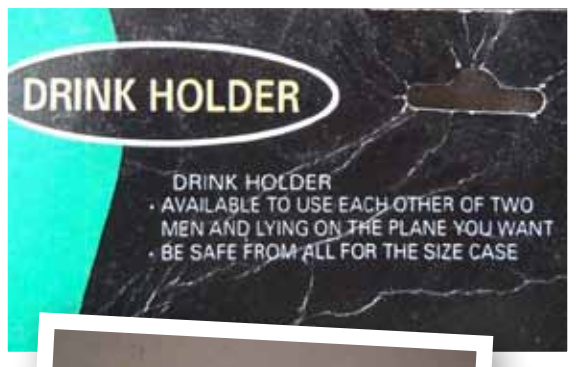


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Like a lot of MX-5 owners, following a settling-in period getting used to the car I thought some modifications could improve the performance.

Fortunately this is an easy car to modify, with any number of suppliers happy to cater to the whims and wants of the owners. In my case none of the parts on offer was suitable, so the stock of bits and bobs that would be "useful one day" was raided.

The first item needed was of course a more convenient water bottle holder, easily found at the bottom of the bin and with clear guidelines for use, per the photo. It was found to fit neatly in the dashboard recess under the radio. Appropriately-placed *Paddle Pop* sticks and glue soon had that ready for use.



Being an older model, our car is equipped with a cassette player ... not much use these days, although I have hundreds of tapes courtesy of a stint working in Bangkok. They were bought to relieve the boredom of an up-to-two-hour drive to work on the freeway. Distance 15 kilometres!! Much like Melbourne's freeways now, I believe.

Now owning MP3 players, I thought of ways to use them in the MX-5. Somewhere in the dim memory a little light went on. Cassette adaptors for CD players. *Sooo Eighties!!*



On to eBay. A week or two and 80 cents later, including postage, the device arrived. Pop it in the slot, hook up the MP3 and enjoy whatever music you wish.

Of course, when getting serious forget all that ... top down and listen to the engine sound.



Next item was a passenger vanity mirror, salvaged from a scratched Boeing 747 loo mirror. *It was probably worth more than the car.*

Made of plastic, with rounded edges for safety, it was attached to the sun visor with *Blu-tack* for easy removal. Blobs of silicone sealer on the corners prevent scratches to the windscreen surround.

It's an odd shape and looks funny, but it works well.



So, how has this improved performance?

Easy! It has all resulted in a measurable, sustainable 37.5% improvement in *passenger* performance ... ■