

# Changing the Lens in a Jeep Reflector

By Tom Essary (MVPA #31350)

(This may apply to other vehicles' reflectors)

In a nut shell we will hammer the old assembly apart, clean, paint, use a new reflector lens, and reassemble.



Reflector before!

Before - worse.

After!

A Wal Mart display  
Part number: V472R

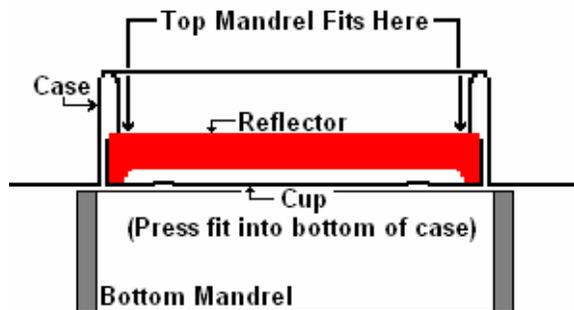
Choose a 3" reflector of the appropriate color. There are some reflectors with a sticky back; these will be easy to use. These can be purchased from Wal Mart and most auto parts or trailer/hitch stores for only about \$2 each. If you can only get reflectors that are in a light weight aluminum case, cut or pry the case from the lens. Be careful not to break the lens.



New reflector removed

L- Bottom Mandrel, R-Top Mandrel

Choose a pipe/fitting or other cylindrical object (veggie can) that will fit inside the front opening (2 15/16" OD, 2 1/2") against the lens (top mandrel). Choose another that will fit on the outside of the "cup" (3 11/16" OD, 3 1/8" ID) on the back of the case (bottom mandrel) this will support the case up while the cup is driven out.



Reflector assembly cutaway

Place the bottom mandrel on a hard surface (anvil face) and place the reflector back side down against the support and ensure that the "cup" will fall into the mandrel when it is hammered out. Place the top mandrel over the lens and using light blows, hammer the old lens and cup out.

Clean the two steel pieces, prime, paint and insert a new lens and hammer the cup back in place.

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Tom Essary lives in Arlington, TX and is in Arrowhead MVPA, Arkansas Travelers and MVPA #31350. He and his wife spent 5 months reviving 1943 GPW-100709\*. See [ad5zo.com](http://ad5zo.com) for more info about the jeep restoration etc. Tom spent about 8 years in the US Navy as an ET3 and LTjg. He served as the Damage Control Assistant (DCA) on the USS Luce DDG-38 in '85 and '86." Tom can be reached at [tom@ad5zo.com](mailto:tom@ad5zo.com).